



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

Email: faithsecsv@gmail.com

Website: www.faithpresb.org

~ Divine December ~

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 in December to anticipate
the coming of Christ our Savior!**



~ WALKING IN FAITH ~

December
2024 NEWSLETTER
Faith Presbyterian Church
Sierra Vista, Arizona



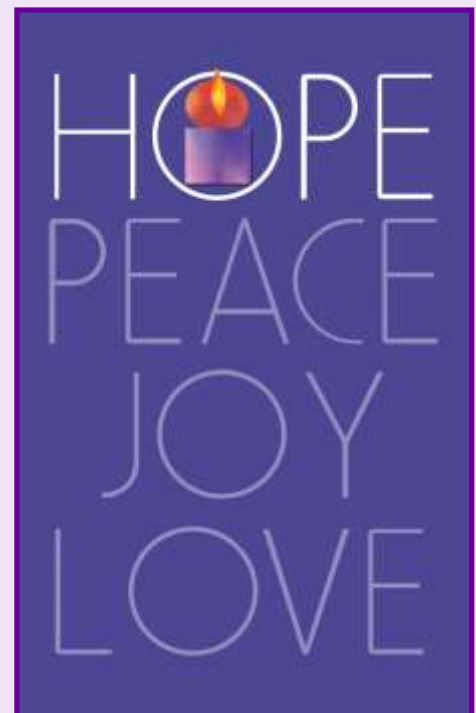
"Love Grows Here"

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....



Advent
A Season of Hope
& Expectation



PASTOR'S POST

Dear Faith Members and Friends,

Hard to believe another year has come and gone! It has certainly been an eventful year. Thank you all for being with me on this faith journey at Faith! I pray that no matter what has happened this year in your life that you feel closer to God now than you did at the beginning of the year.

The year is closing out with some good momentum. Last month we had a bunch of new members join the church to add to our merry band of faithful followers of Christ! We are going to hold another new members Sunday on Dec. 22 as we anticipate several more members joining. Let's keep the momentum going! When new members join the church, that is such a credit to the congregation and the welcome you show to folks who visit or start attending here regularly. The Holy Spirit working through you all make all this happen!

Starting on Wednesday, Dec. 4 at noon in Stevenson Hall, we will be discussing the Advent book *Holy Disruption*, which was written by the interim pastor of St. Mark's in Tucson, Rev. Tracy Daub. If you have signed up for the book study, I have the books in the office ready to be picked up at your convenience. The World Religions class went well this fall, and we had about 15 people there each week. Thanks to everyone who came out for the seminars each week!

I get a lot of suggestions on what to do around here. Believe it or not, I don't have the authority to do a lot of them because they cost money and spending by the church for special projects needs to be approved by our Session. So, I have started adding an item on the Session agenda entitled, "Wish List." I want to make sure Session hears from you in this way and what is on your mind.

Thank you everyone for your pledges for the coming year and the tremendous generosity you have shown to Faith. The Session and I appreciate it a great deal!

This will be an exciting month at Faith with a lot going on, culminating with the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service! On Dec. 15, the combined choir of the Sierra Vista United Methodist Church and the Faith Chancel Choir will be performing our Christmas Cantata. It should be amazing!

Continue to pray, call, visit, and write our church members who are unable to get out and about and let them know they are loved by their brothers and sisters in Christ this Advent and Christmas season.

Have a blessed Advent season and a Merry Christmas!

In Christ,
Pastor Brian

FAITH STEPPING STONES



~ Happy December Birthday ~

Lois Bloom	06
Heather Mayhew	10
Joe Perry	14
Clara Beth Smith	16
Kathy Jones	18
Kathy Richard	22
Terry Whaley	24
George Wheat	27
Phyllis Pfeifer	29
Nancy Whaley	30



John & Pat Wettack	22
Clark & Lois Bloom	26
Terry & Nancy Whaley	27
Ron & Judy Mayhew	30

2024 Elders

Scott Bird - Mission & Stewardship Chair
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
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



Congratulations!

**Janis & George
Granddaughter
Eleanor Anne
Born 11/26
To Laura
Christopher**

A new email for prayer requests and updates has been established for you and others within the church wishing to make their prayer requests known for the prayer chain. Please send your requests to:

prayer@faithpresb.org

Your request will then be sent to all the prayer chain administrators simultaneously so it can be addressed in the timeliest manner.

~ December 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3 Men's Lunch 11:30 Olive Garden	4 Advent Study Holy Disruption Class 12 Noon Choir 6:00	5 Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 am <i>My Place</i>	6	7
8	9	10 Men's Lunch 11:30 Olive Garden Finance 2:30 pm Music & Worship 6:00 pm	11 Advent Study Holy Disruption Class 12 Noon Choir 6:00	12	13	14
15 	16 Deacons Lunch 12:00 Noon Olive Garden	17 Men's Lunch 11:30 Olive Garden Session 6:00 pm	18 Advent Study Holy Disruption Class 12 Noon Choir 6:00	19 Ladies Lunch Texas Roadhouse 12:30 pm	20	21
22  Communion	23	24  Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 pm	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31 				

WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY



**No Game Day in
December!
See you in January!**



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 December at the Olive Garden Restaurant.

**FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST**
Thursday, December 5
My Place at 8:30 am
1081 E. Fry Blvd.



*Ladies Lunch at Texas Roadhouse
Thursday, December 19 at 12:30 pm*

LA PALOMA

A story-telling event for the church in the Sonoran Desert.

STORIES ARE NEEDED

Submit a story by December 18th

Church: It's time to share your personal insight and experience with church. Is it food for your soul? A home away from home? Something that happens on a Sunday? A mystery to be solved? Why even bother?

