

La Palabra

July 2017

www.fpcmesa.org

480-964-8606

A Message from Ann

“Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind them and throw them into the furnace of blazing fire.” (Daniel 3:19-20)

I have to admit, I’m feeling a bit like Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego this first week in Mesa! The fiery furnace of the desert, at temperatures exceeding 110 degrees, certainly feels like it’s been turned up seven times more than what I am used to in Michigan!

The truth is, however, that I am really enjoying the amazing beauty of this place, despite the heat. Looking out at blue skies, palm trees, and mountains is good for my soul. It reminds me of the breathtaking beauty of God’s creation and our responsibility to care for and tend to the earth.

It also reminds me of the indigenous peoples of this land and their respect and reverence for all of creation. I look forward to learning from the Navajo people we will encounter next week as we travel to Tseyi Bidaa.

My gratitude abounds for the careful planning that has gone into this mission trip and the intention each part has been given. We will not only be “taking VBS on the road,” but we will also be building relationships with and learning from the Navajo people. Mission is best when it is mutual; recognizing that we all have lessons to learn as well as gifts to give. I look forward to some deep learning in the coming weeks as I get to know the congregation, the mission trip participants, and as God shows me what I need to learn about myself and God.

My faith has surely been stretched and deepened as God has once again shown me God’s faithfulness throughout each step of my journey to Mesa! Thanks be to our good and gracious God!

In Christ’s love and hope,
Rev. Ann Conklin

INDEX

<i>A Message from Ann.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Discipleship.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Mission.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Fellowship.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>July Birthdays.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Address Changes.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Calendar Notes.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Thank You.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Calendar.....</i>	<i>Website</i>

DISCIPLESHIP

Director of C.E. — Jasmine Couillard
Adult (E) — Karen Rudin

Children's Ministries (E) — Stephanie Gerlach
Family Ministries (E) — Ellen Hickey

Youth/Young Adult (E) — Bill Rummler

Summer Sunday School

During the summer our preschool—sixth grade classes do Sunday School together each week at 10:30 in Jackson B. Don't miss these wonderful lessons!

July 2 – Elisha shows God's love
July 9 – Hezekiah turns away from sin
July 16 – Esther saves God's people
July 23 – The paralyzed man
July 30 – The entrance of the King

It's hard to believe another school year has come and gone! We are already hard at work to prepare for the next school year. Fall registration is open. My summer hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in June and July. Tours will be conducted at that time. If you know of anyone who might be looking for a preschool, please have them call 480-835-7877 and leave a message for me. I'll get back as soon as possible.



We are looking for a new teacher for our 3-year olds for the next school year. Interviews will be conducted in June and July for an August start.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,
Shiloh Murillo, Director

Memories from Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School





MISSION

Pastor — Ann Conklin
Mission (Chair--E) — Sue Eisenklam
Hunger Action (D) — Sandra Clark

Assimilation (D) — Carol Holdhusen
Marketing (E) —

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

Mission Trip 2017

Once again, a group of seventeen people are going to Tseyi Bidaa Presbyterian Church in Del Muerto. As a congregation, we have all been participants, most as senders and some as goers. Many of you contributed financially through the Pentecost Offering which helped support the trip. Most of you have been praying for the success of the trip. All your support is very much appreciated!

In the past, mission work in the Presbyterian Church was focused on teaching, preaching and healing. According to Rachel Yates, Associate Director for program

at Presbyterian World Mission, “Today we engage more intentionally in a ministry of partnership, recognizing that our partners have as much to offer us as we have to give to them.” And so it is as our group of 11 adults and 6 youth head to the north east corner of our state to intentionally engage in building relationships. We will do that through our open heartedness, presence and once again by facilitating Vacation Bible School.

Be sure to be in church on Sunday, July 2nd, when the participants will be sharing their experiences during the sermon time in both services. You don't want to miss this sharing of our transforming experiences!



FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship (E) (Chair) — Dennis Sitzler
Cards (D) — Cindy Davenport
Older Adult (E) — Dave Jurgensen

Transportation (D) — Doug McInelly
Fellowship Deacon — Mark Waters
Fellowship Deacon — Dan Sitzler
Fellowship Deacon — Ruth Danaher

Fellowship Deacon — Ruth Rummler
Fellowship Deacon — Kyle Harding
Presbyterian Women — Suzanne Engman
Youth Elder — Sedona Verch

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 27th — Ice Cream Social, 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (featuring Dan Sitzler's band, Fatigo!)
- September 24th — Potluck Dinner (Watch for more details!)



July Birthdays



Sharon Schroeder	2nd
Ruth Landers	3rd
Marcy Snitzer	3rd
Tate Posthumus	4th
Anne Schafer	5th
Kevin Reeves	10th
Virginia Leigh	11th
Linda Hayball	12th
Jo Throckmorton	13th
Jackie Kambak	14th
Jessi Smith	14th
Kristen Hull	15th
Mark Waters	15th
Andrew Frederick	17th
Ruth Letizia	17th
Brielle Reeves	17th
Carol Stirling	17th
Larry Loraditch	18th
Skyler Verch	18th
Eileen Brause	19th
Ian Harding	19th
Matthew Skarphol	19th
Fernande Anderson	23rd
Larry Beinert	23rd
Ben Gerlach	23rd
Freda Homolya	24th
Amie Alvarado	25th
Mack Coulter	25th
Tom Watson	25th
Chaz McInnelly	27th
Demi McInnelly	28th
Jackie St. Louis	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

Clara Padelford
2635 E. Southern, N-2402
Tempe, AZ 85282

Calendar Notes

July 3 & 4

Office Closed for Independence Day

July 16

Commission & Session meet

July 23

Sunday School Training

July 30

Monthly Food Drive



Dear FPC Family,

Thank you for supporting Fran, RJ and me during this so difficult time. Fran knew she was in God's care with you all there for her.

Tom and RJ Watson



See calendar on website:

<http://www.fpcmesa.org/about-us/current-events>

LA PALABRA

A publication for members and friends, published monthly.

First Presbyterian Church

161 North Mesa Drive

Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 480-964-8606

E-mail: pubs@fpcmesa.org

Website: www.fpcmesa.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 - 12:00 noon

Ann Conklin, Pastor

Mark Ramsey, Director of Music Ministries

Jasmine Couillard, Christian Education Director

Linda Reeves, Office Manager/Publications

Shiloh Murillo, Preschool Director

Don Krill, Buildings Supervisor

Anita Ramsey, Youth Director

Teresa Kiser, Bookkeeper

James R. Bruening, Pastor Emeritus

Robert Martz, Pastor Emeritus