



# In Touch

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

## Brendan Wagner | Elder of Missions



**‘Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel...’** We are entering the Season of Advent where we, with great anticipation, prepare for the Advent (*arrival*) of Immanuel (*God is with us*) as prophesied by Isaiah(7:14). Isaiah tells us of a sign from God; confirmed by the

Gospel writers, of the virgin birth of Jesus.

In reflecting on Mary and what this whole experience, from the announcement to the birth, raising the child Jesus knowing who he was, and enduring His suffering and death...who would want that?!? I am guessing that Mary did not ask God for this great privilege and all that came with it. However, it seems she accepted it, and the ultimate result of her acceptance of this honor and burden is the Church we celebrate today.

What we learn from Mary’s story is that she was singled out and ***given*** this privilege without having to ask. Well, we also each have been singled out by God. We did not have to ask God for His unconditional love and grace; He has freely given it to each and every one of us. We just have to accept it, live it and be an example of that love to others.

Our God is a loving God, our God is a generous God, our God does not discriminate as he chooses everyone to receive his unconditional love. He made it our job to live up to the image in which He created us. So, as we reflect on the Advent of Emmanuel (*God is with us*), let us as Christians and members of Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church continue to Love God, Love People and Make Disciples each and every day through our generous gifts of prayer, time and financial support.

-Brendan Wagner, Elder of Missions

## Christmas Tradition



### Beginning December 1st

Read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve, you will have read an entire account of Jesus's life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!

-Donna Sims



**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**  
Administrative / Office  
office@fhpresby.org

**Linda Lull**  
Treasurer

**Debbie Fisher**  
Director of Music

**Dorothy Parris** Pianist

**Steve Trommer**  
Custodian

## CHURCH SESSION

**Jack Reynolds**  
Clerk of Session

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

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

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

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**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

Website:  
www.fhpresbyterian.info

## Focus on Finance | 2024

October Income	\$ 27,732	Budget	\$ 34,062
October Expenses	\$ 57,420	Budget	\$ 32,135
YTD Income	\$ 369,195	YTD Budget	\$ 340,620
YTD Expense	\$ 345,164	YTD Budget	\$ 322,229

## Finance Report | Linda Lull, Treasurer



October expenses exceeded October income by \$29,688. This is the result of the 50th Anniversary celebrations held in October, as well as the Missions Team sending budgeted donations to various non-profit organizations including a \$10,000 donation to Samaritan's Purse for Hurricane Helene relief. All of these funds were available from the general operating reserve we have available. Year-to-date income exceeded YTD expenses by \$24,031. We are in a good financial position thanks to your generous pledges and contributions for the ministry, missions and operations 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 Flashes, 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



Love God – Love People – Make Disciples



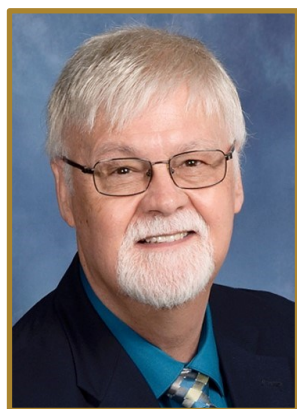
## Clerk's Corner | Jack Reynolds



Stroll In The Glow will be held on the Avenue of the Fountains at 5:00 on December 7. Members of our choir will be singing carols and holiday songs nearby the live nativity scene. But you don't have to be in the choir to join in the fun. Please stop by and sing along.

Session approved for the office to be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as well as New Years Eve and Day. We will have our traditional candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve at 5:00. The collection for that service will be to support the FH Ministerial Assn. Good Samaritan Fund which helps community families in need or crisis with temporary assistance.

