



Faith Presbyterian Church

2053 East Choctaw Drive

Sierra Vista, AZ 85650

Phone: 520-378-9400

Email: [faithsecsv@gmail.com](mailto:faithsecsv@gmail.com)

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

~ May Flowers ~

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 worshiping  
with us every Sunday at 10:30 am!

Join your Faith Family during this  
Spring Season!



~ WALKING IN FAITH ~



*"Love Grows Here"*

**May 2024  
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....

Fellowship Luncheon with our neighbors from the



Korean United Presbyterian Church

28 April 2024

## PASTOR'S POST

Dear Faith Members and Friends,

Thank you all for all your help this spring with all the extra activities we have had going on. It has been a beehive of activity around here! I am grateful for all your hard work and creativity in making all our celebrations here such a success!

We are all called to work for the good of the body of Christ, the church. The church is not just a building. It is a living thing, and we need some more volunteer help for the important positions of Clerk of Session and for some more Ruling Elders. Our nominating committee has done a great job finding nominees to fill open positions for deacon, but we still need some more nominees to fill elder slots and a candidate or two for clerk.

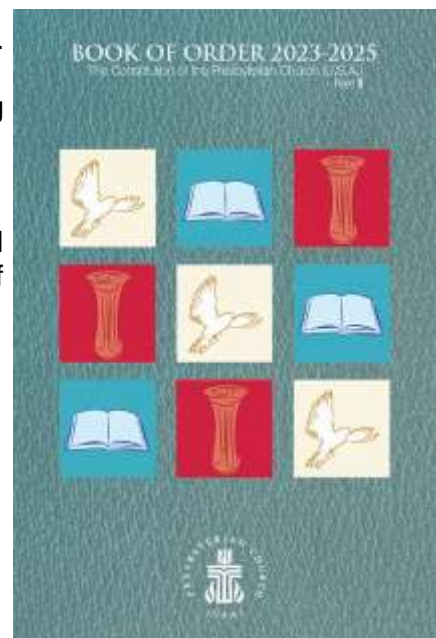
The clerk takes the minutes of our Session meetings (Session is our governing body for the congregation) and is the record keeper of the church. The clerk wears many hats, and they are all extremely important. The clerk not only handles the minutes, but also helps put together the agenda for session meetings, and by extension helps set the agenda for the congregation. If you have good organizational skills, basic computer skills, and want to serve the Lord, this is a great way to do it. Contact Clerk Fred Whitley or I with any questions.

What does a Ruling Elder do? I'm glad you asked. Our *Book of Order* tells us that, "Ruling elders, together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline, and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships" (G-2.0301). As a Ruling Elder, you are a leader in the church, you attend monthly Session meetings, serve on a committee, such as Worship and Music, or Personnel, or Finance, sometimes you are the chairperson of a committee, and you are also eligible to serve communion, and have responsibility for opening and closing the church on Sundays. The congregation chooses Ruling Elders, so it is an elected position. Please contact Judy Pike, or George Wheat or me if you feel called to be a Ruling Elder or Clerk of Session.

I'll be in Wisconsin and Illinois visiting family and friends and celebrating my father's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday from May 3-11, 2024. I am praying for it to be warm while I'm there. Next month I'll be gone June 16-22 for school in Pittsburgh. I've been reading a lot in my free time getting ready for the week-long intensive course. I'll be busy the rest of the summer writing as well.

Please continue to pray for the sick in our congregation and continue to pray for Faith that we may grow in faith and love of the Lord, sharing the Good News to everyone we meet!

In Christ,  
Pastor Brian



# FAITH STEPPING STONES



~ Happy May Birthday ~

Richard Riester	01
Barbara Schratz	06
James Diekema	06
Hunter Rutgers	07
Reina Prescott	08
Shirley Brouwer	09
Matt McHale	10
Lisa Tuttle	12
Ed Keene	13
Dustin Paige	14
Bryanna Townsend	16
Richard Carter	19
Rich Klusarits	20
Pat Saitama	23
Kathy Swackhamer	23
Patrick Jones	25
Brian Louis	25
J.T. Swackhamer	26
Harry Bergtholdt	29

Ruling Elders for 2024

**Heather Carter, Chair, Christian Educ**  
**John Gulde, Worship & Music**  
**Susan Powers, Chair, Worship & Music**  
**Judy Pike, Finance**  
**Rhonda Unicume, Chair, Mission & Stewardship**  
**Jaime Rutgers, Worship & Music**  
**George Wheat, Chair, Building & Grounds**  
**Charles Wilkes, Chair, Finance**  
**Fred Whitley, Clerk of Session**

