



Faith Presbyterian Church  
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**~ Awesome April ~**

Pastor: Rev. Brian R. Louis  
Office Manager: Judy Mayhew  
Office Hours: 9 am - 2 pm Mon-Fri  
Worship Service: 10:30 am



**Faith is so thankful that you are worshipping  
with us every Sunday at 10:30 am!**

**Join us during Easter Tide  
to find out more about our  
"Awesome God!"**

# ~ WALKING IN FAITH ~

April  
2023 NEWSLETTER



## Faith Presbyterian Church Sierra Vista, Arizona

### Faith Presbyterian's Mission Statement

We are Faith Presbyterian, and we seek to do God's work through Christian worship, education, fellowship, and outreach ministry as we serve an awesome God....



*Join your  
Faith Family  
on Easter,  
April 9, and  
help decorate  
the cross  
with flowers!*

## PASTOR'S POST

Dear Friends,

With only another week to go before Easter, we are entering the holiest period of the church year. We are about to journey through the celebratory time of Palm Sunday to the solemn evening of Maundy Thursday, to the tremendous darkness of Good Friday and then the breathtaking joy of Easter Sunday and the Resurrection! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

It has been an exciting year so far at the church, with the Dixieland Devotionals, the Tucson Highlanders, and rising attendance. My prayer is that we continue the positive momentum we have going right now for the greater good of God! There is no shortage of opportunities to get involved in Faith. Just ask me. I'll have an idea for you! In the office next to me right now as I write this, the Stephen Ministers are hard at work figuring out how to best care and support our congregation, the way Jesus wants us to do! God bless our Stephen Ministers!

Thanks to everyone who has attended the Lenten Brown Bag Lunch series on the book of meditations by Rev. Rachel Srubas of Tucson. I have been heartened by everyone's willingness to share their experiences and the good turnout we have had each week!

I know many of our church members have had health issues come up since Ash Wednesday, and many have had lingering issues that started long before the beginning of Lent. Let us continue to pray for our members who are sick and suffering, that the Lord may heal them and bring comfort to them and their families.

Preparations are moving forward for a ceremony and celebration to name the education building "Virginia's Place" in honor of the late Rev. Virginia Studer, who was pastor of Faith from March 1, 2009 through September 29, 2019.

Speaking of the education building, at a recent Session meeting some elders were brainstorming some ideas on what we could do with the building. A preschool; starting a community children's choir; a place for mothers to drop off their kids for a "Mother's Day Out"; weekly dance lessons; exercise classes. If you have ideas, please share them with me or Judy. Email us, call us in the office. We need all the creativity and brain power we can get. I want us to look at all possibilities and not shoot down an idea reflexively. I also want us to be brave and think big. What can we do to live up to the part of our mission statement that highlights "outreach ministry," and how can the education building serve that part of the mission?

Let us turn to Christ for inspiration and hope for ourselves and the church.

I wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter!

In Christ,  
Pastor Brian

# FAITH STEPPING STONES



## ~ Happy April Birthday ~

Paul Lewis	01
Bob Thompson	01
Monica Russell	03
Bridget Diekema	10
Gene Raymond	12
Dave Rockwell	13
Ed Keene	13
Bianca Garcia	16
Joan Lopshire	16
Tonia Swarner	16
Hudson Rutgers	18
Jack Pitzel	19
Ruth Akins	22
Debi Godwin	28
Bob Kepple	30



## ~ Happy April Anniversary ~

Gary & Joy Church	01
Mike & Joann Mitchell	01
Earl & Judy Pike	02
Bill & Ruth Akins	12
Bob & Barb Schratz	22
Doug & Eleanor Templeman	27

Condolences to the family of Bill and Mary Lou Bess. They are now together again! Bill died October 17, 2022 and Mary Lou found her home with Bill once again on March 5, 2023.

Cards may be sent to their daughter:

Cheryl Bellomy  
4523 Tranquility Street  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650



Prayers for the family of this wonderfully sweet couple who were members of Faith for many years.