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



I am embarking on an ambitious preaching schedule that I pray will be informative and a blessing to you. Starting with Advent and continuing two weeks after Easter, I will be guiding us through the entire life of Jesus Christ as provided to us in the New Testament. This sermon series is titled: **"MEET JESUS: THE GREATEST LIFE**

**EVER LIVED."** The following is a list of sermon titles and Scripture for this special series:

### DECEMBER:

- 1 - "Where Was Jesus Before Christmas?" - *John 1:1-14*
- 8 - "Finding Jesus in the Garden of Eden" - *Genesis 3:1-15*
- 15 - "The Meaning of The Incarnation" - *John 1:9-18*
- 22 - "Born of a Virgin" - *Matthew 1:18-25*
- 24 - "The Christmas Gift" [CHRISTMAS EVE] - *Micah 5:1-5; Luke 2:1-20*
- 29 - "The Childhood of Jesus" - *Luke 2:21-14; 39-52*

### JANUARY:

- 5 - "The Baptism of Jesus" - *Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*
- 12 - "WOMEN'S SUNDAY"
- 19 - "The Duel With the Devil" - *Luke 4:1-13*
- 26 - "The People Jesus Calls" - *Mark 1:16-20; 2:13-17; 3:13-19*

### FEBRUARY:

- 2 - "The Uniqueness of Jesus" - *John 8:48-59; 14:1-14*
- 9 - "Jesus the Great Teacher" - *Matthew 4:23-5:1-2; 7:28-29*
- 16 - "The Favorite Subject of Jesus" - *Matthew 13:31-33; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 17:20-21*
- 23 - "MEN'S SUNDAY"

### MARCH:

- 2 - "The Parables of Jesus" - *Matthew 13:10-17; 34-35*
- 9 - "The Miracles of Jesus" - *Matthew 16:1-4; John 20:20-31; Acts 2:22*
- 16 - "Jesus the Healer" - *Mark 1:40-45; 2:1-12*
- 23 - "The Prayer Life of Jesus" - *Mark 1:35-39; Luke 5:16; Luke 6:12-16*

### APRIL:

- 6 - "The Arrest and Trial of Jesus" - *Luke 22:66-71; Luke 23:1-25*
- 13 - "The Passion of Jesus" - *Matthew 26-46; 27:27-44*
- 20 - "The Triumph of Jesus" - *John 20:1-18*
- 27 - "The Ascension of Jesus" - *Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-11*

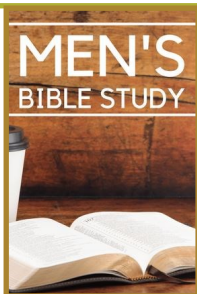
### MAY:

- 5 - "The Promise of Christ's Return" - *Matthew 25:1-13*



## 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. In December we continue with our study of 1 Corinthians.

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



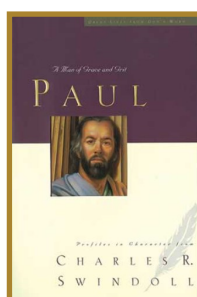
### Are You Connected?

Are you currently involved in a Women's Bible Study? If not, we have exciting news for you. We offer several Women's Bible Studies (Morning, Afternoon, and Early Evening), but if you are still working or unavailable at the times offered, we have added a new session! **We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, December 3 & 17 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. Additionally, if you need a ride, no problem—we've got you covered! **Join us as we gather to learn, seek understanding, and find encouragement** in our Christian journey.

## Women's Morning Bible Study

### Monique Reynolds

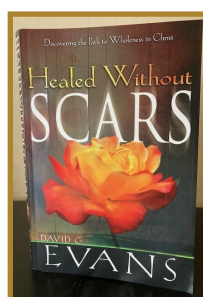


The Women's Bible Study will meet **Thursday, December 12, at 9:30 AM** in the **Fireside Room**. We will discuss Chapters 5 and 6 of our book *Paul, a Man of Grace and Grit*.

For information call Monique 336-382-8733.

