

La Palabra

July 2013

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Brant

There is an odd little word that occurs in various psalms: the word “Selah.” You don’t have to look any further than Psalm 3 to find it:

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;
many are saying to me, “There is no help for you in God.”
Selah

But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory,
and the one who lifts up my head.
I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill.
Selah

I lie down and sleep; I wake again,
for the Lord sustains me.
I am not afraid of ten thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

Rise up, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.
Deliverance belongs to the Lord; may your blessing be on your people!
Selah

“...pause and think of that”

Scholars really don’t know what this word *Selah* means. It appears a total of 71 times and the best guess is that it is some kind of liturgical or musical instruction on how to read (or sing) the verses. The Amplified Bible translates *selah* with the words, “pause and think of that” which is probably about right.

Selah seems like a good word for summer, too. If we imagine that God has given us the seasons of the year to help mark and regulate the rhythms of our lives, then it seems likely that one of those seasons (or maybe just the month of July for Arizonans!) might hold an invitation to pause and think about just how good God is...!

In Christ!
Brant

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WORSHIP

Dir. of Music (Chair) — Mark Ramsey
Worship (E) — Dan Reeves
Prayer Chain (D) — Bev Goff

Funerals/Memorials (D) — Karyn Weaver
Worship (D) — Carol Webster
Youth (E) — Bryan Tryon

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

Several organ recitals will highlight our year together in 2013-14. Celebrating the almost quarter century of our Visser-Rowland's service to our congregation and community, and in celebration of the instrument's resurrection from weeks of inactivity, the FPC Artist Series announces the 2013-14 Organ Recital Series! The Series will feature local and national artists, who will share God's Glory & Majesty through our mighty instrument! Organ and Artist Series details will be announced at the FPC Ice Cream Social on August 11th.

Our Artist Series will also include the First Players Dinner-Theater Production (April 4,5,11,12), concert music for Organ and Choir by the Arizona Masterworks Chorale (March 14), and worship music for Organ and Choir, featuring the Dubois *Seven Last Words of Christ*, offered on Maundy Thursday by our Sanctuary Choir and Cantilena (April 16). Looking ahead to December of 2014, a Worship-Organ Recital will help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Sanctuary! So, watch for details, and help share the news of our featured organ recitals on our magnificent Visser-Rowland organ!



Come Sing and Ring in our Summer Choirs, with Director Marlene Verch and Accompanists Barb Walker and Jim Norris! Summer choir rehearsals will be held in Fellowship Hall on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. The most up-to-date Summer Choir Schedule is available on our Church Website, and printed copies are on the Receptionist's Counter in the Church Office. Our remaining Summer Schedule includes:

- 7/7 Independence Sunday: Summer Choir: God Bless America
- 7/14 Summer Bell Choir
- 7/21 Summer Choir: Old Time Religion!
- 7/28 Soloists
- 8/4 Summer Choir: Music of Palestrina
- 8/11 Praise Band; Dan Reeves, Soloist
- 8/18 One Voice
- 8/25 Summer Choir: Men's Ensemble
- 9/1 Hymnfest, including Hymn Stories, Ringers from Dei Gloriam Handbell Choir, a Piano-Organ setting of the great hymn *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*, and a Prelude-Hymnsing.

Beginning June 30th and through the month of July, **Tony Montoya and Graci Armendariz** will be leading worship at HolyGrounds CoffeeHouse. Don't miss it!

Humoresque

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

A little girl asked her mother, "How did the human race appear?" The mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and so was all mankind made." Two days later the girl asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved." The confused girl returned to her mother and said, " Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his." [from Dick Baird]

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) — Mary Jane Hee
Stewardship/Finance (E) — David Frederick

PRESBYTERY OF GRAND CANYON— July Churches for Prayer

July 7 — Alpine Community Presbyterian
Church

July 14 — Parker Valley Presbyterian Church

July 21 — Theology and Worship Committee

July 28 — Interchurch Resource Center

I wish to offer a sincere "thank you" to all of you who sent cards and letters of condolence after the May 19th death of my Mother, Ruth "Skippy" Muth and a very special thank you to those of you who were able to attend her memorial service. Mom loved this Church and she loved our Lord, and she is now at peace in His presence.

Steve Muth

Thank you FPC family for your expressions of sympathy in the loss of Jan's mom (9-8-2012) and Jan's dad (3-16-2013). We appreciate all of you very much!

Love, Bob, Jan, and Heidi Blincoe



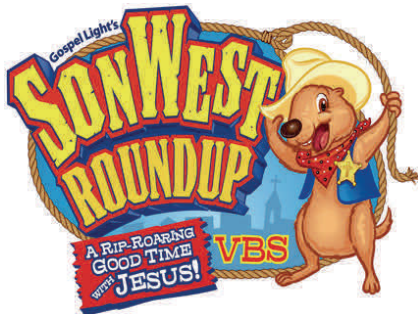
**Thank
You!**

DISCIPLESHIP

Director of C.E. — Jasmine Couillard
Adult (E) — Jack Oliver

Children's Ministries (E) — Carol Anderson
Family Ministries (E) — Jennifer Martin

Youth/Young Adult (E) — John Hee



SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School was a rip roarin' success! The whirlwind week of games, crafts, music, Bible study, snacks and much more would not have been possible without the help of our 35 teen and adult volunteers AND the many others that donated materials or offered financial assistance. Thank you!