Deacons for 2024

**Diane Derr, Meals**  
**Patrick Jones, Food Bank**  
**Marti Louzy**  
**Carolyn Malik, Moderator**  
**Tom Mathias**  
**Joann Mitchell, Secretary, Birthday Cards**  
**Randy Mitchell**  
**Dustin Paige**  
**Sharon Raymond, Anniversary & Welcome Cards**



~ Happy May Anniversary ~

Don & Sharon Townsend	06
Bill & Nancy Falconer	10
Jeff & Tina Durham	16
Dave & Cathy Rockwell	22



# ~ May 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Brown Bag Lunch <i>Coffee with Calvin</i> 12:00 pm  Choir 6:00 pm	<b>2</b> Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 am  <i>Fellowship Dinner                      w/ Pinnacle PC                      4:00 pm</i>  Tone Chimes 6:45 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Men's Lunch 11:30 am	<b>8</b>   Choir 6:00 pm	<b>9</b>   Tone Chimes 6:45 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Men's Lunch 11:30 am  Finance 2:30 pm  Music & Worship 6:00 pm	<b>15</b> Brown Bag Lunch <i>Coffee with Calvin</i> 12:00 pm Stephen Ministry 1:00 pm  Choir 6:00 pm	<b>16</b> Ladies Lunch 12:30 pm  Tone Chimes 6:45 pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> NAMI March for Mental Health Univ. of AZ South 7:00 am  
<b>19</b>  	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Men's Lunch 11:30 am  Deacons 3:00 pm  Session 6:00 pm	<b>22</b> Game Day 2:00 pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  	<b>28</b> Men's Lunch 11:30am	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	



# WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY



**Game Day**  
 May 22, 2:00 pm  
 Stevenson Hall.  
 Come and have fun in the  
 afternoon with your Faith  
 buddies!

## FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Thursday, May 2. 8:30 am  
 at *My Place*  
 1081 E. Fry Blvd.



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



The Stephen Ministry team would like to thank  
 everyone who attended the 5 Wishes Advance  
 Directives workshop. There were 15 in  
 attendance! If anyone was unable to attend  
 but would like the information distributed or  
 attend an upcoming workshop, please contact



**STEPHEN  
 MINISTRY**

Pam Winters at 419-707-2908. These workshops are free and open to the public. Thank you!



## Ladies Lunch at the "Chili's"

Thursday, May 16 at 12:30 pm

**It's Fun Hat Day!**

*Come and enjoy fellowship with your Faith gals!*

*Contact Joann Mitchell for more information.*



## ~~ MEN'S LUNCH ~~

All men are invited to join the Men's Lunch at 11:30  
 am each Tuesday in May at *"Taco Giro"*.

let's do  
**lunch**



If the luncheon with the Korean United Presbyterian Church wasn't  
 enough fellowship, please join us in Stevenson Hall on

**Thursday, May 2, at 4 pm**

for an evening of singing and fellowship with our brothers and sisters in  
 Christ from Pinnacle Presbyterian Church in Scottsdale who are visiting  
 Cochise County. Free dinner will be catered in from R & R Pizza Express!

The fun runs from 4 pm to 7 pm. A sign up sheet for the event is in the Narthex.



## ~ Community Support ~

The Mission & Stewardship Team has several opportunities to help in the community.

- **NAMI** will have their annual **March for Mental Health Walk** on **May 18<sup>th</sup>**. It will be held 1140 Columbia Ave. in the UA Discovery Gardens. Check in at 7:00 am and walk starts at 8:00. Faith will have a team participating and are looking for additional members or people wishing to make their own team. Teams will be collecting donations for this walk. **Please reach out to family and friends for additional donations.** We will have a sign-up sheet available for those interested. Rhonda Unicume or Pam Winters can answer questions. Please make donation checks payable to: NAMI Southwestern AZ, with a note in the memo section: Faith Presbyterian. Cash donations should be in a sealed envelope with NAMI written on the envelope. Both checks and cash envelopes can be placed in the offering plates on Sunday, May 5th and May 12th.

You can donate on-line at <https://www.myevent.com/marchformentalhealth>.

Anyone donating \$100.00 or more gets a T-Shirt from the event. T- Shirt sizes as supplies last. **There will be a variety of activities, food, and music so even if you are not walking, please consider coming out and supporting this very important event.**

- **Jug for Change!** Fill our jug to help change the world! Don't forget to drop your pocket change in the jug in the Narthex. Last year \$500.00 was donated to Heifer International to buy farm animals in a needy area somewhere in the world. This current collection period will go until December, at which time the children of the church will decide the next recipients. Thank you for considering helping in this way!
- **Pentecost Sunday** is May 19. In the past, Pentecost offerings have gone toward youth organizations. If you forgot or misplaced your Pentecost envelope, there are additional blank ones in the pews. Please designate Pentecost on the front.
- **Day trip to Douglas to help with 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church's Border Mission.** This mission was highlighted at the most recent Dixieland Devotion. Rev. Peggy Christiansen explained how the need for humanitarian aid has increased exponentially with many arriving for help having few or no necessities. We will have a signup sheet and more information when a date has been confirmed.



