

# La Palabra

August 2016

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

## *A Message from Lois*

**“ ...God’s gifts and God’s call are irrevocable.”** (Romans 11:29, NRSV)

As children of God, it is important we understand and recognize that God has a specific calling and plan for our lives. We are not here by chance. We have purpose and we should not be aimlessly going through life. God has given each of us spiritual gifts and callings to use in God’s Kingdom here on earth. God does not take them away, even if we have never done anything with them or when we fail from time to time. These gifts and callings are ours to be used for they are God’s investment into our personal lives and the life of God’s church.

God calls us to put our faith and trust in Him, allowing God to develop what He has given us. Our responsibility is to walk and work out our faith daily so God may fulfill God’s purpose in our lives.

What are your gifts and callings? Some can easily answer the question, for others, the answer is not as clear. I have Spiritual Gift Inventories in my study that may be helpful. I’m happy to provide you with one or you can do an internet search and complete one of the many on-line tools available. If you wish to discuss your results with me, I’m happy to do so, but definitely discuss them with God! I encourage you to prayerfully consider what God’s gifts and callings are in your life. If you are someone who has never accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, then God has the gift of eternal life waiting for you. If you have accepted Christ as your Savior, we are to use our spiritual gifts and callings for God’s purposes to touch and see other’s lives changed.

Please, make a fresh commitment to know and use the gifts God has given you. It will make a difference in your own life as well as the life of the church.

Blessings...Lois

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## WORSHIP

Dir. of Music (Chair) — Mark Ramsey  
Worship (E) — Nate Robinson  
Prayer Chain (D) — Joy Schulz

Funerals/Memorials (D) — Karyn Weaver  
Worship (D) — Carol Gerlach

### 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

#### Ice Cream Social



The 2016-17 Artist Series will begin with the band Vintage Rocket. The group will perform on Sunday, August 28th, at our Fellowship Commission's annual Ice Cream Social. We'll begin at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, and we'll enjoy cool, yummy refreshments and toe-tappin' music. Vintage Rocket is a 4-piece cover band which has played in the Valley for many years, and the group features our very own, multi-talented FPC One Voice member John Couillard. The group plays classic rock, alternative, R&B, and some original songs. Check the group's Facebook page, and join us for an enjoyable afternoon of great entertainment!

With the closing of Verde Valley Presbyterian Church, Barb Walker brought to FPC sixty or so copies of the "Sing the Faith" hymn supplement. With many thanks to Barb, we'll be enlarging our hymn repertoire with numerous hymns old and new. We'll inaugurate the collection next month during our Gospel Hymn Festival, on Labor Day Sunday, September 4th, at 9:00 a.m.

A terrific educational opportunity will be presented in Tucson on Saturday, August 20th, from 9:00 to 3:30. A combined Presbytery event will be held at Northminster Presbyterian Church, and numerous workshops in most areas of our church life will be offered to inspire and to educate as we jump start our fall activities. I'll be presenting a workshop on Worship & Arts, and all are welcome!

Wednesday WRAP will begin again on August 31st! Watch for registration opportunities. Advanced sign-up helps our WRAP leaders as they prepare for the coming year.



Last month, our Dei Gloriam Handbell Choir submitted a video audition to perform at Disney's California Adventure. After three short weeks of waiting, we received the words we hoped to hear: "You have been selected to participate with Disney Performing Arts at the Disneyland® Resort! You are cordially invited to Disneyland Resort on Tuesday, August 16th, to perform on the Hollywood Backlot Stage of Disney's California Adventure." We'll be playing at Disneyland during the Olympics, so in addition to Disney medleys, the group will ring an extended arrangement of John Williams' Olympic Fanfare. Showtime on the 16th has not been set, but get your park passes now, and travel over with us!

#### Coming Events

- 8/28 (Sunday) Ice Cream Social, with John Couillard's band, Vintage Rocket at 4:00 p.m.
- 9/11 Territorial Brass in Worship (9:00 a.m.)
- 9/25 FPC Potluck and the 2016 International Senior Quartet Champions "High Priority," featuring Dan Davenport

### Humoresque

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

One of my husband's duties as a novice drill instructor was to escort new recruits to the mess hall. After everyone had made it through the chow line, he sat them down and told them, "There are three rules in this mess hall: Shut up! Eat up! Get up!" Checking to see that he had everyone's attention, he asked, "What is the first rule?" Much to the amazement of the other instructors, 60 privates yelled in unison, "Shut up, Drill Sergeant!"

## DISCIPLESHIP

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

Children's Ministries (E) — Stephanie Gerlach  
Family Ministries (E) — Alice Schlak

Youth/Young Adult (E) — Bill Rummmler  
Youth Elder — Gregg Gerlach

**There are only a few more weeks of summer Sunday school left!** Preschool through sixth grade students shouldn't miss out from 10:30 – 11:20 in Jackson B. Each week we have games, crafts, lessons and more!