The week was spent encouraging 50 children and showing them the ultimate love, trust, plan, power and rescue of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Only a third of the attending children are members of our church. The other families were friends of church members, friends of the

preschool or neighbors that found us for the first time. A handful of those children are unchurched and attended Sunday services for the first time after participating in VBS with us! Praise God!

Our VBS Mission Project this year was called 'Raising Essentials and Awareness,' and we collected personal care products for our church food pantry. These items are handed out weekly to local homeless people along with food bags. Our goal was to gather 300 personal care items and we actually went over our goal!

If you were unable to attend Vacation Bible school this summer, please plan ahead and join us next year. This is an experience that the children will not forget!

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Parent's Night Out is scheduled for July 20th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 P.M. Drop your children or grandchildren off for movies, crafts, outside water play and dinner! Cost is only \$5 per child. Registration forms are available on the church website or in the office. Only a few spots are still available so don't delay! (Children should bring swim suits and towels with them to Parent's Night Out.)

FELLOWSHIP

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

Transportation (D) — Ron Payton
Parish Deacon 1 — Peggy Baker
Parish Deacon 2 — Denise Worden
Parish Deacon 3 — Dale Gibson

Parish Deacon 4 — Darlene Sitzler
Parish Deacon 5 — Erin Skarphol

Ice Cream Social



Make plans to attend the ICE CREAM SOCIAL on Sunday, August 11th, at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall! Our most excellent PRAISE BAND will entertain us with their favorite musical selections. We will have several different flavors of ice cream, along with a host of different toppings, soft drinks and great fun! Best of all..... **IT'S FREE!** Donations are not required, but will be gratefully accepted if the spirit moves you!) Bring your friends and neighbors and introduce them to FPC! Great music, yummy treats, friendly folks – this is a "DON'T MISS" event for sure!

Praise Band



Concert

July Birthdays



Sharon Schroeder	2nd
Ruth Landers	3rd
Marcy Snitzer	3rd
Don Griffith	4th
Tate Posthumus	4th
Stephanie Wells	4th
Anne Schafer	5th
Rebecca Andreen	8th
Lorraine Yphantides	8th
Kevin Reeves	10th
Virginia Leigh	11th
Linda Hayball	12th
Jo Throckmorton	13th
Jacquelyn Kambak	14th
Jessi Smith	14th
Katelyn Eberhardt	15th
Brant Baker	17th
Michael Chaney	17th
Andrew Frederick	17th
Ruth Letizia	17th
Carol Stirling	17th
Larry Loraditch	18th
Skyler Verch	18th
Eileen Brause	19th
Ian Harding	19th
Karin Lusk-Rydin	19th
Matthew Skarphol	19th
Fernande Anderson	23rd
Larry Beinert	23rd
Ben Gerlach	23rd
Mindee Saulsby	23rd
Freda Homolya	24th
Amie Alvarado	25th
Mary Lou Vickery	25th
Tom Watson	25th
Chaz McInelly	27th
Casey Johnson	28th
Dorothy Shearin	29th
Leon Kambak	31st

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.

La Palabra Mailing. It's not too late to let me know if you want to receive La Palabra via link. If I have NOT heard from you, you received this edition via mail. If you want to receive it by link only, let me know.
Linda Reeves

Calendar Notes

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28
Tony Montoya and Graci Armendariz
at HolyGrounds CoffeeHouse!

July 4 & 5
Independence Day—Office Closed

July 9
Youth Swim-Bible Study, Ambris'

July 11
Catalyst

July 20
Parents Night Out

July 23
Youth Swim-Bible Study, Ambris'

July 25
Catalyst

July 30
Monthly Food Drive



IN MEMORIAM

Howard D'Spain, June 16, 2013
Carole Flores, June 16, 2013



FPC

What Up?

June/July '13

SUMMER DIVE IN BIBLE STUDIES—TOTALLY TUESDAYS!

June 4th and 18th @ Baker's

3235 N Boulder Canyon Mesa

(gate code = #4255)

5:00-7:00pm

July 9th and 23rd @ Ambri's

3340 E. Irwin Ave. Mesa

(gate code = "letamein")

BRING: a bathing suit, a towel, \$3 for food, and be ready to have fun!!!

And don't forget Sunday mornings @ 10:30
in the Youth Room with those Jesus Jenga
Guys: Todd and Gray!

Steve and Beth—(480-556-4690, Gray—(480) 459-8071, Teresa—(480) 962-1924, John—(602) 284-7311, Todd—(480) 495-6109

REMEMBER: no ride=no problems!
Call any of the youth advisors
and we'll help you get a lift!