## Women's Afternoon Circle

### Jane Allen



**Healed Without Scars** (Chp 9-10)  
David G. Evans

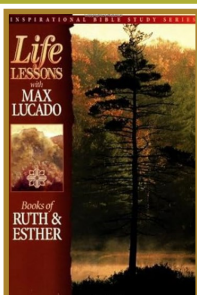
**2nd Tuesday | December 10**  
**1:00pm | Library**  
Jane Allen, Leader  
907-538-3223

## Women's Evening Circle

### Judy Hamouda

## Lunch & Lecture

### Maria Berry



**Life Lessons with Max Lucado:**  
**Books of Ruth & Esther**

**Next Meeting | 3rd Monday**  
**December 16 | 4:00 p.m.**  
**Fireside Room**  
Judy 480-215-0827



**"Luther" One Man's Faith in God Launched The Greatest Revolution of all.**

**Next Meeting | Saturday**  
**December 14**  
**12:00 p.m.**  
**Fireside Room**

## Assimilation & Fellowship Ministry

### Men's Fellowship Bill Matty



Our next Men's Fellowship breakfast meeting will be on **Saturday, Dec. 14**, in the **Fellowship Hall**, starting at **8:00 am**. Mark your calendar for the **Stroll in the Glow** downtown on **Saturday, Dec. 7**, when our Men will be setting up our Christmas nativity scene on the Avenue of the Fountains. More details later. Blessings all!

### Women's Fellowship M. Holtan & S. Titus



Women's Fellowship will be held on **Friday, December 13 at 10:00 a.m.** in the **Fireside Room**. For any questions, you may contact Susan at [SLTitus@gmail.com](mailto:SLTitus@gmail.com).

### Out n' About Joyce Leo & Bonnie Matty



Out and About will be meeting at noon at **Arrivederci Cucina Italiana** on **December 18th**. Please contact Joyce Leo at 803-522-2889 or Bonnie Matty at 815-260-5031. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

### 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.



### Turkeys for Extended Hands Food Bank

The Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church will be collecting frozen Turkeys for Extended Hands Food Bank again this year. We will get them to the Food Bank for Thanksgiving and continue through for Christmas. We will also be collecting other food for these dinners. If you prefer to give monetary donations instead, make checks payable to Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church. Place Extended Hands Food Bank Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners on the memo line. We want to Thank You for your support.

## Book Review | Barbara Oakeson

### *Your God is Too Small* by J.B. Phillips

The author, J.B. Phillips, was an Anglican clergyman who served in a part of London during



World War II that was repeatedly bombed by Nazi Germany. While spending time in a bomb shelter, he worked on translating the KJV of the New Testament to make it more understandable for a large youth group he was leading. The publication was well received and

eventually he wrote 26 books.

The purpose of *Your God is Too Small* is twofold – first expose the inadequate conceptions of God which still linger unconsciously in many minds, and which prevent our catching a glimpse of the true God: and secondly to suggest ways in which we can find the real God for ourselves. Some of the terms presented in the first section are: resident policeman, parental hangover, God-in-a-box, and pale Galilean. In the second section he develops how the reader must seek God where he has most clearly revealed himself – in the man Jesus Christ. Not seated high on a throne, but down in the battlefield of life. This inspirational work tackles tough topics and inspires readers to reevaluate and connect more deeply with a God that is relevant to current experience and big enough to command respect and admiration.

Pastor Bob Simmons recommended this book in his sermon “More Than We Can Ask or Imagine” on October 13. I had heard it recommended by other preachers and decided I should read it sooner rather than later. It’s available in our church Library and is a short book with a powerful message.

## Fun & Inspiration



### STROLL IN THE GLOW

Saturday,  
December 7, 5pm - 8pm

Fountain Hills  
Presbyterian Church  
will participate in  
the Dec. 7th Stroll in

the Glow. A manger scene (thanks to the help of Building and Grounds and Kristi Robinson and children), Christmas music by members of the Celebration Singers (led by music director Debbie Fisher), and live animals from Carter's Farm Mobile Petting Zoo will be featured at the church's spot on the Avenue of the Fountains.

Stroll in the Glow is sponsored by the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce, and features the annual lighting of the holiday decorations on the Avenue. Time of the Saturday event is 5-8 p.m.

