

La Palabra

July 2019

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Ann

July marks the culmination of an ongoing search process to find the person that God had already chosen for us to fulfill the role of a newly created, full-time position at FPC Mesa: Minister of Faith Formation. It is with great joy and enthusiasm that we welcome Chris McKee and his family to the staff and congregation of FPC Mesa!



Chris, Heather, and Matthew have recently moved to Mesa from San Jose, California, where Chris served as the Director of Children and Family Ministries at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Chris' role as our Minister of Faith Formation will be very similar in that he will lead faith forming activities – including education, mission, fellowship/youth group – for our children, youth, and young adults. Chris will also be involved in adult education.

Chris brings his experience in youth ministry as well as a seminary education to this role. He is also on the track to become a Certified Christian Educator in the PC(USA). Having a passion for working with children and youth in their faith development and formation, Chris is excited about this new opportunity in ministry to share with us the many gifts God has given him.

We look forward to welcoming Chris and his family at worship on June 30th and he will begin his ministry with us on July 1st! Look for Chris leading the Moment with Young Disciples, planning for Wednesday WRAP (which begins August 28th), in Sunday school with our children, and in the youth room leading our youth!

I give thanks to God for this new partnership in ministry and for the Personnel Committee's diligent and persistent work as well as the Session for their ongoing support in this process!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Grace & peace in Christ our Lord.

~ Ann

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WORSHIP

Worship (E) (Chair) – Dan Reeves
Dir. Of Music Ministries – Mark Ramsey
Prayer Chain (D) — Joy Schulz

Funerals/Memorials (D) — Renita Jurgensen
Worship (D) —
Fellowship (D) – David Miller

Mark's Remarks

(480) 964-8606, EXT. 103; MUSIC@FPCMESA.ORG

“The final aim and reason of all music is nothing other than the glorification of God and the refreshment of the spirit.” - Johann Sebastian Bach

Come Sing and Ring in our Summer Choirs! The most up-to-date Summer Choir Schedule is available on the Worship Planning page of our Church Website, and printed copies are on the Receptionist's Counter in the Church Office and on the Sanctuary Kiosk. The remaining summer schedule includes:

Sanctuary 7/7 Summer Choral Ensemble
Sanctuary 7/14 Summer Bells
Fellowship Hall 7/21 Women's Trio
Fellowship Hall 7/28 A Service of Scripture and Song
Fellowship Hall 8/4 HolyGrounds Praise Band
Fellowship Hall 8/11 HolyGrounds Praise Band and One Voice Praise Ensemble
Fellowship Hall 8/18 HolyGrounds Praise Band
Fellowship Hall 8/25 HolyGrounds Praise Band
Fellowship Hall 9/1 Hymnfest, with Dei Gloriam Handbell Choir & Piano
9/8 Kickoff of Fall Choirs (two services)

Music a la Mode! Join us on Sunday, August 25th, for an Ice Cream Social! We'll begin at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and enjoy an afternoon of great treats and great entertainment. We'll be treated to music from our very own John Couillard and his band "Vintage Rocket." Vintage Rocket is a 4-piece cover band which has played in the Valley for many years. They play classic rock, alternative, R&B, and some original songs. Check the group's [Facebook](#) page, and join us for an afternoon of *Music a la Mode!* Vintage Rocket will be presented by our church Artist Series. Donations to the Series are always welcome. For information, please visit the [Artist Series](#) page of our church website.



Anita and I will enjoy some travel time this month. We'll head north to visit Marj Burgan and Paul & Mary Carlson at their homes in Montana. While there, the five of us will attend the International Choral Festival in Missoula. Based on musical excellence and stylistic variety, choirs from around the world are hand selected to participate in the Festival. Local hosts offer housing for participants, and with the help of hundreds of volunteers, the choirs offer Missoula a world of music. We will surely gain abundant inspiration for the coming year!