**Wednesday WRAP** will kick off on the last day of this month. Beginning Wednesday, August 31st, we will meet most weeks from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. There will be music and recreation for kids and teens, dinner and Bible study for all ages – including an adult program and Grief Share. The theme on August 31st is Rain Forest, so come wearing your cargo shorts, hiking boots and straw hat!

**GriefShare** is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare you will learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life. Please join this seminar beginning on Wednesday, August 31st, at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor. You are welcome to come to dinner at 5:30 (extra fee) in Fellowship Hall. There is a \$20 fee to cover the cost of the workbook and supplies. Each week features video interviews with counselors, grief experts and people like you, who have experienced a loved one's death. This seminar will offer practical suggestions and reassurances as well as time for discussion and sharing. Please contact Jeanne Partida 602-292-8940 or Ruth Rummmler 480-415-4925 for any information or if you are interested in attending.



For our August Mission project, we will again be collecting school supplies for the FPC Preschool! Shiloh Murillo, the Preschool Director, along with assistance from her teachers, has compiled a wish list for supplies for the coming year. If you are interested in purchasing some school supplies, please place your donations in the designated boxes. There will be one box in the Sanctuary, and another will be in the office during the week, and in Fellowship Hall on Sundays.

Preschool begins holding classes on August 15th, but your donations will be welcome any time during August. You are also welcome to come to the Open House on August 11th at 5:30 p.m. Thank you very much!

### School Classroom & Supply Wish List

- 64 oz Bottle of Bubbles
- White school glue
- Glue sticks
- 8x11 or 9x12 construction paper (multi-colored)
- 8x11 white copy paper
- Snacks - individually wrapped & healthy
- Card stock (white or colored)
- Colored pipe cleaners
- Paper plates
- Plastic spoons & forks
- Facial tissues
- Paper towels
- 3oz paper Dixie Cups
- Foaming Hand Soap refill liquid
- Washable markers
- Thin markers
- Colored pencils
- Colored Dry-erase markers
- Watercolor paint trays
- Gallon size Washable paint (any color)
- Colored tissue paper
- Golf Tees
- Donations are also being accepted for raffle baskets for our 30th Anniversary celebration. Basket themes include: Sports, Family game night, Date night, Children's fun, Gardening and gift cards (any location or amount)

## MISSION

Pastor — Lois Hildenbrand  
Mission (Chair--E) — Sue Eisenklam  
Hunger Action (D) — Sandra Clark

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

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

“When life changes, God is good! When life is scary, God is good! When life is sad, God is good! When life is good, God is good!” So it is and so it was for those sixteen of us who traveled to Tsyei Bidaa Presbyterian Church and for the children and members of the congregations whose lives intersected with ours.

To begin with, our lives changed from comfortable to uncomfortable as we embarked on our mission. None of us really knew what to expect. It was certainly a little scary before we started the first day. It started with devotion as we took our discomfort and fears to God. Afterwards we piled in our cars and headed to the church. We spent the morning setting up



and preparing for Vacation Bible School. After lunch the families began to trickle in. At first we had only eleven children but were up to fourteen before it was over. The children were a little stiff. They weren't so sure either. We were a little surprised when parents and grandparents didn't just drop their children off but instead stayed and followed them to each of the stations. Perhaps they were a little scared too. We all began to loosen up as we began to sing about how God is good all the time. For some that was another opportunity to stretch beyond comfort. By the end of the day, the scary had left us.

We started day two with attending church. For some of us there was an element of sadness as the service touched our own memories and life issues. We were all moved by the service. A two hour service in Navajo and English was a change as well. God was so good to allow us to be accepted and embraced as we joined in worship and praise. The afternoon brought yet another change. There were twenty eight children! Our group adapted and adjusted and worked together to meet the needs of the larger group.

Days three and four started with 7:00 a.m. breakfast at the church so we could start painting before it got too hot. In the two mornings we finished painting fellowship hall. In the afternoons we had VBS, with twenty two children Monday and sixteen Tuesday. Bonds were being formed. Our youth crew leaders were awesome! We had moved past life changing, life being scary, and life being sad, celebrating how good God is all the time. The parents and grandparents stayed every day joining us with singing, hand and body motions as we celebrated how good God is.

The culmination was a community dinner with children, parents, grandparents, members of the congregation and us. The children performed what they had learned, and we all celebrated when life is good, God is good!

## MINISTRY

Clerk of Session (Chair) — Linda Hayball  
 Property (E) — Allan Schultz  
 Personnel (E) — Kate Buck

Personnel (D) — Susan McMichael  
 Nominating (E) — Barbara Walker

Nominating (D) — Miki Newbry  
 Stewardship/Finance (E) — Bob Gerlach

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 2016

	Month		Year to Date 2016		Year to Date
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget +/-
INCOME	29,699	32,644	184,272	195,864	-11,592
EXPENSE	32,007	33,765	193,277	202,590	-9,313
DIFFERENCE	-2,308		-9,005		-2,279

If you have questions regarding this report, contact Bob Gerlach at 480-458-7619.