Montlure  
6659 E. University Dr.  
Mesa, AZ 85205

**The Goal: Raise \$20K in One Day!!** Together, let's prevent financial barriers for kids to attend camp! Donations go toward camp scholarships and subsidies to keep camp affordable for families. [Montlure.org/give](http://Montlure.org/give)

### Ruling Elders for 2023:

Bill Akins, Treasurer  
Heather Carter, Christian Ed Chair  
Sonny Coble, Personnel Chair  
Judy Pike, Finance  
Sharon Townsend, Christian Ed  
Johnnie Travis, Mission & Stewardship Chair  
Ruth Van Otten, Worship & Music Chair  
George Wheat, Building & Grounds Chair  
Charles Wilkes, Finance Chair  
Fred Whitley, Clerk of Session

### Deacons for 2023:

Diane Derr - Meals  
Patrick Jones - Food Bank  
Marti Louzy - Peach's Pantry  
Carolyn Malik—Moderator  
Tom Mathias  
JoAnn Mitchell  
Kay McCleary - Birthday cards  
Dustin Paige  
Sharon Raymond - Secretary - Greeting cards

# ~ April 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  	3	4 Men's Lunch 11:30 am	5 Brown Bag Lunch Lenten Study 11:30 am SH  3:30 pm SM Library  Choir 6:00 pm Tone Chimes 6:30	6 Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 am <i>My Place</i> 	7 	8
9 	10	11 Men's Lunch 11:30 am  2:30 pm Finance 3:00 pm Deacons  6:00 pm Worship & Music	12   Choir 6:00 pm Tone Chimes 6:30 pm	13	14	15
16  Communion	17	18 Men's Lunch 11:30 am  Session 6:00 pm	19 3:30 pm SM Library  Choir 6:00 pm  Tone Chimes 6:30 pm	20 Dixieland Devotionals 6:30 pm	21	22
23	24	25 Men's Lunch 11:30 am	26  Game Day 2:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm Tone Chimes 6:30	27 Ladies Lunch 12:30 pm Hibachi Grill	28	20
30						

# WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY



**Game Day, April 26**  
2:00 pm Stevenson Hall  
Come and have fun in the afternoon with your Faith buddies!



Let's continue to donate to the Food Bank and Peach's Pantry. The baskets are in the narthex.



~~ MEN'S LUNCH ~~  
All men are invited to join the Men's Lunch at 11:30 am each Tuesday in April

**FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**  
Thursday, April 6  
*My Place at 8:30 am*  
1081 E. Fry Blvd.



## "DIXIELAND DEVOTIONALS"



Join your Faith Family on April 20 at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary for some toe-tapping music and singing of gospel hymns!

Free will offering will go to NAMI, Peach's Pantry, and the band.



March 12 was the 111th Birthday of the **GIRL SCOUTS!**

Faith is well represented in the picture with past and present Girl Scouts.





## Sunday School for Youth 9:15 am

The youth Sunday School has finished working through their book on Salvation. They are now starting the next book on the "Life of Christ".



**Also, the nursery will be open for infants through elementary school age during worship.**



**Reminder:** Adult Sunday School each Sunday at 9:15 am in the Conference Room. All are welcome to attend!

## Ladies Lunch

The next Lovely Ladies Lunch will be on Thursday, April 27, 12:30 pm at the Hibachi Grill.  
All ladies are invited!



As we walk through our Lenten Season of reflection and focus toward all of God's people, we know that the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering supports three great causes: The Presbyterian Hunger Program; The Self Development of People, and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). An important and growing part of the PDA is the Refugee Ministry.

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received at Faith on April 2, Palm Sunday and continue through the month. Please be generous in your giving.

## Welcome Faith's new Elder and Deacon!



My name is Judy Pike. I moved to Bisbee in 1971, for my first teaching job in the Palominas School District after receiving my elementary education degree from ASU. I met my husband Earl, who was a school psychologist for the small school districts in Cochise County, in the teachers' lounge at Palominas School. Earl and I married in 1977, and raised our four children in Bisbee, where we lived until 2021. We were members of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Bisbee, where I served as both Deacon and Elder, and for over ten years as Clerk of Session, until we bought a cabin in Greer and moved our membership to Community Presbyterian Church in Pinetop. In September 2021, it was necessary to move Earl into the memory unit of Prestige Assisted Living in Sierra Vista, so we sold our Greer cabin and our Bisbee house, and I moved to Sierra Vista. I have had ties to Faith Presbyterian for many years and feel blessed that it is now my church home.



Careers that led JoAnn Mitchell to being a Deacon at Faith Presbyterian Church:

- Army
- Police Academy - Narcotic Division
- University of Hawaii - English Major
- SFCS & SCC - Accounting
- Bible College - Pastor Methodist
- Huachuca United Methodist - Associate Pastor
- Married Mike Mitchell - Humor & Happiness
- Joined Faith Presbyterian Church 7 years ago
- Cancer past 5 years - In remission

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Faith Presbyterian!

### Mark your April calendar

Sunday, April 02 - Palm Sunday - Cantata

Thursday, April 06 - Maundy Thursday - 7:00 pm Worship and Communion

Friday, April 07 - Good Friday - The sanctuary will be open for prayer

Sunday, April 09 - Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 16 - Communion and Bright Sunday

Thursday, April 20 - Dixieland Devotionals