



Faith Presbyterian Church  
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Website: [www.faithpresb.org](http://www.faithpresb.org)

~ Joyous January ~

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 your Faith Family during the  
New Year!**



# ~ WALKING IN FAITH ~

JANUARY

2024 NEWSLETTER

Faith Presbyterian Church

Sierra Vista, Arizona



*"Love Grows Here"*

## 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....

## *"Christmas Eve 2023 Candle Light Service"*



*~ Let your light shine in 2024! ~*

## PASTOR'S POST

Dear Faith Friends,

Happy New Year! My prayer for the New Year is that all of us may grow in our faith and that we all have a healthy and joyous 2024!

First, I want to say how proud I am of everyone who worked so hard to offer such amazing worship services in Advent, Blue Christmas, and on Christmas Eve! I experienced so many joyous moments that it is difficult to choose which ones were my favorites. However, I'll try: the beauty of the combined choirs of Sierra Vista United Methodist and Faith for the cantata; the pastors from several different local churches attending for Blue Christmas; a full house for worship in Stevenson Hall on Christmas Eve morning and the ensuing feast; and my favorite was standing in the back of a crowded church on Christmas Eve when all the candles were lit and seeing the amazing beauty of our decorated church for Christmas! Thank you everyone for all you did to make all this happen!

Exciting and interesting worship services do not stop with Christmas! January 7 is "Star Word Sunday" where we pick up our words to focus on for the year. I am very interested to see what mine will be for 2024! We will also be ordaining and installing the new Ruling Elders and Deacon. It will be a special day for Faith!

On January 14, our area's Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Young Adult Volunteers group will be attending worship and telling us about their work in the region for our sermon that day. Then on January 21 is Communion Sunday for the month, and then on January 28 we will be holding our annual congregational meeting after worship. Please be sure to attend these special and holy Sundays of worship!

As I look ahead to 2024, I am excited to see what is going to happen in the life of Faith. So much has happened over the past year, I can't wait to see what is in store. Time after time folks stepped up to lend a helping hand when we needed it the most. Your creativity and commitment will be called on again in the new year.

With the guidance and help of the Deacons and Session, my prayer is that we spread our wings farther in 2024 within our congregation and out in the community to show everyone we encounter what it means to be followers of Jesus.

Thank you all for making this first full year of being your pastor so special and meaningful. So much happened in the past year! What I remember most is the support and help of all of you, I can't tell you how much it has meant to me.

In Christ,  
Brian

# FAITH STEPPING STONES



## ~ Happy January Birthday ~

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Carolyn Malik    | 08 |
| Sammy Diekema    | 13 |
| Christina Wyatt  | 16 |
| Margaret Lenning | 17 |
| Judy Mayhew      | 28 |



## ~ Happy January Anniversary ~

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Matt McHale & Debi Godwin | 05 |
| Larry & Rose Marie Dokken | 15 |
| George & Ruth Van Otten   | 28 |

Thanks to the choirs for  
the glorious Advent Music!



Thank you to all who shared their love by donating toys and diapers once again this year to the Child and Family Resources in Sierra Vista.



The cast of the Christmas Pageant: Greta, Daschell, Benjamin, Huck, Hudson, Donald, Kozlynn, Bethany, Hunter, Bryanna.



# ~ January 2024 ~

| Sun  | Mon | Tue  | Wed   | Thu  | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|--|---|--|-----|-----|
|  | 1   | 2<br>Men's Lunch 11:30<br>Tombstone Brewery,<br>Garden Ave.  | 3   | 4<br>Fellowship<br>Breakfast 8:30 am<br><i>My Place</i><br><br>Tone Chimes<br>6:45 pm<br>Sky Island 7:30 pm  | 5   | 6   |
| 7<br><br><i>Epiphany</i><br> | 8   | 9<br>Men's Lunch 11:30<br>Tombstone Brewery,<br>Garden Ave.<br><br>Finance 2:30 pm<br><br>Music & Worship<br>6:00 pm | 10<br><br>Choir 6:00 pm                     | 11<br><br>Tone Chimes<br>6:45 pm<br>Sky Island 7:30 pm   | 12  | 13  |
| 14<br>   | 15  | 16<br>Men's Lunch<br>11:30 Tombstone<br>Brewery, Garden Ave.<br><br>Deacons 3:00 pm<br><br>Session 6:00 pm           | 17<br><br>Choir 6:00 pm                     | 18<br>Ladies Lunch<br>12:30 pm <i>Orient<br/>Express</i><br><br>Tone Chimes<br>6:45 pm<br>Sky Island 7:30 pm | 19  | 20  |
| 21<br>  | 22  | 23<br>Men's Lunch<br>11:30 - Tombstone<br>Brewery, Garden Ave.   | 24<br><br>Choir 6:00 pm                     | 25<br><br>Tone Chimes 6:45<br>Sky Island 7:30 pm   | 26  | 27  |
| 28<br>  | 29  | 30<br>Men's Lunch 11:30<br>Tombstone Brewery,<br>Garden Ave.   | 31<br>Game Day 2:00 pm<br><br>Choir 6:00 pm |  |     |     |
|  |     |  |   |  |     |     |

# WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY



**Game Day, January 31 at 2:00 pm Stevenson Hall.**  
Come and have fun in the afternoon with your Faith buddies!



Please continue to bring your donations for the Food Bank. Non-perishables are needed.



## ~~ MEN'S LUNCH ~~

All men are invited to join the Men's Lunch at 11:30 am each Tuesday in January at Tombstone Brewery on Garden Avenue.

## FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Thursday, January 4  
*My Place at 8:30 am*  
1081 E. Fry Blvd.



Faith has an opportunity for YOU!

A volunteer is needed to help teach Sunday School once a month.

Please contact Heather Carter: [heatherwsings@gmail.com](mailto:heatherwsings@gmail.com)

Mark Your Calendar:

Bake Sale on February 11 - Donations will be needed.



*"Advent Memories"*



## ~ SUNDAY EVENTS IN JANUARY ~

- January 07 - Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons  
Epiphany - "Star Words"
- January 14 - Young Adult Volunteers (YAVS) will share the message
- January 21 - Communion
- January 28 - Annual Congregational Meeting in Stevenson Hall  
Potluck

## ~ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ~



JoAnne "Joie" Heeter was born and raised in Western PA. Shortly after, she and her late husband, Martin, moved to Johnstown, PA for his job. He was a systems analyst for coal fired power plants up and down the East Coast. This was where he was exposed to asbestos and subsequently died of mesothelioma four years ago.

They moved from PA to Arizona in 1999 to West Phoenix-Goodyear. After living in cold weather then hot weather they moved to Sierra Vista in 2007. Joie's home is filled with family antiques. A friend said "a walk thru their home is like walking into Cracker Barrel."

One of her favorite family antiques is a four poster bed made by her great great grandfather before he went to the Civil War. Joie likes to "craft" sew making soft sculptured angels and giving them to friends and strangers. She collects thousands of buttons, starting with her great grandmother's buttons. She makes crafts, jewelry, etc. with them. Another of her favorite hobbies is "thrift store" shopping.

Joie has a tree in her kitchen she leaves up all year round. It has key chains, Christmas ornaments and other baubles from places she and Martin visited over the years.

Joie and her three year old miniature schnauzer "Jax" enjoy living in Sierra Vista. Joie especially enjoys becoming a member of Faith Presbyterian Church.



Jill Witt was born in Cleveland, Ohio and lived most of her life in Port Clinton, Ohio. Jill moved to Arizona at the beginning of her junior year of high school.

She met her husband in 1973 and married July 1975. Jill's daughter, Julie, was born in August 1978. They moved to North Carolina in 1988. She retired from Harrah's Cherokee Casino in 2011 as a back of house Communications Coordinator. Jill's job was creating posters for employees about upcoming events for employees. ie: testing, volunteer events, construction information, etc. and taking pictures of employees at different events. She created a 4 page newsletter and a daily employee information sheet that included the number of buses and their arrival times, entertainment in the lounges and Events Center and information guests may ask about.

They moved back to Arizona, specifically Sierra Vista, in 2015 for their retirement years which has been one of the best places they have lived.