#### News from your PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee)

Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues to move through the PCUSA process which will result in presenting to the congregation the candidate for our pastoral position. An overview of that process was published in the July edition of *La Palabra* which can be accessed through the FPC Mesa website.

The current project at hand is the completion of the Ministries Information Form (MIF) which will serve as a “job description” and be posted via the Church Leadership Connect of the PCUSA. The committee has been working diligently to write, revise, refine and edit the five narrative questions, to which each response must be no more than 1500 characters (letters, punctuation, spaces included).

Additionally, the MIF will include information to be published about demographics and finances of our church, as well as data about our location and city, since interested candidates may come from anywhere in the country.

Once the MIF is finalized by the PNC, it goes to the Session for approval and then to Presbytery of Grand Canyon Committee on Ministry. When Presbytery’s approval is confirmed, the MIF is uploaded to a PCUSA database to yield a list of matches that will lead to a successful candidate.

The PNC appreciates the prayers and support of the congregation. We will continue to keep you updated as we move through the process.

## FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship (E) (Chair) — Dennis Sitzler  
 Cards (D) — Cindy Davenport  
 Older Adult (E) — Steve Muth

Transportation (D) — Doug McInelly  
 Fellowship Deacon — Mark Waters  
 Fellowship Deacon — Suzanne Engman  
 Fellowship Deacon — Dale Gibson

Fellowship Deacon — Ruth Rummler  
 Fellowship Deacon — Heidi Blincoe  
 Presbyterian Women — Suzanne Engman

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Fellowship events! They are not to be missed! Some dates and times are to be determined, so stay tuned for further updates. Make plans to attend and bring a friend!

- ❖ August 28th at 4:00 p.m. — Ice Cream Social and Vintage Rocket Concert
- ❖ November 12th — Annual Craft Fair. Watch for details to come!



# August Birthdays



<i>Charlotte Roberts</i>	<i>3rd</i>
<i>Jake Bero</i>	<i>5th</i>
<i>Verna Green</i>	<i>5th</i>
<i>Todd Verch</i>	<i>6th</i>
<i>Susan McMichael</i>	<i>7th</i>
<i>Ayden Hickey</i>	<i>8th</i>
<i>Tom Dye</i>	<i>9th</i>
<i>Michele Roberts</i>	<i>9th</i>
<i>Rosemary Chisnall</i>	<i>10th</i>
<i>Gary Marshall</i>	<i>11th</i>
<i>Jo Beth Walstrom</i>	<i>11th</i>
<i>Amy Bero</i>	<i>12th</i>
<i>Carol Webster</i>	<i>12th</i>
<i>Lora Vitale</i>	<i>18th</i>
<i>Jim Bruening</i>	<i>19th</i>
<i>Eliana Couillard</i>	<i>19th</i>
<i>Lynette Belew</i>	<i>20th</i>
<i>Bettylou Edwards</i>	<i>20th</i>
<i>Robert Gerlach</i>	<i>20th</i>
<i>Kylie Hall</i>	<i>21st</i>
<i>Emily Bero</i>	<i>23rd</i>
<i>Patricia Woodrum</i>	<i>23rd</i>
<i>Lanai Mills</i>	<i>25th</i>
<i>Tricia Ramsey</i>	<i>25th</i>
<i>Sean Smith</i>	<i>25th</i>
<i>Doug McInnelly</i>	<i>26th</i>
<i>Mary Rugg</i>	<i>26th</i>
<i>Ardith Shaffer</i>	<i>26th</i>
<i>Mark Waters</i>	<i>26th</i>
<i>Burton Newbry</i>	<i>28th</i>
<i>Jim Norris</i>	<i>30th</i>
<i>Evangelina Couillard</i>	<i>31st</i>

**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

Hayball, Linda Cell: 480-385-8305	Trimble, Bob 1455 E. Louis Way Tempe, AZ 85284 Cell: 480-203-7933
Kambak, Jackie 480-616-5306	Walker, Barbara Cell: 602-999-9944
Schlak, John & Alice No land line, only cell phones: John: 480-754-9828 Alice: 310-302-7611 John-John: 310-926-9309	

### ***Calendar Notes***

**August 11**  
Preschool Open House

**August 16**  
Befrienders meet

**August 20**  
The Big Event, Tucson

**August 21**  
Commissions & Session meet

**August 28**  
Monthly Food Drive  
Ice Cream Social w/ Vintage Rocket Concert

**August 31**  
WRAP and GriefShare begin



## IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Ryan — July 12, 2016



See calendar on website:  
<http://www.fpcmesa.org/about-us/current-events>