



Faith Presbyterian Church
2053 East Choctaw Drive
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650
Phone: 520-378-9400

Email: faithsecsv@gmail.com

Website: www.faithpresb.org

~ Sweet September ~

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 in September for worship
and fellowship.**



~ WALKING IN FAITH ~

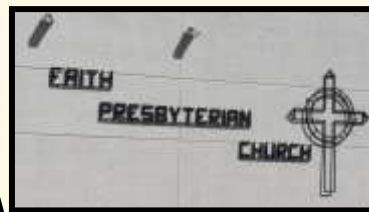
September
2024 NEWSLETTER
Faith Presbyterian Church
Sierra Vista, Arizona



"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....



Views from the parking lot!



PASTOR'S POST

Dear Faith Members and Friends,

Many joyous things have happened since the last Pastor's Post. Last month Session voted to pay off the mortgage on our property. Faith is now debt free! Paying off the approximately \$159,000 mortgage was only possible through the generosity of two of our late church members who left sizable bequests in their wills for Faith. This final act of love for the church is a beautiful thing. It frees us up to take care of some infrastructure needs around the church property and the money saved from paying the mortgage every month allows us to do even more good in the community. These sizable bequests also allow us to fund a great financial cushion for the congregation. Session also voted to put \$150,000 in six 3-month certificates of deposit of \$25,000 each.

While we rejoice and praise God for the blessings of these financial gifts, this does not mean we are rich! We have a nice reserve now, but that is a reserve, not a piggy bank to fund our operations. Please continue to be generous stewards of our church and help continue to fund our operations and our mission activities in the community. I would encourage everyone to dig even deeper so we can do more of God's work in the world. Remember, we are the hands and feet of Christ on earth to help our neighbors! Love lives here!

If you haven't, I would encourage everyone to examine their wills and trusts and consider leaving a gift for Faith as a final act of stewardship to God and God's church. I have some literature on leaving a legacy gift to the church from our presbytery.

To celebrate our blessings, we will have a mortgage burning ceremony in conjunction with a 40th anniversary celebration for Faith on Oct. 27, which is Reformation Sunday. If you would like to be involved in planning this party, let Office Manager Judy Mayhew or I know. We will need a committee of folks to help on this.

We have plenty of other activities coming up in the next few months. In fact, Sunday Sept. 8 is Faith Family Fellowship Sunday! We will have a singalong and potluck after worship along with a photo of the congregation! Don't miss it!

Unfortunately, not all our news is happy. Late last month Faith member Gwen Smith, whose smile was electric and who was always willing to help at church, died after a brief illness. Gwen became a member at Faith after moving here from California with her daughter Dee about two years ago. Let us pray for comfort for her family and friends, that they may find healing in this time of sadness.

Please keep in your prayers all our church members who are sick and fighting illness and hardships of all kinds. May God bless us all and may God continue to bless Faith!

In Christ,
Pastor Brian

FAITH STEPPING STONES



- Happy September Birthday -

David Lenning	02
Carol Wickham	02
Donald Townsend	03
John Gulde	05
Larry Dokken	08
Anita Huiatt	15
Marne Gulde	17
Nancy Falconer	18
Barb Kepple	18
Pam Winters	19
Kathy Barr	20
Janis Wheat	20
Randy Richard	22
John Stevenson	23
Lou Burluson	24
Diane Lemley	24
Mike Mitchell	24
Don Townsend	25



- Happy September Anniversary -

Tom & Betty Spering	02
David & Jamie Rutgers	02
Dick Laycock & Jan Gray	11
Paul & Lezlee Smith	16
David & Tonia Swarner	18
Bob & Karen Thompson	20

2024 Elders

Scott Bird - Mission & Stewardship
Heather Carter - Christian Ed Chair
John Gulde - Building & Grounds
John Osborne - Personnel Chair
Judy Pike - Finance
Susan Powers - Music & Worship Chair
Jamie Rutgers - Music & Worship
Lisa Tuttle - Christian Ed/Music & Worship
Rhonda Unicume - Mission & Steward Chair
George Wheat - Building & Grounds Chair
Charles Wilkes - Finance Chair

2024 Deacons

Diane Derr
Marne Gulde
Patrick Jones
Marti Louzy
Carolyn Malik - Moderator
Tom Mathias
Joann Mitchell
Randy Mitchell
Charlotte Osborne
Dustin Paige
Sharon Raymond
Barb Schratz



"Jack in the Box"



Children listening to stories about Jack!