### *Ladies lunch at the "Orient Express"*

*Thursday, January 18 at 12:30 pm*

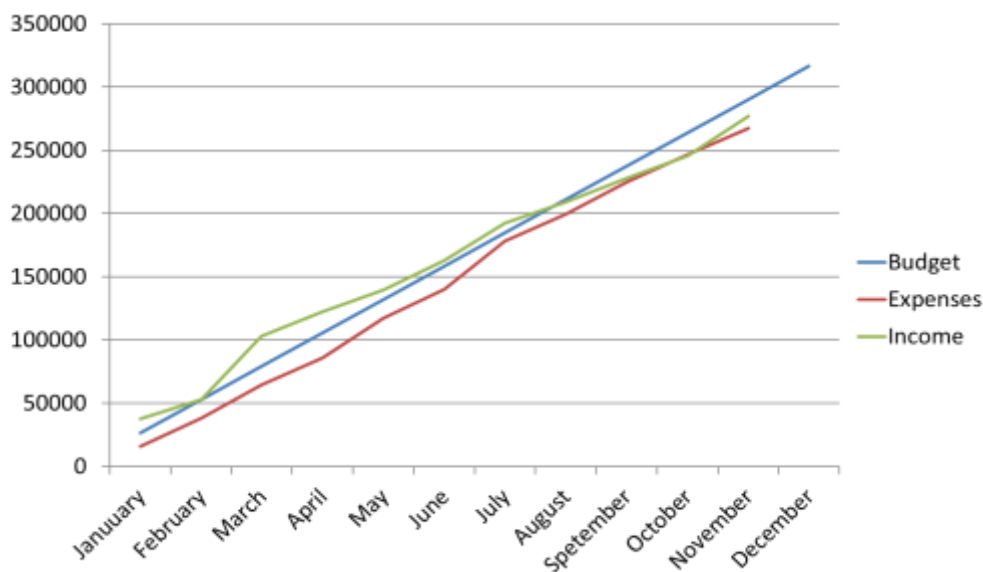
*Come and enjoy fellowship with your Faith gals!*

*A hostess is needed for the ladies lunches starting in February 2024. Contact Joann Mitchell for information.*

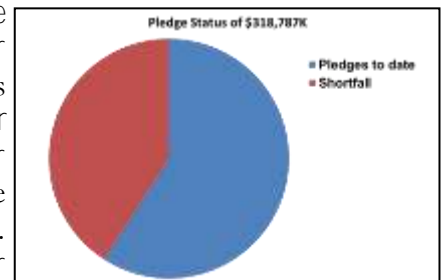
## Treasurer's Update

By Gene Raymond  
Faith Treasurer

END OF YEAR STATUS. By the time you read this newsletter we will have completed the Church Fiscal Year. The chart below shows our income and expenses with respect to this year's estimated budget through the end of November. The blue line is the budget, the red line is expenses (of course) and the green is income. As you can see, we are below the budget line for both income and expenditure, this is actually pretty common for us. What is important is that due to careful stewardship by the Session and your generous giving our income actually was ahead of expenses. As we moved into December, we had a lot of end of year expenses, so we Church Treasurers always get a little nervous as to how the year will turn out. Last year, we had an almost \$30K deficit of annual income versus expenses. I do not expect it to be anyway near that bad this year, we might ever break even! Regardless of how the year ends, I, the Finance Committee, the Session, and Pastor Brian want to thank everyone for their generous support of Faith's Ministries this year.



ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN STATUS. Thank you to everyone who renewed or increased their pledge to support Faith's ministries for next year. On December 19<sup>th</sup>, the Session passed the new Church Budget for 2024. It is projected for \$318,787. That is only about one thousand dollars more than this year's budget. As of December 26<sup>th</sup>, we have received total pledges (including per capita and advanced giving) of \$188,522. This is 59% of what we need for next year's ministries. So please continue to prayerfully consider your pledge for 2024. You can submit a pledge card at any time if you haven't already. Please also consider paying the Per Capita as a separate payment (this year the per capita is \$42 for each individual of your family who is a member of Faith). The Per Capita funds the denomination's work (e.g., General Assembly, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Presbyterian Mission Agency), the Synod's, and the Presbytery's. We have to pay the Per Capita anyway, so if you donate it up front, it will make our regular budget go farther!



### Mark your Calendar:

**Gaslight Theatre - Sunday, February 25 - 3:00 pm**

**"Curse of the Pirates Gold" - Tickets will be on sale in January**