### INSPIRATIONAL READINGS by 37

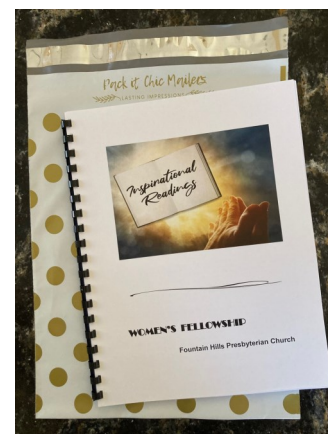
generous FHPC contributors

**\* need a gift or a kind gesture...** for a friend, family member, neighbor?

**\* give INSPIRATIONAL READINGS** in this festive gift envelope / mailer - \$15

Women's Fellowship book with 74 pp in color and 225+ diverse readings.

You can pay and pick up: Office or Jane Allen at 907-538-3223





## Presby Pickins' Kicks Off w/Charity Success & Exciting Dec. Plans



The opening season of Presby Pickins' Flea Market on November 2nd was a resounding success! Matching donations from vendors and attendees, \$1,200 was donated to Samaritan's Purse for Hurricane Relief.

Additionally, proceeds purchased 401 pounds of canned goods and peanut butter/jelly for Extended Hands Food Bank. Thank you to all who contributed!

The next market is set for **December 7th** from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, 13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd. Save the dates for future markets: February 1st, March 1st, and April 5th, 2025! We're taking a break in January.

### December Highlights

- **Fountain Hills Middle School Cross-Country Team:** Meet the team and support their season with donations or water purchases.
- **Second Chance Store:** Learn how this initiative aids local families and students.

- **Fountain Hills Christian Writers Group:** Meet local authors, buy signed books, and discover their work.
- **Food Trucks:**  
*Yumi's Coffee Truck:* Japanese coffee and baked goods.  
*Fountain Hills Food Cart:* Delicious lunch options.  
*Lumpia Queen:* Authentic Filipino cuisine.
- **Live Entertainment:** Music from a DJ (9:00 AM–Noon) and live performances by *The Mystic Five* (Noon–2:00 PM).

Join us for unique shopping, food, entertainment, and the joy of giving back!

### Donations

We graciously accept donations of items like jewelry, home décor, kitchenware, toys, games, electronics, etc. (no furniture or clothing). Proceeds from church tables benefit FHPC ministries and local community causes. Call 480-837-1763 for drop-off arrangements.

### Vendor Registration

Reserve your spot for \$25 at [fhpresbyterian.info/fleamarket](http://fhpresbyterian.info/fleamarket). Additional tables/chairs are \$5 each.

For more info, call 480-779-8115 or email [ppfleamarket@gmail.com](mailto:ppfleamarket@gmail.com). Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/ppfleamarket](https://facebook.com/ppfleamarket). And Instagram [@fh\\_presby\\_pickins\\_flea\\_market](https://instagram.com/fh_presby_pickins_flea_market).

*We can't wait to see you there!*

## Support Our Troops | Donna Sims

The month of October and November were by far the busiest ever for me in our Military projects which include:



our veterans and homeless veterans, our deployed military and our Christmas Card notes project. This all began in mid-September and I am not finished yet. Hope to have some time off soon. Very, very busy.

First, I want to thank those of you who were willing to take a Christmas envelope to write notes to our Church-connected military. 55 total envelopes were made ready, 50 were handed out, 3 were returned empty, 46 have

now been placed in the individual Christmas cards, 3 of which were unsigned, and there are 5 envelopes left over. Having a total of 46 written notes is not our highest ever, but is still a great number for our military members to have Christmas joy in reading what you have written and it is very much appreciated not only by me, but by each one opening up their cards and reading the notes. I can't express how important and how joyful the recipients feel when reading them. Thank you all so very much. And remember, it won't be that long before I will be handing out envelopes again.

Secondly, our project for deployed military was again a big success. I want to thank Susan Titus for helping me with the ordering of clothing. That saved me a lot of time which was to many stores, but I did drive to Glendale to drop off the items for packaging and shipping, and drive to South Phoenix/Tempe to obtain supplies that Fountain Hills had

run out of. Again, as mentioned, I have been super busy.