"Jack"
The
Rabbit



Jack riding a telescope!

~ September 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2  Office Closed	3 Men's Lunch 11:30 Urbano Bar & Bistro	4 Choir 6:00	5 Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 am <i>My Place</i>	6	7
8  Family Fellowship	9	10 Men's Lunch 11:30 Urbano Bar & Bistro Finance 2:30 pm Music & Worship 6:00 pm	11 World Religions 11:30 Conference Room Choir 6:00	12	13	14
15 Communion 	16	17 Men's Lunch 11:30 Urbano Bar & Bistro Deacons 3:00 pm Session 6:00 pm	18 11-1 Suicide Workshop Stevenson Hall Choir 6:00	19 Ladies Lunch LaCasita 12:30	20 Set up for Rummage Sale Stevenson Hall	21 Rummage Sale Stevenson Hall 8:00 - 2:00
22 New Members Class - 9:00 am <hr/> Good Bye Mike and Pam Winters	23	24 Men's Lunch 11:30 Urbano Bar & Bistro	25 World Religions 11:30 Conference Room Game Day 2:00 Choir 6:00	26	27	28
29 	30					

WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY



Game Day, September 25
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 September at
Urbano Bar & Bistro.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Thursday, September 5
My Place at 8:30 am
1081 E. Fry Blvd.



Sunday School at Faith will start

on September 15 at 9:15 am.



Volunteers are needed to teach and/or be a backup for

Sunday School and Children's Church.

Children's Church is available during worship
for ages 0-10.



Please contact Heather Carter: heatherwsings@gmail.com



Choir Rehearsals
Resume

Choir rehearsal resumes!
Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

The first time singing in church
will be Sunday, September 8.

If you enjoy singing and would like to join the choir, please
come to rehearsal. You will be welcomed with open arms!

HOORAY! GOODBYE MORTGAGE. In the July Newsletter I reported on the wonderful bequest to Faith by the late, charter member of Faith, Margie Riley. Margie's gift was added to by another substantial bequest from Betty Olson. On August 20th, the Session met to decide what the best use of these gifts should be in a way that would honor their spirit of generosity. The Session decided that the best uses for these gifts would be to retire the existing mortgage on the sanctuary. In addition, the remainder



of these gifts, plus some of our savings will be used to purchase up to \$150,000 in insured Certificates of Deposits. These two actions by the Session will put Faith on a firm financial foundation going forward and free us to use your gifts to make a greater impact in the community in Christ's name.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN. The Session also started to work on next year's budget and prepare for this year's Stewardship Campaign. The Session set "Dedication Sunday" for November 3. This will be the first budget and campaign in almost 20 years that will be developed without the additional burden of \$30,000 a year in mortgage payments. Earlier this month, Pastor Brian preached on Galatians 5:13-26, talking about the freedom we have in Christ, especially the "Freedom to Serve". The recent financial gifts we have received have given Faith a new financial freedom to think about what other ways we can serve Christ. The budget this year will still have to deal with salaries, utilities, regular maintenance, and some long-delayed facility improvements. However, we also have a new freedom to increase outreach and community ministries that we have had to draw back on recently. Faith has always been generous in its giving of time, talents, and treasure; the Session hopes you will continue your generosity into the next year.

Elder Gene Raymond, Treasurer

The Stephen Ministry team will be hosting a workshop supporting those who are a survivor of suicide loss. This workshop will be held in Stevenson Hall from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm on September 18th with lunch and conversation afterwards.



The workshop will be presented by David Fife, M. Div., Director of Community Engagement, Roots and Roads Community Hospice Foundation in Tucson.

Please contact me directly if interested -
Pam Winters 419-707-2908.



Benjamin



Kozlynn



Hunter

Thank you for letting your light shine
and being Faith's acolytes!



Faith's mascot turtle
has been named
"Christian".

Thank you ,Susan
Roetcisoender, for
suggesting the
perfect name!

New Members Class!

9:00 am Sunday, September 22
Pastor Brian's Office

"Faith Family Fellowship Sunday"



September 8, 2024

- Choir returns
- Annual group photo in the sanctuary!
- Potluck lunch after worship
- Bring your voices for a sing-along!



Ladies lunch at the "LaCasita"

Thursday, September 19 at 12:30 pm.



