

La Palabra

October 2014

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Brant

A few odds and ends for this month:

- 1) We will begin our next all-church study this month. I'll offer four sermons on "Just Walk Across the Room," a wonderful resource by pastor Bill Hybels of Willowcreek Church. Please look for a small group to connect with during the four weeks of this study, or make plans to attend the Y'All Come Class. This is a timely study for our life here at FPC.
- 2) You may have heard me talk about Open Table a few weeks ago. Open Table is a new ministry we're exploring. The idea is to help people change their lives through relational transformation. More than a band-aid, Open Table surrounds a brother or sister with anywhere from eight to ten people who help identify issues and then work toward solutions, meeting often enough, and long enough, to really make a difference. But to make this happen we need people who are willing to be part, so if God is nudging you in that direction, please contact me or Mission Elder Phill Pagels, so we can add you to the list.
- 3) You may have noticed that there are a lot of people here on Sunday mornings who you don't recognize. The Word Church has begun leasing space from us, and we're excited to welcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ. There may be some growing pains for a few months, but overall this is an exciting development for both churches!
- 4) Some of you have asked if it is still possible to get a signed copy of my book, "Fifty Skills You Need for a Decent Chance of Success." This is the book I wrote based on a sermon series last spring, and the answer is, YES! I will again offer signed copies during coffee time on Sunday, October 12th. The cost of each book is \$10, with all proceeds going to the Sanctuary 50th Anniversary Fund (and by-the-way, mark your calendars for that celebration on December 7th!).
- 5) Finally, if you are a "senior," please mark your calendars for the morning of Saturday, November 22nd, when we will hold a workshop called "Senior Matters." Brunch will be served courtesy of the Endowment Committee, who will do a presentation, as will Rosemary Fuller, RN.



Ms. Fuller is the Director of Health & Wellness at Oakwood Creative Care, and will speak on memory loss and the fears associated with it. We'll also be treated to musical entertainment from the church choir. It's going to be a wonderful morning!

In Christ,
Brant

P.S. And one more thing—see the information on Mesa Make-A-Difference Day on the Mission page!

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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

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

Announcements



Lyric-Coloratura Soprano Stephanie Ann Ball, Baritone Tom Sitzler, and Pianist J.R. McAlexander will perform the concert "A Celebration of Life and Light" at Red Mountain United Methodist Church (Mesa) on Saturday, November 1st, at 5:00 pm. Featuring opera, musical theater, hymns, and spirituals, there will be something to awaken a beautiful memory in everyone. In lieu of admission, a freewill offering will be taken to support the artists, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Red Mountain Classics. Seating is limited and may be reserved at <http://celebrationoflifeandlight.eventbrite.com/> or by contacting Mark Ramsey at (480) 964-8606, Ext. 24. On Sunday morning, November 2nd, Stephanie and Tom will offer special music during our 9:00 a.m. All Saints' Communion Service at FPC.



We will celebrate the 50th anniversary of our church Sanctuary on Sunday, December 7th. Our featured artist for worship will be organist Dorothy Riess. "Dr. Dorothy" started piano with her mother at age four and won her first competition at seven. The summer of her 16th year she took some organ lessons to become high school organist and had her own radio show of pop tunes on KTOW, Oklahoma City. At the University of Oklahoma she became a protégé of the legendary Mildred Andrews and won many competitions including the American Guild of Organists National in San Francisco, 1952, at age 20. The death of her beloved father from complications of Diabetes changed her life resulting in a decision to become a Doctor. She was awarded a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1969. Four years of post-grad study qualified her to practice Internal Medicine which she continued in Pasadena until retirement in 2000! After relocating to Las Vegas she resumed organ playing (some 50 years later!) and serves as Associate Organist at First Christian Church, Las Vegas. She performed her 75th birthday concert at the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 2006, her 77th at First Christian Church Las Vegas in 2009, and her 80th at UNLV in 2011. She was featured artist for the American Guild of Organists Region IX Convention in San Francisco, July 2011, performing at First Congregational Church, Berkeley, the same venue as her winner's recital in 1952!



