

La Palabra

April 2013

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Brant

Former heavyweight boxer James (Quick) Tillis was a cowboy from Oklahoma who fought out of Chicago in the early 1980's. Years later, he still remembers his first day in the Windy City after his arrival from Tulsa.

"I got off the bus with two cardboard suitcases under my arms in downtown Chicago and stopped in front of the Sears Tower. I put my suitcases down and I looked up at the Tower and I said to myself, 'I'm going to conquer Chicago.'"

"When I looked down, the suitcases were gone."

It doesn't take too long to realize that life is full of disappointments. Even a two year old is familiar with the fact that expectations aren't met, promises aren't kept, that stuff breaks, hopes are dashed, and that even if you are having a great time playing a game you can fall and skin your knee.

Here is just a short list of the things that I find most disappointing in my life having to do with other people:

- ⇒ unreturned phone calls or e-mails
- ⇒ being stood up for appointments by people who seem incapable of keeping a calendar
- ⇒ being cheated or lied to by people seeking their own gain or advantage

I am also disappointed when I witness people making poor choices, not living into the full potential of their life, or living in ways that conflict with the life of grace and thanksgiving to which our Lord calls us. I am disappointed that I can sometimes relate to something Snoopy once said, "I love humankind, its people I can't stand."

Through the month of April we will be looking at some of the more serious disappointments life tends to bring our way. Here's a list of the topics we'll examine:

- April 7—When You Are Disappointed With Others
Colossians 3:12-25
- April 14—When You Feel Disappointed With God
Psalm 69:1-4, 13-18
- April 21—When You Are Disappointed With Yourself
Romans 7:14-25
- April 28—When You Are Disappointed With Church
Romans 14:1-23

I am praying that this series will bless and strengthen us all!

In Christ,
Brant

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WORSHIP

Dir. of Music (Chair) — Mark Ramsey
Worship (E) — Dan Reeves
Prayer Chain (D) — Clela Larson-Enck

Funerals/Memorials (D) — Karyn Weaver
Worship (D) — Verna Green

Mark's Remarks

(480) 964-8606, EXT. 24; CHOIRS@COX.NET

Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything. - Plato (c. 429 – 347 BC)

Announcements



THE MUSIC MAN, by Meredith Willson, will be presented this month by the First Players Community Theater; Anita Ramsey, Production Director. The 17th annual First Players production will be held on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 5 & 6, as dinner theaters beginning at 5:30 p.m. and repeated the following weekend, April 12 & 13. ***The Dinner Menu will include Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Iced Tea, Lemonade, and . . . for Dessert, . . . Ice Cream!***

The show will feature John Couillard as Professor Harold Hill, Kate Buck at Marian Paroo, Brooks Newbry as Marcellus Washburn, Bob Schulz as Mayor George Shinn, Joy Schulz as Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn, Karen Rudin as Mrs. Paroo, and Ian Harding as Winthrop Paroo. Tickets are available at fpcmesa.org, in the church office during the week, during Sunday Coffee Hours (10:00-10:30 a.m.), and before and after our Coffeehouse Ser-

vice. Suggested minimum donations for the Dinner-Theaters are \$12 General Admission, \$8 ages 10 & under, with a \$50 maximum per household. An affectionate paean to Smalltown, U.S.A. of a bygone era, Meredith Willson's THE MUSIC MAN follows fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band he vows to organize - this despite the fact he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. His plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when he falls for Marian the librarian, who transforms him into a respectable citizen by curtain's fall. THE MUSIC MAN is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are supplied by MTI, 421 W. 54 St., New York, NY 10019. Tel: (212) 541-4684. Fax: (212) 397-4684. www.MTIShows.com. For show information, please call the church office at (480) 964-8606, Ext. 24.

Humoresque

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

A police officer pulls over a speeding car. The officer says, "I clocked you at 80 miles per hour, sir." The driver says, "Gee, officer I had it on cruise control at 60, perhaps your radar gun needs calibrating." Not looking up from her knitting, the wife says, "Now don't be silly, dear, you know that this car doesn't have cruise control." As the officer writes out the ticket, the driver looks over at his wife and growls, "Can't you please keep your mouth shut for once?" The wife smiles demurely and says, "You should be thankful your radar detector went off when it did." As the officer makes out the second ticket for the illegal radar detector unit, the man glowers at his wife and says through clenched teeth, "can't you keep your mouth shut?" The officer frowns and says, "And I notice that you're not wearing your seat belt, sir. That's an automatic \$75 fine." The driver says, "Yeah, well, you see officer, I had it on but took it off when you pulled me over so that I could get my license out of my back pocket." The wife says, "Now, dear, you know very well that you didn't have your seat belt on. You never wear your seat belt when you're driving." As the police officer is writing out the third ticket, the driver turns to his wife and barks, "WHY DON'T YOU PLEASE SHUT UP?" The officer looks over at the woman and asks, "Does your husband always talk to you this way, Ma'am?" The wife replies . . . "Only when he's been drinking."

