



Faith Presbyterian Church

2053 East Choctaw Drive

Sierra Vista, AZ 85650

Phone: 520-378-9400

Email: faithsecsv@gmail.com

Website: www.faithpresb.org

~ July Monsoons ~

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!

Cool-Off with your Faith Family
during the Summer Heat Wave!



~ WALKING IN FAITH ~



"Love Grows Here"

**July 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....

Pastor Brian at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary



17-21 June 2024



Long Hall, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary



East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh



PASTOR'S POST



Dear Members and Friends of Faith,

First, I want to encourage you all to read Treasurer Gene Raymond's article for this month's newsletter. You won't want to miss it.

This week our denomination's General Assembly is underway in Salt Lake City. The General Assembly is where the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) decides all kinds of matters related to our denomination. The General Assembly is where changes to our church constitution take place and changes to procedures to the ordination process for ministers occur as well. The denomination also takes positions on social issues in our denomination, world, and nation from time to time. Sometimes that causes hard feelings and outrage. I don't agree with everything the denomination does and I don't agree with everything our denomination emphasizes at times. But by and large, I do. No denomination is perfect, but ours is as perfect as I have found. That's why I joined it.

I was not born into the Presbyterian Church. And after being away from church for thirty years as an adult, this is the denomination I decided to call home. Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago was the first church I joined as a member. Why? Because at the time it had a dynamic preacher who happened to be a woman (not every Christian church allows that, of course). It was a safe place for me to talk to the ministers there about the questions I had about Christianity and the church. It was safe for me to express my skepticism and reserve over religion. I could ask questions and not be told what to believe or which political ideology to hold. I liked that the PCUSA took seriously the message of Jesus in Matthew Chapter 25 to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to visit those in prison, and to welcome the stranger. I loved that the church did its best to live the message of the gospel of Jesus the Christ and to do as Christ commanded, to love one another.

I loved that the denomination had a General Assembly, and that we made decisions together after much deliberation. Presbyterian (derived from the Greek word *presbyteros*, meaning elder) refers to our form of church government, another part of the church I love. I love the way we are governed, even though at times it is frustrating to do things "decently and in order."

I could have joined any other Christian denomination, but this was the closest I could come to finding the perfect place for me, my theology, and my views on the world. I pray that the commissioners to the General Assembly make good decisions this year.

Meanwhile, we at Faith, through your Session, will have some important decisions to make this year about the future of the church. Stay tuned!

In Christ,
Pastor Brian



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

A GIFT OF FAITH, FOR FAITH. On Monday 24 June, Pastor Brian and Fred Whitley received and deposited a check from the settlement of the estate of the late, charter member of Faith, Margie Riley. While it is not usual to publish the amounts of individual bequests, the magnitude of Margie's generosity and thankfulness for what Faith and Christ meant to her override this customary editorial principle.

Margie's gift to Faith was **\$255,000!** Since Margie's bequest listed no caveats or limitations, the Session will meet to decide what the best use of Margie's gift should be in a way that will honor her spirit of generosity.

Margie was a special member of Faith. Her generosity and expression of gratitude for what Faith meant in her life is an example to all of us. Margie is one of several members of Faith now with the saints, whose generous bequests have helped us get through our recent "lean years".

Thanks be to God for the blessing and generosity of members like Margie!

FAITH STEPPING STONES



~ Happy July Birthday ~

Shirley Portouw	2 July
Charles Lemley	7 July
Phil Crawford	7 July
James Louzy	11 July
Joann Mitchell	18 July
Richard Turke	20 July
Marial sabel Quinones-Bird	21 July
Patricia Garcia	22 July
Amanda Wheat	23 July
Rick Hanson	25 July
Larry Bourne	29 July

Ruling Elders for 2024

Scott Bird, Mission & Stewardship
Heather Carter, Chair, Christian Education
John Gulde, Building & Grounds
John Osborne, Chair, Personnel
Susan Powers, Chair, Worship & Music
Judy Pike, Finance
Rhonda Unicume, Chair, Mission & Stewardship
Jaime Rutgers, Worship & Music
Lisa Tuttle, Christian Education
George Wheat, Chair, Building & Grounds
Charles Wilkes, Chair, Finance
Jane Jarboe, Clerk Pro Tem
Fred Whitley, Clerk of Session

Deacons for 2024

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



~ July 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Men's Lunch Olive Garden 11:30 am	3	4  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	5	6
7 Patriotic Sing-Along After Worship	8	9 Men's Lunch Olive Garden 11:30 am	10	11 Fellowship Breakfast My Place 8:30 am	12	13
14	15	16 Men's Lunch Olive Garden 11:30 am	17	18	19	20
21 	22	23 Men's Lunch Olive Garden 11:30 am	24 Game Day 2:00 pm	25 Ladies Lunch Olive Garden 12:30 pm	26	27
28	29	30 Men's Lunch Olive Garden 11:30am	31	 Please continue to bring your donations for the Food Bank. Non-perishables are needed.		



Come join in our Patriotic Sing-Along after worship on **July 7th**. There will also be a good old-fashioned potluck in Stevenson Hall. Signup sheets for food and attendance are in the Narthex.

WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Thursday, July 11. 8:30 am
at *My Place*
1081 E. Fry Blvd.



Game Day

July 24, 2:00 pm
Stevenson Hall.
Come and have fun with your
Faith buddies!



"Olive Garden"

380 North Hwy 90, Sierra Vista, AZ

Thursday, July 25th at 12:30 pm

Come and enjoy fellowship with your Faith gals!



~~ MEN'S LUNCH ~~

All men are invited to join the Men's Lunch at 11:30 am each
Tuesday in July at *Olive Garden*.

~ Community Support ~

The **Faith Backpack program** was started in 2015 as a result of a "Church has left the Building" visit to St. Vincent de Paul. Sandy Brown, a deacon at the time, saw an opportunity. Years later, the need is still as critical as ever.

From **August 1-August 31** we will be collecting the requested items and/or funds to fill 72 backpacks. A donation bin will be in the narthex for your donated items. All funds collected will be used to purchase items that were not donated. If donating by check, mark "Backpack Program" in the memo line. The backpacks themselves have been donated by an anonymous giver. Any remaining cash balance will be presented to St. Vincent de Paul in the form of a check. St. Vincent de Paul is always appreciative of our "Faith" backpacks as are the people receiving them. If you have any questions please contact:



Elder Rhonda Unicume - golfladym@hotmail.com or 520-236- 5047, or
Pam Winters - pwinn3-8@yahoo.com or 419-707-2908.

Please watch upcoming Sunday bulletins for a list of items needed. This list will also be in the August newsletter.



Please remember we are still putting the jug out on Sunday mornings for you to drop your change in or make donations. The money collected will be donated to an organization that the youth who attend Faith Presbyterian will help us identify. Last year the money collected bought poultry and goats for a village in Africa that was experiencing a major food shortage.