Thirdly, I will be scheduling a date for a pick-up from CBI (Community Bridges) to come and pick up all of the donations that have come in for the last couple of months. Many, many thanks to all of you that have made donations of clothing, bedding, shoes, socks, kitchen items, flat-screen TV, furniture items and some toiletries. I know for a fact that CBI will again be speechless when they see all that has been collected since the last time they were here. Again, thank you one and all.



And I kindly ask that one and all to remember 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. 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 and in the Church office. Thank you again for remembering our Veterans and our Troops. Here is wishing each one of you a happy and healthy holiday season and please remember the reason why we celebrate.

Donna Sims,  
Mission Committee

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

### Upcoming Women's Fellowship Gatherings:

#### Friday, December 13th – Cookies and Crafts

Join us for a festive time of fellowship, creativity, and fun as we gather in the Fellowship Hall at **10:00 AM**. Enjoy delicious cookies while working on a fun craft project. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other women and share in the joy of the season. More details to follow—ladies, be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us!

#### Women's Sunday, January 12th

We will be celebrating our Women's Sunday on **January 12th** with a special service and events. Stay tuned for more information on how we'll come together to worship and honor the women in our church family.





## 50 Years of Memories | Ilene Berg

*If you wish to share your memories of our fifty years as a congregation, please feel free to send a written copy to [news@fhpresby.org](mailto:news@fhpresby.org) to be printed in future issues of In Touch. Dorothy Parris and Melissa Fast share their memories here.*

Mary Gillespie was the initial pianist for the new congregation formed by Glenn Atchinson. Dorothy's first appearance at the Store Front (on Enterprise Drive) was July 1979. She was surprised to find the song "Pass It On" on the song sheet (there were no hymnals) since she had just recently become acquainted with contemporary Christian music at a Christian Women's Club conference where that song was included in the program.

Glenn and Dorothy became the Worship Team. They never planned or discussed what was to take place on Sunday Morning. The music Dorothy selected to play seemed to fit exactly with what Glenn had planned for the day. The services were never the same. Glenn was a bit surprised when he heard "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" as a prelude.

There were no bulletins or screens - you had to pay attention! Glenn once said to Dorothy, "you need a beginning and an ending - and whatever else happens in the middle! So, if you don't like what happens today, come back next week, because it will be different!"

They related the relevance of the music to the people attending services. Dorothy would often change her selections on Saturday evening - sometimes even as late as during the service! People began to relate to the music (sometimes it helped to read the words). Glenn's brother, Tony, said he liked that blackbird song- "Morning Has Broken" (the Cat Steven's version). Music was an important part of the worship experience.

Once a skeptic was heard to say, "I used to go to church and all they did was talk about golf. Out here, I go to play golf and all they do is talk about church - so I figured I'd best go find out what it was all about!"

An old saguaro root became the advent wreath and served as such for many years. "Alleluia" signaled the ending of communion and "Shalom" the ending of the service. Glenn wore a tie-dyed robe. The church became the center of family social life for many.

We outgrew our space on Enterprise Drive and moved into this Worship Center. The atrium was light and alive with living green plants. The stained glass windows were designed to draw your eyes upward. The chancel was contemporary in design - glass, marble, and light. The communion table was centered under the atrium and featured a centerpiece consisting of a basket of wheat. The cross was off-set; the baptismal font featured a decorative glass bowl purchased at Copenhagen Imports. The lectern was small and off to the side of the cross. This afforded the minister freedom to move about the chancel. This also drew eyes away from the choir loft and focus was on the cross and the minister.

Early in 1979 Ralph and Peggy Gunn gave the church 10K to buy a small Allen Organ. Barbara Wyman was one of the people that selected the organ. It was used until we were given money by Wilford Bychinsky to purchase the organ (including the bell tower chimes) currently in use. Caryl Bates was along to pick out the new organ.