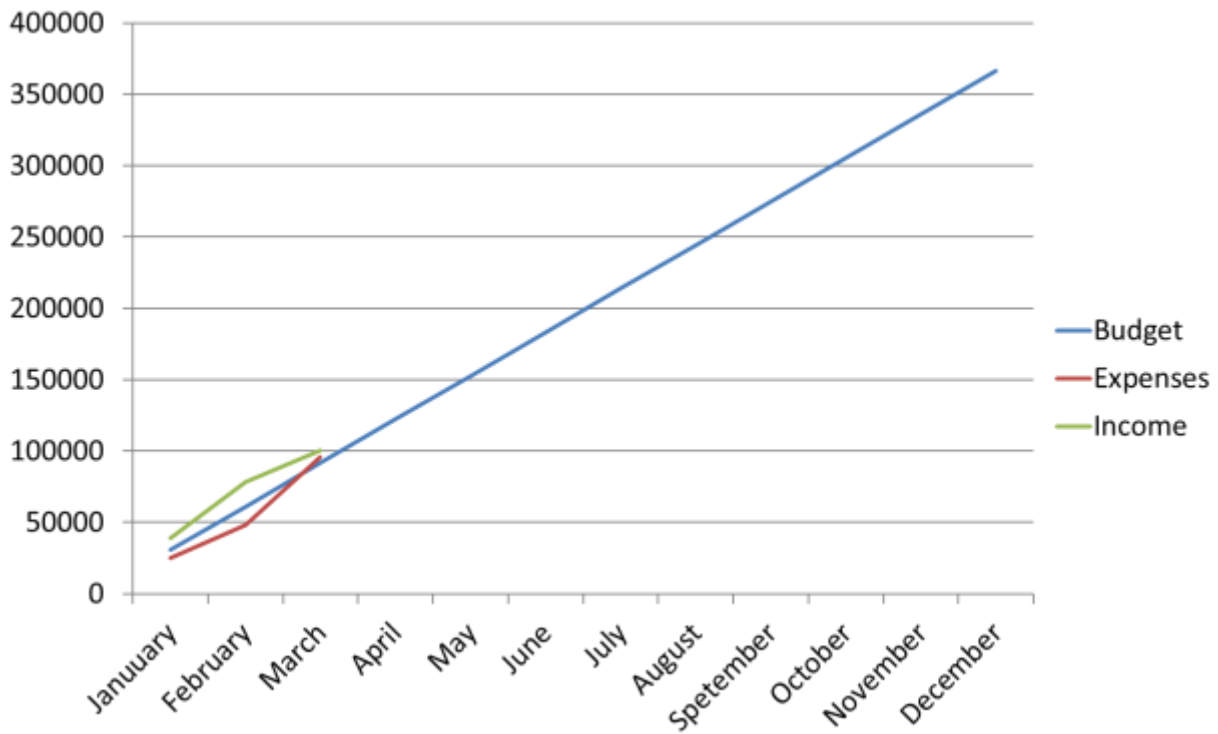
Thank you to all the wonderful church musicians for providing such beautiful music throughout the year. As is our traditional, both the Chancel Choir and the Tone Chime Choir will be taking the summer off starting after the Pentecost Sunday service on May 19th.

If you are musically inclined and would like to share your talents with the congregation in the Special Music place during worship this summer, please give Janis Wheat a call at (520) 417-0310 to sign up for a Sunday.

# Treasurer's Update

By Gene Raymond  
Faith Treasurer

**WE HAVE A CHANGE TO OUR BUDGET.** On April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Session voted to increase Faith's 2024 Operating Budget to \$366,532, an increase of \$48,000. This increase was added to account for the purchase and installation of our new Air Conditioning system. This increase reflects the new financial requirements we will be operating under for the rest of the year and will allow the Session and the congregation to better track our financial status. The chart below shows the new budget line and the first quarter income and expenses. The expense line includes the first half of the Air Conditional payment. The other half will be paid in April. In spite of the larger than normal payment in March, thanks to your generosity, we still took in more than we spent in the first quarter. Last year we ended up within 1 per cent of our income verses expenses, hopefully everyone will continue to be as generous in their support of Faith's Ministries for this of this year as you were for last year.



John Newton, 1779

