



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 in the new year  
for love and inspiration.**



~ WALKING IN FAITH ~  
JANUARY  
2025 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  
Candlelight  
Service  
2024*



## PASTOR'S POST

Dear Faith Members and Friends,

I pray everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Just because Christmas and New Year's are over does not mean the action slows at Faith! On Sunday Jan. 5 we will celebrate Epiphany and we will hand out our Star Words for the year. For those newer to the congregation, everyone picks a Star Word randomly and on the star is a word to focus on and reflect on for the year. Like the magi who followed the star to Bethlehem, our star words are a beacon for us for the year ahead. I pray these words will help us to grow closer to God in 2025.

On Jan. 12 we will celebrate the Baptism of the Lord with a baptism of our own here at Faith. We will also welcome four members into the church as well. If that was not enough, we will also ordain and install new deacons and install an elder that Sunday as well.

January 19 is per capita Sunday, a day where members of the congregation offer the annual \$44 per capita fee that helps pay for the operations of our denomination, the national church – the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); our regional synod, the Synod of the Southwest; and our presbytery, Presbytery de Cristo. The per capita (think of it as annual dues) is extremely important because all these organizations support Faith and all the other PCUSA churches around the country.

The week of Jan. 19 through Jan. 24 I will be gone and in Pittsburgh for school. I will not be here Jan. 19 but I will be back in the pulpit on Jan. 26.

Speaking of Jan. 26, we will hold our annual congregational meeting and annual reports of all the committees of the church will be made available. A reminder to committee chairs, please get your annual reports in to Office Manager Judy Mayhew by the middle of the month so she is not trying to track these down at the last minute! Thank you for your cooperation! That Sunday we will also celebrate the Lord's Supper.

As we enter the new year, keep in mind that there are always ways to get involved at Faith! We always need people to serve on our committees. A few of our committees could use a little bit of help, including Personnel, Mission & Stewardship, and Christian Education. If you would like to get involved in one of these committees that would be wonderful. You can see me and I can tell you about the committees and get you in touch with the chairs. You do not need to be a deacon or elder to serve on these committees. In fact, you don't even need to be a member of the church and you can serve on a committee. Serving in this way is a great way to help the church and to be the hands and feet of Christ on Earth.

In Christ,  
Pastor Brian



# FAITH STEPPING STONES



## ~ Happy January Birthday ~

Carolyn Malik	08
Holly Seago	11
Sammy Diekema	13
Margaret Lenning	17
Margaret Cogswell-Vaughn	27
Judy Mayhew	28



## ~ Happy January Anniversary ~

Matt McHale & Debi Godwin	05
Larry & Rose Marie Dokken	15
George & Ruth VanOtten	28



## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE DECEMBER 2024

December 01	80
December 08	61
December 15	127
December 22	74
December 24	90
December 29	53
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>80</b>



## 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.



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](mailto: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.

# ~ January 2025 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2 Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 am <i>My Place</i>	3	4
5 	6	7 Men's Lunch 11:30 R&R Pizza	8  Choir 6:00	9	10	11
12 Baptism of the Lord 	13	14 Men's Lunch 11:30 R&R Pizza Finance 2:30 pm Music & Worship 6:00 pm	15  Choir 6:00	16	17	18
19 What is Per Capita? 	20 OFFICE CLOSED 	21 Men's Lunch 11:30 R&R Pizza	22  Choir 6:00	23	24	25
26 COMMUNION 	27	28 Men's Lunch 11:30 R&R Pizza 3:00 Deacons 6:00 Session	29 Game Day 2:00 pm SH  Choir 6:00	30	31	

## WHAT'S HAPPENING - OUTREACH MINISTRY



Join Game Day  
Wednesday,  
January 29.  
2:00 pm

*Please remember to pick up your offering envelopes for 2025 in the narthex.*



~~ MEN'S LUNCH ~~

All men are invited to join the Men's Lunch at 11:30 am each Tuesday in January at the R & R Pizza Express.

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



† **St. Vincent de Paul**



Society of  
*Neighbors helping neighbors.®*

Thank you for all the donations to the Food Bank at St. Vincent de Paul.

Please continue to bring in non-perishable contributions and place them in the wagon in the narthex. When donating, please check the expiration date on the boxes or cans. St. Vincent will not accept items that have been expired. Thank you for helping others!

REMEMBER YOUR  
BAPTISM AND BE  
THANKFUL



On Sunday, January 12th, we remember our baptisms. Baptism is, according to our Presbyterian tradition, an outward sign of an inward reality of our belonging to God. In baptism we are sealed and claimed by God, and open to the power of the Spirit working in our lives.

Each year, Faith Presbyterian has reaffirmed the promises made in baptism by calling people forward and with prayers and waters blessing each with admonition to "remember your baptism" - not only the actual event, but the larger claim of God's grace and love in one's life.