Humoresque

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

A priest, a doctor, and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with those guys? We must have been waiting for fifteen minutes!" The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!" The priest said, "Here comes the greenkeeper. Let's have a word with him." He said, "Hello, George. What's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?" The greenkeeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime." The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The doctor said, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything he can do for them." The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"



1964-2014
**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
OF OUR CHURCH SANCTUARY**

First Presbyterian Church of Mesa will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its Sanctuary on Sunday, December 7th. There will be one special service that Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary. You will want to mark your calendar as not to miss this unique celebration. Please invite any former members you know and also inform your children if they no longer are members.

There will be a delicious catered brunch in the Fellowship Hall following the service, and it will be free to all. The celebration will continue at the brunch as we recall memorable times and events. Tickets will be required and will be available beginning in November.

We would appreciate any stories, photos or other memorabilia that you may be able to provide. Please turn it in to the church office.

In Christ,
50th Anniversary Celebration Committee

Columbarium Niches and Memorial Wall Plaques

The Columbarium in the church prayer garden has 64 niches. There are 18 niches still available, one of which is in the cross. The ten niches in the cross are mahogany in color surrounded by 54 almond color niches. The cost of the niches is \$600.00 for one occupant, \$1000.00 for two.

We also have a memorial wall where you can purchase a plaque with the name of a loved one who has passed away. The cost of the plaques is \$200.00.



If you would like more information, you can contact Jack Oliver, Allen Schultz, or Bob Gerlach.

DISCIPLESHIP

Director of C.E. — Jasmine Couillard
Adult (E) — Martha Bienert

Children's Ministries (E) — Carol Anderson
Family Ministries (E) — Alice Schlak

Youth/Young Adult (E) — Jennifer Martin
Youth Elder — Kyle Posthumus

Wednesday WRAP

Join us for block 2 of Wednesday WRAP! We kick off on October 22nd! Cost is only \$20 for the entire block and we will have fun each week. Themes for October are:

10/22 – Backwards Night

10/29 – Great Pumpkin

Church Library

Did you know the church has a library and a children's library where you can borrow an assortment of Christian materials? The children's library is located in Jackson A. Please feel free to take a book or leave a book. There is no check out procedure for the children's library. Feel free to borrow as many and as often as you wish!



Wow! What an amazing group of kids we have this year! The two classrooms are buzzing with excitement and learning new things every day. Many of you may not know this, but the preschool had some very unexpected water fill the rooms during our last big storm. Because of this, the preschool has now changed classrooms for the 3's class until it can be repaired. No worries, though! We were blessed by God and his graces when we were able to move the children to the unoccupied classroom and resume class time. Please pray that we will continue to welcome new families into our Preschool Ministry despite the new challenges.

We will be bringing in Lifetouch Portraits this month to capture the sweet essence of the children we foster. We will also be closed for one week for fall break from October 6th-10th. We look forward to growing closer together as the families get to know one another better. Thank you for your support, love and prayers. Wishing you all a wonderful fall season!

In His Love,
Shiloh Murillo, FPC Preschool Director



We would like to thank you all at FPC for enriching our lives. We loved being part of the FPC family. You have all been so kind and gracious to us, from Jan M helping us sell our house to Kevin and Mark for helping to expose us to contemporary music and everyone in between, especially our small group who accepted us as we are and made us feel a part of their family. We are still "church shopping" and it is hard to find someone as dynamic as Pastor Baker, but I am sure we eventually will find a place for us. If any of you are ever in Boise, please do not hesitate to call. We miss you all and you are all in our hearts.

