

La Palabra

June 2013

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Brant

Ah, summer. Its promise of long, leisurely days, slow paced and laid back... It's all good for about a week, and then boredom can set in, especially for children and youth!

Why not harness the time by having some good conversations with your child or grandchild? Over the past year our Youth Advisors have been reading a book called "Sticky Faith: everyday ideas to build lasting faith in your kids." Authors Dr. Kara E Powell and Dr. Chap Clark share a few thoughts on how to have meaningful (spiritual) conversations with the young people in our lives:

- 1) Make the time (you can't just hope it will happen). Schedule it, at least on your end. Plan to come home early from work to take a walk, go on a bike-ride, or even go on a spontaneous shopping trip.
- 2) Remember that you have to have quantity time to have quality time.
- 3) Give some thought as to what postponed conversations you really need to have with your child, and/or about what topics you really should discuss with them (money and sex are two that are easy, and tragic, to avoid).
- 4) Ask good questions (and if appropriate, write down their answers):
 - a. What do your friends say they like about you?
 - b. What do you wish was different about our family?
 - c. Do you think our family is too busy, not busy enough, or just right?
 - d. What's your idea of the best day ever?
 - e. What do you like about your teacher these days (or "do you hope your new teacher will be like?")
 - f. What do you wish were different about your life?
 - g. What mistake did you make today (or this week) and what did you learn from it?
 - h. How have you seen God working today (or this week)?
- 5) Let them ask their own questions of you!
- 6) Use the television as a conversation starter (means staying close when it's on!):
 - a. Why do you suppose they are having bikini-clad women sell car wax?
 - b. What should that character have done?
 - c. What does the plot of this story say about how people think about their faith and/or let it impact their lives?
- 7) Share your faith...and your doubts. Talk about why your faith is important to you and how it affects your life. Talk (in age-appropriate ways) about your doubts and struggles with faith. Tell your faith story (when you became a Christian, or got serious about your faith walk).
- 8) Ask questions that prompt more than yes or no answers:
 - a. I wonder why God lets us choose whether or not to follow him?
 - b. I wonder why God allowed your friend to be raised by such an abusive mom and distant dad.

Have fun...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

Our summer choir schedule begins this month! Copies of the schedule are available on the Receptionist's Counter in the Church Office. In addition to the special music offered for each summer Sunday, the Praise Band and Fellowship Commission will offer a Concert and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 11th, at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Each member of the band will choose a few of their favorite secular songs to get our toes a-tapping and your voices singing along with maybe of few of your favorites, too!

Be sure to invite your young friends, ages 5-12, to this year's Vacation Bible School, *SonWest Roundup VBS*. VBS will be held Monday through Friday, June 3-7, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. each day, with special music offered again during both Sunday morning worship services on June 9th. Our VBS music leaders will be Miki Newbry and Karen Rudin. Join your friends at *SonWest Roundup* as we celebrate all the fun of being a buckaroo! The cost will be only \$15, which will include a light lunch, a CD, games, movies, fun characters, crafts, music, prizes, friends, Bible stories, and more! Get your registration form now from the Church Office or from the front page of our church website. On the 9th, please have your children (and leaders!) in *SonWest Roundup* gear and in Fellowship Hall before 8:45 a.m.

A time of prayer is offered each Sunday following our 9:00 a.m. worship service. While we are worshipping in Fellowship Hall, we will meet by the stage. If you have any special prayer concerns, please join us immediately following the service.

There are more than 32.5 million choir members in churches across America, and collectively, they volunteer 8.5 billion hours every year. Please offer a huge thank you to all who volunteer their time in making such a Joyful Noise here at First Presbyterian Church! Our Sanctuary Choir members rehearse weekly and sing most Sundays of the fall and spring. For their outstanding commitment, I would like to recognize and offer special thanks to each member of the choir: Dick Baird, Twyla Baker, Marjorie Burgan, Joan Carns, Sara D'Spain, Carol Gerlach, Robert Gerlach, Ellen Gillespie, Bev Goff, Paul Green, Ann Harbin, Kay Herrera, Freda Homolya, Carl Jensen, Jeannette Laurie, Helen Lents, Flinn Lund, Susan McMichael, Marie Nelson, Brooks Newbry, Peggy Phillips, Jane Potyka, Charlene Raikes, Anita Ramsey, Dan Reeves, Esther Robinson, Nate Robinson, Ruth Robinson, Karen Rudin, Alice Schlak, Allan Schultz, Bea Towe, Marlene Verch, Barb Walker, and Joan White.