Coming Events

- July 1 (June 30) Welcome the Family of Chris McKee, our new Minister of Faith Formation!
- July 15-19, Youth Triennium, Purdue University
- August 25 (Sunday), 4:00 p.m., FPC Ice Cream Social, with musical guests "Vintage Rocket"

Humoresque

"The One whose throne is in heaven sits laughing." - Psalm 2:4

A retired preacher was driving to town to buy a lawn mower when he saw one at a yard sale. When he stopped, he found the mower was purring nicely at idle, and the seller assured him it ran great. Satisfied, the preacher bought the mower. But the next day he pulled the starter rope again and again, but it would not start, no matter what he tried. Finally he called the seller and accused him of deception. "I said the mower runs great, NOT that it starts great," the man reminded him. "But there is a secret. You have to cuss at the mower – really let it know who's boss." The preacher was aghast. "I haven't cussed in years," he said. "I don't think I remember how." The seller chuckled a bit and said, "Well, if you keep pulling on that starter rope, eventually it'll all come back to you."

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship (E) (Chair) — Dennis Sitzler
Cards (D) — Gretchen Frederick
Transportation (D) — Steve Muth

Fellowship Deacon — Jennifer Martin
Fellowship Deacon — Todd Ramsey

Moderator (D) – Jack Oliver
Liaison (D) – Jan Montgomery
Presbyterian Women — Suzanne Engman

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Fellowship events! They are not to be missed! More events are in the planning stages, so stay tuned for further updates. Make plans to attend and bring a friend!



Come join the Fellowship Commission's Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 25th. We'll begin at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We'll enjoy cool, yummy ice cream with all of the fixings and toe-tapping music performed by Vintage Rocket. You might remember them from the last time they performed in 2016. So mark your calendar and join us for an enjoyable afternoon of great entertainment and cold ice cream.

"Play ball!" Join our FPC family on Friday, September 13th, for Faith and Family Night as our Arizona Diamondbacks will be taking on the Cincinnati Reds. The game begins at 6:40 p.m. We have reserved seats in Section 135, row 37, 1 thru 22. The cost is \$35 per ticket. The postgame festivities will consist of fireworks and a concert by King and Country. Ticket reservations will begin during the Coffee Hour starting on July 14th.



It has been a memorable 2018 – 2019 year for the Presbyterian Women of FPC Mesa. Our Bible Study Lessons touched hearts with the message of God's promise that He will always be with us. It was also such a blessing to have the study's author, Amy Poling Sutherlun, join us for Women's Sunday. The different gatherings through the year reminded us of the community that we have here in the city, the Presbytery and throughout the country and world.

Thank you Rachel and Eve Circles for a wonderful Spring luncheon; and the Mission Team for sharing more about the women and children ministries of Frontera de Cristo.

We look forward to the coming year, with a new study, "Love Carved in Stone, A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments," by Eugenia Ann Gamble. The PW Synod Triennial Gathering will be in Tucson, October 4 – 6, 2019. There are registration forms in the Church Office.

MISSION

Mission (E) (Chair) — Shelley Cronenberg
Pastor — Ann Conklin
Hunger Action (D) — Sandra Clark
Assimilation (D) — Alice Schlak

Fellowship (D) — Carol Strouse
Seasonal Ministries (D) — Dale Gibson
Mission (D) — Sue Eisenklam

Thank you all for your **Pentecost Offering** donations. In total we had \$1,150! FPC is able to designate where 40% of that donation goes which our Mission Commission decided to split between our Mission Trip fund for next year and replenishing our triennium fund.



The Supply Drive for Frontera de Cristo was a huge success! Thank you all for your faithfulness in responding to the dire need of our mission partners! We filled two trucks with camper shells with all that was collected. You all are amazing! And thank you to those of you made financial contributions. We were able to hand them a check for \$400 to buy additional needed items.



DISCIPLESHIP

Min. of Faith Formation — Chris McKee
Adult (E) — Karen Rudin
Discipleship (D) — Anita Ramsey

Children's Ministries (E) — Stephanie Gerlach
Family Ministries (E) — Ellen Hickey
Older Adult — Dave Jurgensen

Youth/Young Adult (E) — Kyle Harding
Youth Elder — Wil Snitzer



For our August Mission project, we will again be collecting school supplies for the FPC Preschool! Shiloh Murillo, the Preschool Director, along with assistance from her teachers, has compiled a wish list for supplies for the coming year. If you are interested in purchasing some school supplies, please place your donations in the designated boxes. There will be one box in the Sanctuary, and another will be in the church office.

Preschool begins holding classes on August 12th, but enrollment is happening now! If you know of anyone looking for a great Preschool, contact Shiloh at 480-835-7877.