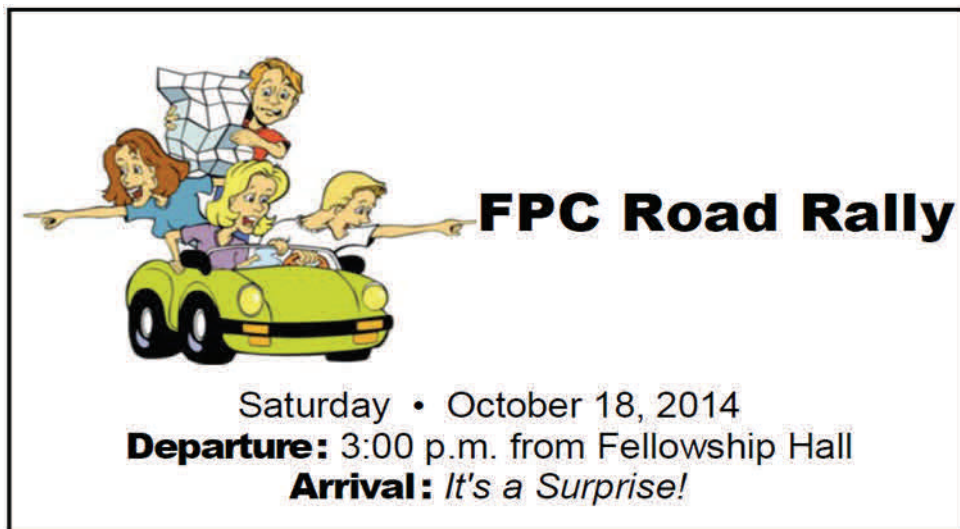
All our love,
John & Teresa Halverson

FELLOWSHIP

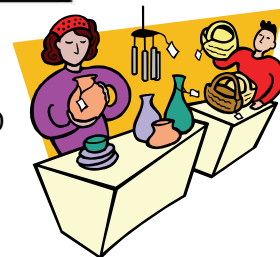
Fellowship (E) (Chair) — Charlie Golden
Parish Visitor (Staff) — Lois Hildenbrand
Cards (D) — Gretchen Frederick
Older Adult (E) — Steve Muth

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

Parish Deacon 4 — Erin Skarphol
Parish Deacon 5 — Heidi Blincoe
Presbyterian Women — Jeannette Laurie



The 2014 Arts & Crafts Fair will be Saturday, November 8th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Don't miss it!



Women of the congregation are encouraged to become part of a PW Circle for study and friendship. The Bible study for the year is focused on the Horizon's Curriculum, *RECONCILING PAUL: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians*. Study guides are available (\$8.00) from circle leaders. Circles meet monthly beginning in October.

Circles Meet:

Eve Circle meets second Monday, 7:00 p.m., parlor
Deborah Circle meets second Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., members' homes
Lydia Circle meets second Tuesday, 12:00 noon, parlor
Rachel Circle meets second Tuesday, 1:00 p.m., library

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN PRESBYTERY OF GRAND CANYON, FALL GATHERING will be held at Sunnyslope Presbyterian Church on October 11, 2014. The presentation will be "One Can Make a Difference" and the guest will be Patti Luttrell from the Children's Cancer Network. Registration forms are available through circles or in the church office.

PW BAKE SALE, NOVEMBER 8th: Pull out your favorite recipes for cookies, cakes, and pies. PW Bake Sale will be held in conjunction with the Arts and Crafts Fair on November 8th. The bake sale is our primary fund raiser. Let's give the congregation a taste of what comes out of our kitchens!

Next PWCT meeting: October 7th, Tuesday, 1:00, library.

MISSION

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

Assimilation (D) —
Evangelism (E) — Bill Anderson

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



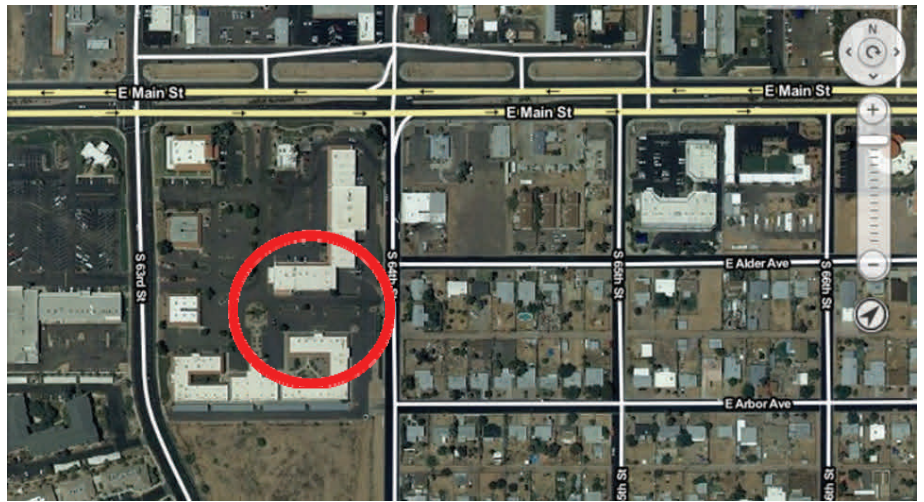
Blood Drive

The Mission Commission of FPC is hosting its semi-annual blood drive. As a church we have committed to supporting this event. Thank you to all of you for your on-going participation in this important, life-giving mission.

