

La Palabra

July 2021

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Ann

“God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which God loves us, made us alive together with Christ. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

Ephesians 2: 4, 10

Friends, our church campus is coming ALIVE again, and it is so very wonderful!

We hosted the Montlure Day Camp in June and had the energy and enthusiasm of many children, counselors, and volunteers filling our campus throughout the week. It was a blessing for us all!

In July, we will have our Mission Week. This is an excellent opportunity to engage in some of those “good works” for which we were created! Our hope is to assist and bless several families in the Phoenix area by meeting the needs that have been expressed and vetted through Care Portal. This ministry helps keep children in their homes by providing for basic needs such as beds, car seats, diapers, clothing, and the like. Our congregation is coming together from July 7-11 as our mission focus for this year. We are excited to learn as we go, trusting in the goodness and grace of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us.

Your staff and leaders (Elders & Deacons) are spending time this summer envisioning how our ministry will continue to flourish in the future. We are discussing, discerning, and determining ministries and programs for the fall. We are even going on “field trips” to other churches to glean information and engage in new experiences. Most of our well-loved groups, classes, and programs will resume in the fall, though some may have a few changes or new ideas incorporated into them. Please dream with us and share any ideas, encouragement, or suggestions you may have with these faithful leaders!

May you all enjoy the holiday weekend, whether you spend time in solitude or with family and friends, appreciating the freedoms we enjoy here in our country while knowing that our true freedom comes from Christ our Lord!

May the many blessings of God be with you!

~ Ann

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WORSHIP

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

Funerals/Memorials (D) — Renita Jurgensen
Worship (D) — Cheryl Gregory
Worship (D) – Sheilah Dye

Mark's Remarks

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

**"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.
It controls our thoughts, minds, hearts, and spirits." - Martin Luther**

There will be “many happy returns” this summer and fall! The Good Lord willing, choirs will return this fall! During the summer, the Sanctuary Choir will sing in worship a couple of times (July 25th and August 29th), and beginning with Kickoff Sunday, September 12th, all choirs will reconvene! We will begin with limited numbers, with others returning as comfort levels rise. All choirs will rehearse in the Sanctuary (where we have a large space and high ceiling!), and rehearsals will be shorter than normal. Things will look a bit different, but it will be a welcome sight, and it will be great to be back!



It will be an honor to welcome back worship leader and friend Dr. James R. Bruening, Pastor Emeritus, who will preside over our July 4th communion service, and Chris McKee, our Minister of Faith Formation, will be preaching that Sunday. Guest Organist Larry Lathom will return on July 11th, and he will be joined by the return of Heavenly Harmonies. Rev. Terry Palmer, the Cornerstone Quartet, Organists-Pianists Barbara Walker and Bea Towe, and Soprano Jan Peterson will join us next month, and on the first Sunday of September, we'll enjoy a hymn festival featuring the wealth of musical variety found in our new “Glory to God” hymnal.

In an English choir, a Chorister was originally defined as a boy singer (“Choirboy”). Now, the Chorister broadly encompasses all young singers. Our FPC chorister program, “Pure Praise Singers,” is led by Karen Rudin. The Singers, grades K-8, will follow the schedule of our Wednesday family program, which will begin on September 1st at 5:30. During each week of the Wednesday program, the Pure Praise Singers will meet at 5:00 p.m.

Lastly, a reminder that we welcome the return of two special weblinks: our Sunday [Order of Worship](#) and [Worship Recordings](#).

Coming Events

- 7/7-11 Mission Week
- 8/15 Cornerstone Quartet in Worship
- 9/5 Hymn Festival (with our new hymnals!)

Humoresque

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

Some Old-Time Religion in Soap! - Are you SOFT SOAPING God? DUZ you DRIFT along with the TIDE? VEL, now is the time to CHEER up. If you want real JOY, the TREND is to BREEZE to church regularly on Sunday mornings. But too many WOODBURY their heads in a pillow and remain in bed or work in their yard to make it SPARKLE, forgetting that the Lord's Day is made for LESTOIL. But, where the Lord is given foremost consideration, a DOVE will never have to send an S.O.S. Don't trust LUX chances by neglecting our worship together. Maybe we ought to DIAL you and remind you of the IVORY palace up yonder. This is not just silly BAB-O. Worship is your LIFEBOUY, so why not be faithful and WISK yourself out of bed early Sunday. Dress up SPIC'N'SPAN and DASH like a COMET to God's house of prayer. DRAISE to God, you'll get a wonderful KLENZER for your soul. PLEDGE yourself, and PRIDE of conscience will be yours. Life will be full of ZEST, and you'll feel MR. CLEAN all week!