Please join Faith on January 12. There will be a baptism as we receive four more new members into the congregation.



~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR ~

Sunday, January 26

Potluck and Annual Congregational Meeting after worship.





## EPIPHANY

Happy Epiphany! For many centuries it was (and still is in some parts of the Church) the second most important celebration of the Christian year after Easter. The Season of Epiphany lasts from January 6 until the Sunday before Ash Wednesday – this year that's March 2.

### EPIPHANY MEANS REVELATION AND MANIFESTATION

During the season of Epiphany – Jesus followers are to contemplate the person of Jesus as the revelation of God's hopes for the world. This is a time when, as we read the gospel stories of Jesus life and ministry and as we learn from his relationships with God and with his friends, that our understanding and insight grows and we begin to see and believe that God was working for our good through Jesus' ministry of preaching, healing, justice, and reconciliation. It's during these weeks that who Jesus is for us and our salvation "dawns on us" gradually just as the light of nature grows and the days lengthen.

Equally as important, Epiphany commemorates the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles [non-Jews like us] in the persons of the Magi. Long before the Apostles Peter and Paul received revelation from God that the faith was to include non-Jews these Eastern Magi "Kings" – gentiles by birth – were called by God to follow a star, find the Christ Child, and worship him.

These mystical Magi were ancient astrologers, the scientists and philosophers of their day. They followed the trajectory of a new star from their own countries to the house in Bethlehem, after eluding the intrigue of King Herod. There they recognize the baby Jesus as a 'new king' and a revelation of God, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

### STAR WORDS

A star word is simply a star-shaped item with a word printed on it. And Sunday, January 5th—we will celebrate Epiphany - the day we remember the Magi following the star and finding God. Every one of you will receive a star word of your very own; a special word that is yours on which to reflect all throughout 2025.

It is our hope that Jesus will be revealed more and more in your lives and His Spirit and promises will be made known in you as you contemplate your star word all throughout the year. There is nothing magical about your word - this is simply another way in which we encourage one another to spend time in conversation with God and in quiet contemplation in the presence of God.

God is inviting you to receive a special gift - this is the way it is in God's Beloved Community. Just as the magi received God's gift to them - the privilege of being in the very presence of God in the form of a toddler child - before they offered their gifts to God. May our star words become for us tangible, clear signs of God's presence with us also.

## “DONUT DAY” AT LIFECARE!



Thank you, Margaret Jo, for organizing “Donut Day” at the Life Care Center. Also, thanks to the December volunteers - Heather, Barb, and Bob.

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.

*Thank you to everyone for all the Gifts for  
“Child & Family Resources”*



Susan, Anita, Pastor Brian, Judy, Jennifer, Jackie, and Leah helped pack the toys..

Approximately 120 children from families in Sierra Vista, Douglas and Willcox will receive gifts that were generously donated from Faith. THANK YOU!





# CANTATA

## *"The Seven Noels"*

December 15, 2024



The combined choirs of the United Methodist Church and Faith Presbyterian presented the cantata on December 15.

The service was an inspiration for the 127 people that attended. Thank you Debi, Janis, and the choirs.

~ Christmas Eve ~



~ Welcome Faith's New Member ~

Suzanne Johnson



Suzanne Johnson was born and raised in Pennsylvania and grew up outside the Philadelphia area. Her parents were Elders and Deacons and greatly involved in the 1st Presbyterian Church in Germantown, where she was active in youth fellowship during her high school years. She went to Muskingum college in New Concord, Ohio, home of astronaut, John Glen. She spent her adult years living in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Vermont.

Greg, husband of 32 years, accepted a position as a Prosecuting Attorney in Cochise County and they moved to Sierra Vista. Greg moved first to begin his career as a prosecutor and Suzanne a year later bringing her mother and father, Gladys and Cameron Vize with her. Both parents attended Faith regularly and worshipped with John and Virginia. Suzanne is looking forward to giving time to Faith where and as needed.

*Thank you to the Faith members and friends for participating in the "Amazing Graze" on Sunday, December 22. The food and fellowship was absolutely amazing!*

amazing  
graze

~ Ladies Lunch ~

*NO Ladies Lunch for January because there is no leader to organize and schedule the dates with the restaurants. Please let Judy know if*



*you are interested in that position for the year.*

*It's fun  
Fellowship!*



# Memories

**LET US REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US!**

**The members of Faith who made their ascension in 2024:**

Mary Jane George

Cathy Rockwell

Earl Pike

Gwen Smith

Many of you may also remember Jim and Shirley Nichols who were very active members of Faith and moved to Kansas several years ago. Shirley was very active in Presbyterian Women and served on the board at Presbytery in Tucson. She passed away in May. Jim was also very active and was the individual responsible for bringing Stephen Ministry to Faith. He had had experience with the ministry and spoke with our pastors about it. Jim was a Navy veteran and remained on the prayer chain after they moved. He passed away in October.