MISSION

Pastor (Chair) — Brant Baker
Mission (E) — Brooks Newbry
Hunger Action Enabler (D) — Sandra Clark

Assimilation (D) — Carol Holdhusen
Evangelism (E) — James Norris

Seasonal Ministries (D) — Susan McMichael
Mesa Presbyterian Ministries (D) — Jane Potyka

BLOOD DRIVE

United Blood Services will have a Bloodmobile in the church parking lot Sunday, April 28th from 8:00 am until noon.

There are three ways you can make an appointment to contribute to this selfless cause.

1. There is a sign-up sheet in the church office.
2. Contact Susan McMichael, 480-969-6482, msmcmichael@cox.net
3. Go online to make an appointment: www.bloodhero.com

Donate Blood

sponsor code: 1stpresby

Follow the links to make your appointment.



Blood drives are sponsored twice a year by the Mission Commission of FPC.

MINISTRY

Clerk of Session (Chair) — Carol Gerlach
Property (E) — Sam Thielke
Personnel (E) — Jo Wilson

Personnel (D) — Tammy Miller
Nominating (E) — Barbara Walker

Nominating (D) — Bill Anderson
Stewardship/Finance (E) — Jim Schwartzmann

At a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 17th, the following were elected as officers for the Class of 2016:

Elders:

Charlie Golden
Jennifer Martin
Dave Frederick
Phillip Pagels
Bryon Tryon, Youth Elder

Deacons:

Peggy Baker
Dale Gibson
Erin Skarphol
John Schlak
Carol Webster
Mary Jane Hee

Nominating Committee, Congregation: Renita Jurgensen

Endowment Committee: Jim Schwartzmann

PRESBYTERY OF GRAND CANYON—

April Churches for Prayer

April 7 — Heritage Presbyterian, Glendale

April 14 — First Presbyterian, Sun City

April 21 — Mingus View Presbyterian, Prescott
Valley

April 28 — Mission Del Sol Presbyterian, Tempe

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship (E) (Chair) — Dan Davenport
 Parish Visitor (Staff) — Lois Hildenbrand
 Cards (D) — Gretchen Frederick
 Older Adult (E) — Bill Lents

Transportation (D) — Ron Payton
 Parish Deacon 1 — Sharon Schroeder
 Parish Deacon 2 — Denise Worden
 Parish Deacon 3 — Rosemary Chisnall

Parish Deacon 4 — Darlene Sitzler
 Parish Deacon 5 — Jeanette Chaney
 Presbyterian Women —

The WORSHIP IN THE PARK & BARBEQUE went very well, almost 200 attending! MANY thanks to all our volunteers who transported equipment, cooked/grilled food, and took care of all the many chores that go along with an event like this. Our Scouts did a great job helping as well! Thanks, guys.

UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

—**Cinco de Mayo Salsa Challenge with Mexican potluck dinner** will be Saturday, May 4th, at 6:00 p.m. Bring your best salsa and put it to the test! More information to follow as the event gets closer.



—**Diamondback game in June.** Watch for dates and times!

—**Ice Cream Social and Praise Band Concert.** This will be an August event. Details to be announced!



Saturday, March 16th, four members of FPCPW attended the PWP of Grand Canyon Spring Gathering. During the morning session the keynote speaker was Dr. Randy Christensen Pediatrician at Phoenix Children’s Hospital and Medical Director of the Crews’n Health mobile who spoke about providing medical care for homeless children in the Phoenix area. He is also author of the book, Ask Me Why I Hurt. Dr. Christensen’s knowledgeable and candid presentation was an eye opener of the problems of child trafficking and child abuse of homeless children in our area. During the afternoon session Helen Lents was installed as PWP Treasurer. Susan McMichael has held that position for the last eight years.

PW has purchased white table clothes for the new round tables now in use in Fellowship Hall. They will be available for ALL Church use. They will be placed in the PW Cupboard in the hallway to Fellowship Hall.

The PW Nominating Committee is searching for members to fill positions on the Coordinating Team for 2013 – 14. Please, prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents by serving on the Coordinating Team. Discuss with present Circle Leaders how you might become more involved.

March Meetings:

April 2nd	CT Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Library
April 8th	Eve Circle	7:00 p.m.	Parlor
April 9th	Deborah Circle	9:30 a.m.	TBA
	Lydia Circle	12:00 p.m.	Parlor
	Rachel Circle	1:00 p.m.	Library

All Women of the congregation and guests are welcome and encouraged to visit a Circle for fellowship, Bible Study and Service.

Alma Post,
Moderator

DISCIPLESHIP

Director of C.E. — Jasmine Couillard
Director of Youth —

Children's Ministries (E) — Carol Anderson
Family Ministries (E) — Patty Carnes
Adult (E) — Jack Oliver

Youth/Young Adult (E) — John Hee
Youth (E) — Tricia Ramsey

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

We will be concluding our fourth block of Wednesday Night Live on April 10th. The theme for our last night will be FORMAL night. Come dressed in your formal attire to celebrate. Thank you to everyone who participated in this new Wednesday night offering!

Whether you participated in one, two, three or all four blocks of Wednesday Night Live, we would like to cordially invite you to our Closing Celebration. The closing celebration will be a Western party on Wednesday, April 17th, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Come dressed in your western wear and enjoy a themed dinner and activities! Suggested donations of \$5 per person will be accepted at the door.

SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School comes to FPC June 3 – June 7, 2013. In SonWest, we'll celebrate all the fun of being buckaroos – so grab a sarsaparilla and join in the jamboree! There'll be food, games, music, crafts – and amazing true stories that point you and your kids to Jesus! Feel the breezes rise through the shady purple canyons as we head out through this bright wilderness – we're traveling down the trail through the Old Testament stories of Moses to discover God's ultimate plan of salvation in Jesus, because "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) Children age 5 through 12 are invited! Cost is only \$15 per child and each family registering will get a free music CD. Plus, if your child registers in advance AND participates in Day 1, they will get a prize!! We would love to have all interested Youth and adults volunteer with us. Please contact Patty Carnes or Jasmine Couillard with any questions you might have.



The month of March has been very lively for our little friends. We had a guinea pig, chicken and a pony visit the preschool. We also had some amazing rain pour down which brought many smiles to the kids' faces. We are working this month on bugs, insect and flowers. During April we will be learning about family pets, birds, pond life and children from around the world. It will be fun to discover new things.

Registration is underway for the summer and fall programs! We need every referral that we can get to start out strong and as full as we can. Please consider sharing our preschool information with friends and families with children who are 2

1/2— Pre-K age (potty-trained required). Thank you!

Our staff has been working on creating an emergency response box for each classroom. This would be something that they use in case of an emergency within their own classroom, if they could not come into the office for first-aid supplies or general emergency needs. We would like to ask for your help with putting these together. We are looking for donations from our church family to help provide some of these things to offset the cost to the preschool. We will have the list of items in the office with Linda so that you can check them off and see what still needs donating.

Here is what we need: 3 bed sheets (flat not fitted, queen or king size—used), 3 warm blankets (queen or king size—used), matches, bottled water (2 cases per classroom, and 2 for the office—8 total), 8 flashlights, 24 Batteries (D size), 3 rolls of Duct tape, 1 box Large plastic trash bags, Hydrogen Peroxide (3 bottles), Alcohol Swabs (1 box), Assorted Band-Aids (all sizes for each class), Hypoallergenic Tape (3 rolls), Tweezers (3), Gauze rolls (3), Sterile Pads (all sizes for each class), Ace Bandages (3), Anti-bacterial Ointment (3), Disposable gloves (1 box), Q-tips (1 box), Sanitary Napkins (1 super absorbent size package), 3 large size tote boxes with lids.

We cannot thank you enough for the help that you have given to us and that you are giving to us! We feel the prayers that you express and appreciate them very much!

Sincerely,
Shiloh Murillo, Preschool Director

April Birthdays



Karen Baker	2nd
Michael Gerlach	2nd
Carol Holdhusen	2nd
Dan Sitzler	6th
Susan Durand	8th
Jeanne Partida	9th
Dalitso Sakala	12th
Allan Schultz	12th
Jo Wilson	12th
Amy Woods	12th
Sedona Verch	13th
Patricia White	13th
Diane Byerly	15th
Andy Chesko	15th
Kelly Clark	15th
Robert Harding	15th
Ron Payton	15th
Darin Schwartzmann	15th
Krista Leichtman	16th
Debbie Rosen	16th
Dave Weaver	16th
David Frederick	19th
Glenn Gussak	19th
Kay Lutman	19th
Mary Martin	19th
Tanya Snitzer	19th
Don Wilson	19th
Emily Bero	23rd
Robert Brause-Crame	23rd
Marcia Miner	27th
Brooks Neill	29th

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

April 5 & 6

Music Man Dinner Theater

April 6

Preschool Open House

April 8 & 9

Circles meet

April 12 & 13

Music Man Dinner Theater

April 17

WNL Closing Celebration

April 20

Youth Save the Family Mission Project

April 21

Commissions and Session meet

April 28

Monthly Food Drive

FPC Mission Sewing Circle

Our busy ladies are continuing to sew coverlets for the I-Help women. Thank you for your support in giving us your unused fabric, mattress pads, pillowcases, scissors, embroidery thread and seam binding. We are also in need of ties to be used as tie-downs for First United Methodist's "Ugly Quilts."

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

Arbuckle, Jeanne
Desert Wind
7223 S. 71st Lane
Laveen, AZ 85339
602-237-7812

Gerlach, Michael & Stephanie
2850 E. Fox Street
Mesa, AZ 85213

FPC

What Up?

April '13

Questions?
Call Teresa @
480-962-1924
or mrshahveaz
@msn.com

APRIL OUTING
SAVE THE FAMILY
MISSION PROJECT

Come help get a house ready for a homeless family. Tasks will include cleaning, painting, and such; all supplies provided.

Saturday April 20th
Meet at FPC @ 8:30
Back by 1:30pm
Bring a snack!

Tagged
old school

SUNDAY SCHOOL
With your Hosts TODD AND GRAY
NEW STUDY BIBLE STUDY
Honoring God with Our Creations
Living in God's Boundaries
Communicating with God
Coming Face to Face with Jesus
Living God's Story in My Life

April 3rd and 10th
Chorale Banquet April 17th