MISSION

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

Mission (D) — Sue Eisenklam
Seasonal Ministries (D) — Dale Gibson
Youth Elder — Aaron Chesko

2021 Mission – We are very excited about the upcoming Mission event that we have chosen for 2021 which is **Care Portal Mission Week**. Care Portal Mission Week will be from July 7th – July 11th. Care portal is a wonderful ministry that connects children's needs with churches. Our goal is to have the entire church join one of the teams listed below.



1. Prayer Team – We need as many people as we can praying for these families, the volunteers, and the overall success of this Mission Week. It is completely free and a great way to help.

2. Donation Team – Most of the items requested from the Care Portal don't need to be new. You might have something gently used in your house that you no longer use that would be extremely appreciated by these families. If you sign up for this team, you will be alerted to the items that the families need, and if you can help with one of the needs, let us know.

3. Delivery Team – We are going to put teams together to deliver the items to the families. We can use team members who have a vehicle and others to join the drivers that can help deliver the items to the families.

Upcoming Dates:

- **Wednesday, July 7 – Sunday July 11:** Care Portal Mission Week!
- **Monday, July 12:** Mission Week wrap up event.

DISCIPLESHIP

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

Children's Ministries (E) — Susan Chesko
Family Ministries (E) — Kristen Hull

Youth/Young Adult (E) — Kyle Harding

July Faith Formation Happenings

Traveling Day Camp June 21-22, 2021



The crew proudly representing FPC:
Brielle Reeves, Seri Clark, Matthew McKee,
Isobel Letizia, Tanya Snitzer, Ayden Hickey,
Will Snitzer, Rev. Ann Conklin and Chris
McKee

With Appreciation & Thanks!

Many hands made TDC Camp possible:
camp staff, youth volunteers, adult volun-
teers, congregation and those who donated.
Thank you for your prayers and support!

Camp Stats: 23 Campers, 12 Montlure Staff,
5 Youth Counselors

Weekly Youth Gatherings. Our youth program for junior high and high school teens is on summer break. You can always reach Chris via email or text during the break. Chris@fpcmesa.org See you on Sunday July 25th when we go bowling at Fat Cats. Bowling events below.



FPC youth will be going bowling at Fat Cats on **Sunday, July 25th, 11:30-3:00 p.m.** Enjoy two-hours of bowling and food/drinks for around \$28. Please turn in permission forms and money no later than Sunday, July 11th, to secure your spot. Permissions forms on the youth section of the website. Please contact Chris for further details.

Blessings,
Chris McKee
Minister of Faith Formation
chris@fpcmesa.org

To see more fun Traveling Day Camp pictures, go to www.fpcmesa.org and click Discipleship or go to FPC Mesa on Facebook.





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
Jessi Smith	14th
Kristen Hull	15th
Mark Waters	15th
Andrew Frederick	17th
Ruth Letizia	17th
Brielle Reeves	17th
Carol Stirling	17th
Skyler Verch	18th
Eileen Brause	19th
Ian Harding	19th
Matthew Skarphol	19th
Mary Jean Maedche	22nd
Fernande Anderson	23rd
Ben Gerlach	23rd
Freda Homolya	24th
Amie Alvarado	25th
Mack Coulter	25th
Tom Watson	25th
Chaz McInelly	27th
Demi McInelly	28th

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.

Calendar Notes

July

Worship every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
In person or online

July 5

Office closed

July 7=11

Mission Week — Care Portal

July 12

Mission Week Wrap-up Event

July 25

Monthly Food Drive
Youth Bowling at Fat Cat's

FPC Staff emails are listed below. Staff cell phone numbers are listed in the church directory.

Ann Conklin: pastor@fpcmesa.org

Mark Ramsey: choirs@cox.net

Chris McKee: chris@fpcmesa.org

Linda Reeves: pubs@fpcmesa.org

Don Krill: buildings@fpcmesa.org

Rob Kjar: business@fpcmesa.org



IN MEMORIAM

Jane Potyka — June 15, 2021



In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to either of the following:

Joni & Friends — <https://www.joniandfriends.org/> or

Plant a tree — https://www.alivingtribute.org/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw2tCGBhCLARIsABJGmZ4d3bD93q4i8t-P08_7ykAgyoA48RhoGpbq4hf4t9xscvfRE1jsmzoaAgoWEALw_wcB

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Ann Conklin, Pastor

Mark Ramsey, Director of Music Ministries

Chris McKee, Minister of Faith Formation

Linda Reeves, Office Manager/Publications

Shiloh Murillo, Preschool Director

Don Krill, Buildings Supervisor

Rob Kjar, Bookkeeper

James R. Bruening, Pastor Emeritus