SAVE THE DATE!

Faith Presbyterian is going to the Gaslight Theater, Tucson, Arizona!
Don't miss this chance for some great fun and laughs.

"CRONAN THE BARBARIAN"

Sunday, 23 February 2025, 3:00 PM

66 seats have been reserved.



Hello, This is the house of Faith,

It is a perfect example of our experience! We first attended Faith at the invitation of our neighbor, Mary Kay Beale. The Tucson Highlanders were guest performing during the upcoming Sunday church service at Faith Presbyterian. WOW! They are still a favorite of ours. Mike and Pam Steiger greeted us in the narthex. It was from here on, we became the "Other Mike and Pam"!! Margie Riley welcomed us into the sanctuary, followed closely by Bill and Ruth Akins. Such a warm, family-like welcome, we immediately knew it was home.

We had church shopped for over two years to find a congregation that felt right. Not long after we joined the church, Bill and Ruth Akins had us for dinner to get to know us. They were the first of several meals we have shared with our Faith family.



It has been eight years now and the time for a new chapter in our lives. We will be moving to live with our daughter and her family in Belton, Texas at the end of September. This will give us an opportunity to check out the housing market. We are very excited to be spending more time with our grandchildren!

Thank you for your love and support. We especially felt it during Michael's cancer treatment and recovery.

We have been blessed to serve on many projects and committees. Michael was elected to serve on Session as an Elder of the Church. I served on the Board of Deacons and as moderator. Michael was always helping me as a Deacon, so much so that the phrase "buy a Deacon get an Elder free" came in to play many times!! The reverse worked when he needed help in his capacity of Elder.

We learned quickly to be careful of Pastor Virginia's "I've been thinking!" opening sentence! It resulted in "Singing in the Rain" a happening which resulted in a great evening, auctions, dinner and skit. It was a joint effort of the congregation which resulted in a substantial donation to support ViCap.

My time serving as a Stephen Minister has brought me a deeper understanding of empathy and caregiving.

Being on the search committee to assist in bringing Pastor Brian has given me great joy. We not only have a Pastor to guide us spiritually, but a friend to share our lives with.

Michael and I have enjoyed working on the backpack project, nursing home ministry, mission and stewardship, preparing and serving communion, home communion and many other opportunities to serve God and our congregation.

We have made friends who are now family and will carry you all in our hearts for the rest of our lives.

Love and Big Hugs,

Mike and Pam Winters

Faith Presbyterian Church
2053 E. Choctaw Drive
Sierra Vista



8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Saturday

September 21

*\$10.00 donation per
6 foot table.*

*Join us to sell your items
indoors rain or shine.*

Set up at 7:00 am

*Call 520-378-9400 for
information*





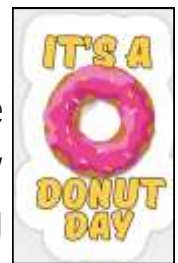
Gwen Smith, a faithful servant of the Lord and a faithful member of Faith, went to her glory on August 21 after a brief illness.

Condolences to Gwen's daughter, Dee, and the rest of her family. Prayers that the Lord may comfort them in their grief.

No details on services are available at this time.

Life Care Donut Day is in need of a few volunteers.

Donut Day is a much-anticipated event by the residents and the staff of Life Care. Donut Day at Life Care is the second Friday of each month in the morning. It is fun meeting and speaking with the residents as you serve them their donuts and coffee. If you want more information or want to volunteer, please send a text to Margaret Jo C-V at 520-236-9055.



- **Ever wonder about other religions?**
- **Ever wonder how they started? And who started them?**
- **Ever wonder what they believe?**
- **Ever wonder what they practice?**
- **No need to wonder anymore!**



Join Pastor Brian for a new brown bag series on world religions on Wednesdays at 11:30 am starting September 11 in the conference room next to Stevenson Hall. We will explore Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Islam, Sikhism, and Mormonism. This will be a regular meeting throughout the fall with no specific end date. Some weeks we will not meet because Pastor Brian will be gone or has meetings. We will let you know in advance. Please join us for what promises to be an enlightening time together!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR ~
OCTOBER 27, 2024
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
FAITH PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH!
WATCH FOR DETAILS
IN THE COMING WEEKS!

American Cancer Society Relay for Life event at Veterans Park on Saturday, August 24. Pictures of luminaries submitted by Mike Winters.