The American Red Cross will have a bloodmobile in the church parking lot from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 19th. You may sign up to give blood four different ways: 1. Sign up directly online at redcrossblood.org, sponsor code: FirstPresbyterianMesa. 2. Sign up in Fellowship Hall beginning October 5th between services. 3. Call Sue Eisenklam at 480-993-6512. 4. Email Sue at eisen-touch@yahoo.com.

Mesa Make-a-Difference Day

FPC will once more participate in the Mesa Make-A-Difference Day, Saturday, October 25th, from 8:00am until probably around 10:00 or so. Our assignment is to stuff and hand out Resource Bags. Plan to meet in the parking lot just off of 64th Street, about ½ block south of Main (see map). After we stuff the Resource Bags (with materials supplied by the City), we'll distribute to approximately 170 homes to the east of the meeting place. Bring water and a hat and a smile!



Operation Christmas Child

Once again our small group is inviting anyone from the congregation that is interested in helping us in providing Christmas Shoeboxes to the needy children of the world. In 1993 Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse launched the Operation Christmas Child program. Since then Samaritan's Purse has delivered shoe boxes to over 113 million children worldwide. In just the last four years, over 1.1 million children have prayed to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior through Operations Christmas Child's follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey.



This is our 7th year collecting shoe boxes and we have set a goal of 100 boxes. Would you please help us reach that goal? We will have shoe boxes available sometime in late October. However, you can use a standard size shoe box. You have the choice of selecting a boy or girl in one of these three age categories: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Gift ideas are: toys, school supplies, hygiene items, hard candy or lollipops (double bagged), socks, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights with extra batteries, t-shirts, caps, etc.

We are asking that the shoe boxes be returned to the church on or before November 16th as we need to deliver them to the collection point between November 17th and 23rd. For more information you may contact Jack and Yvonne Oliver 654-6348 or Jeanne Partida 981-6149. Other members of the group are the Hoff's, Miller's, Hildenbrand/Lanstra and Jan Montgomery.

October Birthdays



Jennifer Martin	1st
Dylan Hickey	2nd
Mary Beth Berry	3rd
Carter Buck	3rd
Antonio Rosario	4th
Irene Lenke	5th
Sandy Garpner	6th
June Gibbons	7th
Elinore Koch	7th
Steve Wylie	8th
Connie Chisholm	11th
Brooks Newbry	12th
Sam Thielke	12th
Bob Mallia	14th
Elizabeth Mathewson	14th
Dale Gibson	15th
Penelope Sitzler	16th
Fran Watson	16th
Kenneth Verch	18th
David Woods	19th
Brooklyn Bero	21st
Mary Jane Hee	21st
Dan Reeves	23rd
Dillon Waters	23rd
Lincoln Saulsby	26th
Zac Williams	26th
Diane Brause	27th
John Couillard	27th
Katherine McMichael	27th
Cary Preston	29th
Janet Verch	29th
Luke McInelly	30th
Chuck Michel	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

Laurie, Jeannette
 7255 E. Broadway, #282
 Mesa, AZ 85208
 480-962-0527

Calendar Notes

October 1
Men's Fellowship begins meeting

October 5
World Communion Sunday — MPM Offering

October 7
PW Coordinating Team

October 13 & 14
Circles meet

October 18
Road Rally

October 19
Blood Drive

October 21
Befrienders meet

October 25
Mesa Make-a-Difference Day

October 26
Monthly Food Drive



IN MEMORIAM

Janet Fooks — September 21, 2014



FPC Youth—What Up?

October 2014

Wednesday

WRAP

Oct 1, 22, 29



Mesa Make A Difference Day, Saturday, October 25th

Meet on 64th Street in east Mesa, one block south of Main at 8:00am
Wear regular clothes (our job is to assemble and distribute Neighborhood Resource Bags to 170 homes in teams of 3). Bring a bathing suit and towel for pool party afterwards (bring \$3 for lunch). Parent pick up at 1:00pm at 853 N Forest, Mesa (the Hickey house!).



MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

YOUTH TEAM: John — (602) 284-7311, Gray — (480) 459-8071, Katelyn — (602) 790-0373, Todd — (480) 495-6109, Mary Jane — (480) 586-7263, Jen — (480) 688-3543