Well, jump in and get your feet wet by telling us your 5-minute story that expresses your need, love, dislike or hope for the church. We want to share your stories with others so that our community can benefit from everyone's unique insights and experiences.

Send your stories to: lapalomastorycollective@gmail.com in a word document, email or a pdf. Then, we will be in contact with you about the selection process for those willing to share their stories in-person during the story-telling event.

This is a Fundraiser for: BORDERLANDS YAV - YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEERS



The youth at Faith had a nice fall afternoon get together with "The Great Pumpkin", games and goodies!



“DONUT DAY” AT LIFECARE!



Thank you, Margaret Jo, for organizing “Donut Day” and for volunteers Barb, Bob, and Jamie. In November they honored the veterans at LifeCare.

If you would like to help with this fun day on the 2nd Friday of the month, please send a text to Margaret Jo at 520-236-9055.

Gifts for “Child & Family Resources”

Once again this year we will be accepting gifts for the Child and Family Resources. They need items for young ones ages 0 through teenage. The teenagers seem to get left out.

They especially need:

Diapers, size 4-7

Pull Ups, size 3-7

Baby wipes

Bring your gifts unwrapped through December 15 and put them under the tree in the sanctuary. This organization is very appreciative of our help.



Check donations:

Payable to: Child and Family Resources

Memo: Healthy Families of Cochise County





*Baptism
November 17*

"Child of God"



Jerry Whelen was baptized when he became a new member of Faith! Welcome, Jerry, to your new family!



*Join your
Faith
Family!*

*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
7:00 pm*

*Christmas
Brings
Hope!*





Thank you Richard, Heather, George, Janis, Patrick, Susan and Holly for decorating the sanctuary for the Advent Season!



Thank you, Bridget, for displaying the Nativity that was given to Faith by Helen Himes. It shows the meaning of the season in Stevenson Hall!



AV Techs Bethany Dunn and Jeff Durham are excited! Faith has expanded the Audio and Video capabilities. We now have a new soundboard with more than twice the capacity, 3 more wireless mics, a 2nd camera and 2 new choir mics.

~ CAROLING TO THE HOMEBOUND ~

December 1, 2024



Merry Christmas Mike and Joann!



Merry Christmas Gertrude!



Merry Christmas Barb!

Merry Christmas Shirley, Leroy, and Vi!



Merry Christmas Jim & Martha!



Merry Christmas Al and family!



Thanks to all the carolers for sharing your joy with others!

~ Thanksgiving Celebration ~
Korean Presbyterian Church



November 24, 2024



TREASURER'S UPDATE

BY Gene Raymond, Faith Treasurer

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN STATUS. Thank you to everyone who renewed or increased their pledge so far to support Faith's ministries for next year. We have totaled the pledges received on Pledge Sunday and earlier and they total over \$200,000! Last year about this time we had only received \$188,500. SO, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! You can submit a pledge card at any time if you haven't already.



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, including much-needed improvements to our audio-visual capabilities. However, we also have a new freedom to increase outreach and community ministries that we have had to draw back on recently. If you are still considering your pledge, I ask you to think about what Faith and its mission means to you. Think about the testimonies of the members you heard recently and what Faith has meant to them. Think about the things your pledges have accomplished in the past in the nursing homes and for the homeless in Sierra Vista, and for those in need in the Solomon Islands and across the border in Mexico. Your pledge, whatever the amount, will be used to advance the ministries to which God has called us.

Please also consider paying the Per Capita as a separate payment (this year the per capita is \$44 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 Per Capita anyway, so if you donate it up front, it will make our regular budget go farther!

RECYCLING PROGRAM



Pastor Brian has not forgotten about the recycling program. He does need some help however in forming it and organizing it. If you would like to be involved in this effort, please contact Pastor Brian. We have some ideas on how to get things rolling, but we need a little help! Thanks to those who offered ideas on what to do and various recycling services. Now is the time to put these ideas into action around our Faith campus!

~ Welcome New Members ~



Rodney and Holly Seago moved here in May of 2023 from Tempe to enjoy the cooler weather, mountain views and laid back pace that can be found in Sierra Vista. Holly is originally from the Chicago area and has spent most of her career working in the field of accounting. She is looking forward to stepping back from full time work in December. Although born in Georgia, Rodney has lived in Arizona for most of his life and is a retired real estate broker. They have 2 dogs, Jada and Belle and one cat, Mr. Serenity.



Jerry Whelan was born in Japan and moved to the US as his father was in the Army. The family first moved to Virginia and then to Huachuca City. He graduated in 1970 from Tombstone and eventually got a job with the City of Sierra Vista and retired after 30 years.

Danette Flamm was born in Jackson, MI. She lived in Colorado and Benson, AZ before moving to Huachuca City. Danette was baptized at a church her extended family attended. Then the Free Methodist Church, then 40 years in the Catholic Church. She is happy to return to her roots and her desire is to learn and grow.

~ Welcome New Members ~



Rex Unicum was born in Brandon Manitoba Canada and moved to Vancouver Island B.C. Canada. He attended Anglian Church and was baptized and confirmed. Rex met Rhonda while vacationing in Arizona. They were married by Virginia Studer at Faith and moved to Vancouver Island B.C. They returned to Sierra Vista two years ago. Rhonda's parents were involved in the founding of Faith Presbyterian so they will continue at Faith and continue her parents legacy. Rhonda has been a member for years.



Miss Bethany Dunn was born in Charleston, SC. She lived there most of her life but due to family matters, moved around quite a bit. This lead her to start living with her godparents, Marne and John Gulde. Marne's job moved them to Sierra Vista, AZ from Hinesville, GA. They looked for a church where they all felt welcomed and comfortable. This took them to Faith and after one visit they decided that this was the right place for them. She is so glad to be here and helping as an AV Tech.