Humoresque

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

A wise gentleman retired and one summer purchased a modest home near a junior high school. He spent the first few weeks of his retirement in peace and contentment. Then, a new school year began. The very next afternoon three young boys full of youthful after-school enthusiasm came down his street beating merrily on every trash can they encountered. The crashing percussion continued day after day, until finally the man decided it was time to take some action. The next afternoon, he walked out to meet the young percussionists as they banged their way down the street. Stopping them, he said, "You kids are a lot of fun. I like to see you express your exuberance like that. I used to do the same thing when I was your age. Will you do me a favor? I'll give you each a dollar if you'll promise to come around every day and do your thing." The kids were elated and continued to do a bang-up job on the trash cans. A few days later, the wily retiree approached them again as they drummed their way down the street. "Look" he said, "I haven't received my Social Security (pension) check yet, so I'm not going to be able to give you more than 25 cents. Will that be okay?" "A lousy quarter?!" the drum leader exclaimed. "If you think we're going to waste our time beating these cans for a quarter, you're nuts! No way, mister. We quit!" And the man enjoyed peace and serenity for the rest of his days.

MISSION

Pastor (Chair) — Brant Baker
Mission (E) — Phillip Pagels
Hunger Action (D) — Sandra Clark

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

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

Mesa Presbyterian Ministries is looking for help with client intakes. The ministry only functions when it has funds (3-4 times per year) but during those times there is a great need for people who can meet with prospective clients and do an intake interview. Training provided. Please contact Bob Gerlach or Jane Potyka for more information!



A Special Thank You to Mesa Presbyterian Ministries

I just wanted to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity in helping me in this difficult time by paying my rent. It truly touched my heart. I sure do appreciate it. God bless you all!

Cindy Flesien



Dave's Crew works on Wednesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. to do handyman work around the church. If you would like to be a part of the group, please contact Allan Schultz at 480-396-2985.

DAVE'S CREW

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— June Churches for Prayer

June 2 — Chandler Presbyterian Church
June 9 — Historic First Presbyterian, Phoenix
June 16 — Ganado Presbyterian Church
June 23 — Sky Harbor Interfaith Chaplaincy
June 30 — Winslow Presbyterian Church



Thanks to all the faithful members of the prayer chain for doing such a fine job with our prayer requests. I appreciate your faithfulness. I will be passing the prayer chain "Hat" to Bev Goff. She has graciously accepted the responsibility and I know she will do a wonderful job.

Sincerely, Cleta

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



We're planning a Diamondbacks outing on June 21st. Game starts at 6:40 p.m. Watch for further details!

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!



Just For Laughs!

As we prepare for another Arizona summer, here are some things to think about...

It's so hot in Arizona that...

- you can say 113 degrees without fainting.
- you eat hot chilies to cool your mouth off.
- you learn that a seat belt makes a pretty good branding iron.
- the temperature drops below 95, you feel a bit chilly.
- The 4 seasons are: tolerable, hot, really hot, and ARE YOU KIDDING ME??!
- you discover that in July, it takes only 2 fingers to drive your car.
- you discover that you can get a sunburn through your car window.
- you notice the best parking place is determined by shade instead of distance.
 - hot water now comes out of both taps.
- it's noon in July, kids are on summer vacation, and not one person is out on the streets.
- you actually burn your hand opening the car door.
- you break into a sweat the instant you step outside at 7:30 a.m. before work.
- no one would dream of putting vinyl upholstery in a car or not having air conditioning.
- your biggest bicycle wreck fear is, "What if I get knocked out and end up lying on the pavement and cook to death?"
- you realize that asphalt has a liquid state.
- a sad Arizonan once prayed, "I wish it would rain - not so much for me, cuz I've seen it -- but for my 7-year-old."

HAPPY SUMMER!

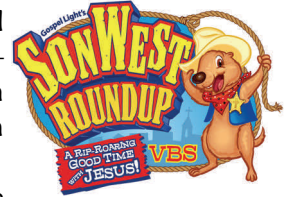
DISCIPLESHIP

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

Vacation Bible School 2013 – SonWest Roundup starts Monday, June 3rd and runs all week through June 7th. Kids age 5 – 12 are invited each day from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon for music, crafts, games, Bible stories, a light lunch and so much more! Cost is only \$15 per child for the whole week. Information and registration forms are available on the church website.