The piano currently in Debbie's office (a gift from the Atchinson family) was used until Glenn made a deal with the Community Center to house their Yamaha. We used the Yamaha until we got the beautiful Steinway gifted to us by Stan and Myrene Pettitpren. The Yamaha was returned and is currently at the new Community Center. Caryl Bates and Dorothy became very busy creating their unique program of piano/organ duets.

Glenn never wanted the choir to wear robes. He felt to do so would have them appear as a block. He wanted them recognized as individual members of the congregation.

Our church flourished!!

Pat Bennier was hired as program manager. Debbie Fisher - our lady of many talents - led the music program for the young people, and there were many! They even did weekend retreats.

Our music program grew under the leadership of Barbara Wyman, adding bells, recorders and a Choir Fest. A Scottish minister who was a friend of the Wymans visited our church a few times and gifted us a beautiful 18<sup>th</sup> century pewter communion chalice.

Saguaro Guest Ranch was a great venue used often by our congregation for social gatherings and retreats. Ramadas above the lake were great for breakfast gatherings - of course, someone had to go out early to secure the site.

Applewick's Restaurant (McDonalds' current location) had a nice room upstairs that was used for the August "I Survived the Summer" ritual and other social gatherings. Little John's, under the ownership of Doug Katonak, became Que Bueno and hosted a "Christmas in July Sing Along." We held talent shows, including a Rap group called "The Back Row Minority." The Women's group began as *After 5* - and morphed into *Ladies of the Evening*.

A family campout at Don's Camp in the Superstitions was the birthplace of our annual Chili Dump. On the other side of the lake you could actually see the sun rise above Four Peaks at the Easter Sunday service. At one of our desert breakfasts Glenn was seen cooking pancakes on the lid of an old washing machine.

We held pig roasts with Bill Quigley as head honcho, pot lucks, hiking trips, trail rides, and small family dinner groups. We even had a "Requiem for a Green Oldsmobile" when Melissa Fast was forced into selling her beloved 2-door Oldsmobile and purchase a 4-door vehicle, more suitable for showing real estate to potential buyers. A black-clad group showed up at her door holding an oilcan with a burning candle to help

(continued...) Melissa drown her sorrow.

And, not to be outdone by the ladies in Sun City, we also had a tap dance troupe! This was more a community than a church activity; however, we rehearsed in the Store Front and five of the 7-8 dancers were members of our congregation!

A live nativity in the atrium was unique to our church and community. At that time we had young, agile bodies that could get into and out of tight spaces and were

able to communicate without cell phones! One year, a young couple and their baby participated and had a professional photo made that hung in the office.

So, 50 years later - here we are in this Worship Center on this Hilltop...

### WORSHIPING GOD AND CELEBRATING LIFE

## Music Ministry | Debbie Fisher



**Merry Christmas!** Let us anticipate the thoughts, the sounds, and the memories of the miracle of Christ's birth!

Our Music Ministry will provide the music throughout the season, with beautiful selections that showcase both stunning voices and instrumentation. We sing of Christ's birth and the foretelling of this beautiful

and humbling event. He descended, then transcended those who knew Him, and those of us who have since come to learn. He truly is the Son of God. How blessed we are to spend our days in thought and prayer to Him.

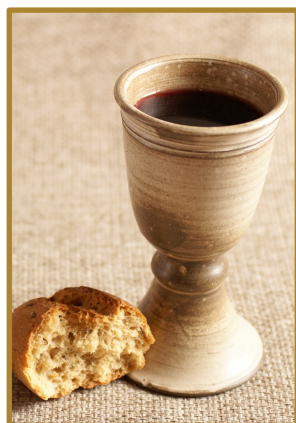
On behalf of those of us involved in the Music Ministry and our Staff, we wish all of you, for the 50th year in a Sanctuary of Love, a Blessed and Happy Christmas Season.