School Classroom & Supply Wish List

- 64 oz Bottle of Bubbles
- White school glue
- Glue sticks
- 8x11 or 9x12 construction paper (multi-colored)
- 8x11 white copy paper
- Snacks - individually wrapped & healthy
- Card stock (white or colored)
- Paper plates
- Plastic spoons & forks
- Facial tissues
- Paper towels
- 3oz paper Dixie Cups
- Foaming Hand Soap refill liquid
- Washable markers
- Thin markers
- Colored pencils
- Colored Dry-erase markers
- Watercolor paint trays
- Colored tissue paper
- Golf Tees
- Cotton Balls
- Q-Tips

ADMINISTRATION

Property (E) (Chair) — Robert Harding
Clerk of Session — Carol Gerlach
Personnel (E) — Jeanne Partida

Personnel (D) — Carol Anderson
Nominating (E) — Barbara Walker

Nominating (D) — Michael Gerlach
Stewardship/Finance (E) — Brent Gregory

Emergency/Disaster Plan. The Boy Scout motto is “Be Prepared.” Living in Arizona, we are blessed that we don’t have to worry about earthquakes, hurricanes, tsunamis, or blizzards, but we do have to be concerned with incidents such as monsoons, lightning, flooding and extreme heat. Heaven forbid we have to experience a mass casualty event or a chemical emergency. We do need to face “the gorilla in the room,” which is we need to be prepared for an act of terrorism or bio-terrorism. We are looking for anyone who is interested in updating our current and outdated emergency/disaster plan, including doctors, nurses, emergency medical technicians, anyone with a background in law enforcement or who has served our country in the military. If you feel a call to this essential mission, please contact Robert Harding.

July Birthdays



Sharon Schroeder	2nd
Ruth Landers	3rd
Marcy Snitzer	3rd
Tate Posthumus	4th
Anne Schafer	5th
Kevin Reeves	10th
Virginia Leigh	11th
Linda Hayball	12th
Jo Throckmorton	13th
Jackie Kambak	14th
Jessi Smith	14th
Kristen Hull	15th
Mark Waters	15th
Andrew Frederick	17th
Ruth Letizia	17th
Brielle Reeves	17th
Carol Stirling	17th
Larry Loraditch	18th
Skyler Verch	18th
Eileen Brause	19th
Ian Harding	19th
Matthew Skarphol	19th
Mary Jean Maedche	22nd
Fernande Anderson	23rd
Larry Beinert	23rd
Ben Gerlach	23rd
Freda Homolya	24th
Amie Alvarado	25th
Mack Coulter	25th
Tom Watson	25th
Chaz McInelly	27th
Demi McInelly	28th
Jackie St. Louis	30th

Editor's Note: If your birthday is missing or we have the wrong date, please call the office so we can update our records. We wish a special day to anyone we have missed.

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

Eisenklam, Peter & Sue 2625 E. Southern Ave., C141 Tempe, AZ 85282	Lokensgard, Jon 210 S. 98th Way Mesa, AZ 85208
Gregory, Brent & Cheryl 480-820-1078—no longer valid Cell phones only	Wagner, George & Arlene 9050 W. Brown Rd., Unit 2044 Mesa, AZ 85207 928-970-0024

Calendar Notes

July 1

Welcome Chris McKee,
Minister of Faith Formation!

July 4 & 5

Office closed for Independence Day

July 7 & 14

One 10:00 service in Sanctuary

July 21 & 28

One 10:00 service in Fellowship Hall

July 28

Monthly Food Drive



Thank you for the cards, visits, offers of help, and prayers during my recuperation from a fractured wrist. I am on the mend and feeling much better. Thank you so much!

Dale Gibson

First Presbyterian Church
161 N. Mesa Drive
Mesa, AZ 85201

See calendar on website:
fpcmesa.org/calendar

LA PALABRA

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First Presbyterian Church
161 North Mesa Drive
Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 480-964-8606

E-mail: pubs@fpcmesa.org

Website: www.fpcmesa.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 - 12:00 noon

Ann Conklin, Pastor

Mark Ramsey, Director of Music Ministries

Linda Reeves, Office Manager/Publications

Shiloh Murillo, Preschool Director

Don Krill, Buildings Supervisor

Rob Kjar, Bookkeeper

James R. Bruening, Pastor Emeritus

Robert Martz, Pastor Emeritus