The following volunteers are committed to SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School: Patty Carnes, Todd Ramsey, Yvonne Oliver, Ellen Hickey, Darlene Sitzler, Lanai Mills, Jean Tryon, Brooks Newbry, Joe Daniel Cortez, Anthony Cortez, Dylan Hickey, Kyle Posthumus, Miki Newbry, Karen Rudin, Deborah Rosen, Barbara Walker, Susan Sylvia, Joyce Baum, Calli Kitchen, Tammy Miller, Ann Harbin, Denise Worden, Rediet Gerlach, Jennifer McAvoy, Liberty Schwarz, Victoria Martin, John John Schlak, Alice Schlak, Bryan Tryon, Ethan Couillard, Jenna Tryon, Kylie Hall, Elly Weinel, Brent Gregory, Joy and Bob Schulz. Please include these people in your prayers for this week! Thank you to these volunteers as well as those that have contributed both financially and with material donations!

At this time we could still use a few more “wrangler” guides to lead the groups of attending children from center to center through the week. If you are interested in helping in this way, please contact Jasmine Couillard.

Training and set up for SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible school will take place on Sunday, June 2nd, from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please plan to be there if you are volunteering!

It is that time again to gather the children's Sunday School teachers and assistants for a quarterly meeting. We will meet in the Christian Education office on Sunday, June 9th, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. If you are a summer teacher or assistant or interested in our programming please, plan to join us!

We have just finished a fantastic year at the preschool and what an amazing blessing it has been for me to work with these wonderful women, children and families in our community! Each one of our teachers has a heart of gold and makes coming to work every day a pleasure. Nicki, you have guided me with supportive love, and I appreciate the knowledge and expertise that you bring to the preschool. I want to say a special thank you to Pastor Brant Baker and Mark Ramsey for their prayers, support and guidance during our weekly family chapel time. The children's faith grew tremendously and the families truly enjoyed themselves, too. I would also like to thank the Presbytery Women's group for their financial support through donations throughout the year. We were able to provide supplies for the classrooms. Once the school year got rolling we were privileged to have Ms. Lanai Mills (Ms. Lemonade, as the kids call her) with us as a volunteer throughout the year. Thank you for stepping in wherever we needed you, Lanai! Lastly, I would like to thank the Preschool Board members for their dedication and support for our preschool: Ginny Mallia, Pam Godfrey, Carol Anderson, Nicki McInelly, Laura Schmid, Jasmine Couillard and Kristy Cid. You have helped to make this preschool so successful and we would NOT want to do it without you! I hope you all have a wonderful summer with your families and continue to keep our little preschool in your thoughts and prayers as we gather a new batch of God's children here in the fall. God Bless you all!



Shiloh Murillo

P.S. We had a wonderful sale during our Raffle basket fundraiser. We raised \$933.00 for the Preschool! The lucky winners were: Alayna Detweiler (Preschool Parent), Jen Martin (Church Member) won 2 baskets, Tammy Miller (Church Member), Martina Garcia (Preschool Parent), Summer Peterson (Preschool Parent) won 2 baskets; Lois Hildebrand (Church Member), Tim May (Preschool Parent), Andrew Cordone (Preschool child), and Tico (Head Start Preschool Parent). Congratulations to all of the winners and Thank YOU for participating this year!

June Birthdays



Renita Jurgensen	2nd
Ellen Hickey	3rd
Victoria Martin	3rd
Ken Brause	5th
Jan Smith	5th
Don Anweiler	6th
Gretchen Frederick	7th
Matt Hayball	7th
Zoe Garlin	8th
Shirley Martz	9th
Phillip Pagels	9th
Ellen Gillespie	10th
Jeannette Laurie	10th
Peggy Phillips	10th
Eleanor Daniels	12th
Jack Oliver	12th
Todd Ramsey	12th
Jennifer Grace Martin	14th
Joan White	14th
Jeanne Arbuckle	15th
Kayla Bozmoski	15th
Wanda Gibbs	16th
Bert Lanstra	16th
Thomas Wells	16th
Cheryl Gregory	18th
Steve Ambri	19th
Beth Ambri	20th
Ruth Peake	20th
Avonelle Marshall	23rd
Jack Gunter	25th
Charles Wells	25th
Richard Koch	26th
Sara D'Spain	28th
Ann Harbin	28th
Carol Anderson	29th
Benjamin Nguyen	29th
John Halverson	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.



Calendar Notes

June 2

VBS Training/Set Up

June 3-7

SonWest Round Up VBS

June 4 & 18

Youth Swim-Bible Study

June 9

Sunday School Training

June 16

Father's Day

June 18

Befrienders meet

June 21

Diamondbacks Game

June 23

Commissions/Session meet

June 30

Monthly Food Drive



IN MEMORIAM

Ruth "Skippy" Muth, May 19, 2013



FPC

What Up?

June/July '13

SUMMER DIVE IN BIBLE STUDIES—TOTALLY TUESDAYS!

June 4th and 11th @ 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!

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

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