*"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end."*

— Isaiah 9:6-7

Debbie Fisher  
Director of Music Ministry  
Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church ECO

## 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.

## December Birthdays

3-Dec	Larry Roland
5-Dec	Pastor Bob Simmons
8-Dec	Bud Fuls
9-Dec	Barbara Bowling
12-Dec	Arlene Stewart
21-Dec	Emerson Uphoff
23-Dec	Jack Reynolds
25-Dec	Edee Grider
26-Dec	Ilene Berg



## 2024 Necrology

### With Heartfelt Sympathy

Andy Hasley

Nancy Wulfmeier

Orene Hinkley

Dallas Amend

Carole Sandrock



## Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Foundation



### Are You Looking for a Way to Do Good?

The FHPC Foundation is dedicated to soliciting, investing, and disbursing planned gifts from our members and friends to ensure the future needs of our church and its ministries.

We need your support! Consider making a pledge, bequest, or donation through cash or check. We also accept endorsed stocks and bonds, IRA transfers, Qualified Minimum Distributions, real estate proceeds, and trust fund designations. Have you thought about tithing your insurance policy or estate?

Every contribution, no matter the size, is gratefully accepted and makes a meaningful impact. If you need assistance with the pledge form, please call us 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 offers a serene final resting place for the mortal remains of our members and friends. In addition to the urn niches, you'll find a Wall of Remembrance, a tranquil waterfall, and memorial benches, creating a beautiful space for prayer and meditation. This area is managed by the Columbarium Trustees, a dedicated committee of our church corporation. A trust fund ensures the proper maintenance and perpetual care of this peaceful sanctuary.

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



## 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.

## 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.

## A Quiet Place



I feel that many in our congregation are not aware that we have an area on the east side of our campus called "A Quiet Place."

It was built a number of years ago and had a bridge that provided access from the upper parking lot.

Over the years, the bridge became unsafe, and repair estimates were costly. The

Buildings and Grounds Committee took down the bridge and had our landscaper, Jose, prepare the area so it is now accessible from the lower parking lot. It is

now much safer and handicap-friendly.

Thanks to Phyllis Kern for her donation to help with these costs.

Now that the weather is cooling off, I encourage everyone to come and enjoy "A Quiet Place."

— Jim Stewart, Elder of Buildings and Grounds







## Live Music & A Message of Hope

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

**6:00 p.m.**

**The Will Graham Look Up Celebration  
Fountain Park**

12925 N Saguaro Blvd  
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

The Will Graham Look Up Celebration at The Fountain is a free, family-friendly event coming to

Fountain Park in Fountain Hills, Arizona, in March 2025. It will feature music from award-winning Christian bands and a message of hope from evangelist Will Graham. It is open to everybody and all are welcome to attend.

For more information, visit: <https://lookupcelebration.org/en/fountain-hills/>





# You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!



**Where: Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church**

**When: Wednesday, January 15, 2025**

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings.**

**Trusted by over 10 million customers.**

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

**Who should attend:** Anyone over the **age of 40**

### **Special Pricing for \$159**

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- Plus a FREE Hypertension Screening

## **4 ways to book your appointment...**

Scan here:



Call 888-814-0466  
and use promo  
code: HSCA001

Visit  
[LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](https://LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA)

Text the word  
"circle" to  
216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.

Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.



**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)**

## Poinsettia Orders



Members and friends of FHPC once again have the opportunity to purchase poinsettias for display at our CHRISTMAS EVE worship service to honor a loved one or to remember a special event. This holiday tradition provides the beautiful chancel display we all enjoy.

**Poinsettias are available for \$15 each.** Please complete the form available in the Narthex (or church office) and place it in the offering box with your payment. Mark your check “Poinsettia” on the memo line. All orders must be placed by **December 18, 2024**. Please make your check payable to *Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church*.

## Cookies in December

During the month of December, starting on December 8th, the Congregation will be bringing in cookies to serve at Fellowship following Worship. The Congregation has done this for many years. This has been so nice and enjoyable and several people have brought in the recipe also. Hilltop Hospitality really enjoys this time of year and we are looking forward to December treats.



## 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 Newsfeed.



### 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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