FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTE IN TOUC Fountain Hills, AZ	
ECO A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians	FHPC VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS Our Vision: Living God's love. Calls us to Our Mission: Reach out to all with faith and love.

Jack Reynolds, Elder



I attended the Annual Gathering of ECO Pastors and Commissioners in Dallas from Feb 3 - 6. After 70 years of Presbyterian Sunday school and worshiping, I have never experienced such a spirited, Christ centered, uplifting event. The music alone was a joyous, hands clapping/ waving, palms up exciting part of this three-day happen-

ing. I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit each day.

The messages the speakers brought were full of hope and optimism not only for all the U.S. ECO Presbyteries but for the planting of churches and evangelism around the world. In Africa, the growth in the number of Christians has expanded from 360 million in 2000 to 619 million today. And the church in Iran (many being underground) is experiencing the fastest growth in the world with over half of the leaders being women. And the growth of ECO churches in the U.S. is bucking the trend of many other denominations. FHPC was number 121 in joining ECO on Dec. 14, 2016. We are now at 400 churches and growing. Hope Presbytery here in Arizona has 11 churches, with 9 attending this gathering. In total, 1,300 committed ECO Presbyterians experienced worship, enjoyed fellowship and conducted the "business" of the Synod at this convention

The first of three Keynote Speakers that I heard was Ruth Haley Barton, a renowned Christian author and lecturer. Her topic was The Soul and the human truths that are revealed through it. God formed our soul before we were born, keeps it evolving during our lifetime and accepts it into His Kingdom at our death for eternal presence with Him. Our Soul is a special place for God to dwell in us with truth. And what he places there may not always be in concurrence with our mind's thoughts or our plans. But to be in touch with what God is placing in our Soul we need to be settled: pray and listen for what God is saying to us.

The Soul is the essence, the DNA, of our being. It takes prayer, reflection and solitude to open the door to the Soul. But in our hectic, cellphone, internet world, the door to the Soul can easily be shut or get disconnected. Many of us, this goes for churches as well, are totally goal oriented. We strive for success with a focus on money and power. But Jesus taught, "What does it profit you if you gain the world but lose your own soul?" (Mark 8:36). We can, however, regain a disconnected soul by prayer and seeking solitude which creates space to listen. God doesn't want to compete with our busy lives. He wants us to yield open space to Him. Solitude is the place to wrestle with the truth. It is where the presence of God becomes reality. We want to stand with God in the place He provides. Let go to the will of God and be faithful against all odds.

The second Keynote speaker was Rev. Eugene Cho, founder and former Senior Pastor of Quest Church – an urban, multi-cultural and multi-generational church in Seattle. In 2009 he founded One Day's Wages (ODW) an organization dedicated to awareness and to alleviation of extreme global poverty. The vision of ODW is to create a collaborative movement that prioritizes and invites simple giving and supports sustainable relief through partnerships with organizations in developing regions. Eugene was recently honored as one of 50 Everyday American Heroes and a recipient of the Frederick Douglass 200. He spoke on the people God chooses to do His work on earth:

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Bill Good Pastor/Head of Staff

Tim & Christina Schlum Youth Directors

Marta Ludwig Administrative Coordinator Debbie Fisher Director of Music Ministry Dorothy Parris Pianist John Gallagher Custodian

CHURCH TREASURER Linda Lull

CHURCH SESSION Clerk of Session John Skewes

> Class of 2020 Joyce Leo Kristi Robinson Ron Waldo

Class of 2021 Ilene Berg Yvonne Ellingson Jack Reynolds Arlene Stewart

> Class of 2022 Maria Berry

Todd Corsello Tim Halchuck George Holtan John Scaggs

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator: Linda Warren

Class of 2020 Mary Lee Lehrich Bonnie Matty Diane Runfola Linda Warren

Class of 2021 Carol Hencz Phil Katz Mary Martinson

Class of 2022 Leslie Hermansen Matt Jefferson Dawn Lau Jim Stewart

Focus on Finance

Jan. Income	\$ 42,078	Budget	\$ 31,691
Jan. Expenses	\$ 31,209	Budget	\$ 32,832
Yr to date Income	\$ 42,078	YTD Budget	\$ 31,691
Yr to date Expense	\$ 31,209	YTD Budget	\$ 32,832

We had a good start to the new year with income exceeding expenses. This is always the case in the beginning of the year when attendance is much higher. We need to build up the operating reserves during the early months to prepare for the slow summer months. Thank you for your commitments to the church and to its programs.

Respectfully, Linda Lull, Treasurer





My sincerest apologies to Mike Pizzuto. Who was in the Member Spotlight in the February newsletter. His name happened to fall off the page and we did not catch it. Did anyone guess who it was?

- Marta Ludwig

On the Inside:

Jack Reynolds, Elder	I
Focus on Finance	2
Upcoming Events:	3
Mission Ministry	4
Choir Fest 2020	4
Support Our Troops	5
Maundy Thursday	5
Women's Ministries	6
Easter Baskets	7
Session Minutes	8
Not Yet a Member?	9
Sweetheart Brunch	10
Baptism	12
2020 Pat Covault Memorial Concert Series	13
US Military Medallions	13
Music Ministry	14
Member SpotlightDid you Know?	15
Homeless MATters	16
Thank You Note	16
Facebook	16
Library Footnotes	17
FHPC Foundation Invitation	18
Necrology for 2020	19
March Birthdays	19
Holy Week Schedule	20

March 2020

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE...

ANNUAL MEETING OF FHPC FOUNDATION

Thursday, March 19 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm | Fellowship Center

All FHPC members and friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting of the Foundation. We will discuss the Foundation annual financial report and have election of the Trustees. Guest speaker: Rachel Egboro, Philanthropic Advisor, AZ Community Foundation.

Arlene Stewart will be preparing a luncheon for this event.



Pat Covault Memorial Concert Series 2020

March 10, 2020

The Black Market Trust American Traditional Pop/Vocal Jazz with a Gypsy Flair

This 5 piece group is an American Traditional Pop/Vocal Jazz group. Be transported as they meld two distinctly different vibes- one of a gypsy campfire, the other a slick metropolitan nightclub- into a cohesive, stylish sound. THIS IS A HOT GROUP!!!

March 24, 2020

Southwest Surfers

The Ultimate Beach Boys Tribute & More Arizona's Premier Beach Boys Tribute -Providing each audience with a fun and high-energy exciting experience. You won't be able to sit still during this show, as they perform all those wonderful groups playing that "BEACH" music we all love. You'll hear a little Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, The Safaris doing "WIPE OUT", Jan and Dean and more.

The Season of Lent

The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and selfexamination to prepare us for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter.

Lenten Vespers provide an opportunity for us to explore and deepen our understanding of the events leading to Jesus' death and resurrection. These quiet meditative services include a homily by Pastor Bill, the Lords Supper and music to encourage meditation and reflection.

The candlelight services will be held from 6-7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings March 4 thru April 1.

Your attendance will keep this unique and meaningful service a tradition at FHPC.



HOLY LAND VIDEO SERIES Sponsored by the Women's Fellowship

"Infancy Series"

Saturday, March 21 at 12 noon Potluck Lunch

All Men & Women are Welcome!

Men's Sunday March 22, 2020 10:00 AM One service only!

Any man who wishes to join in singing in the Men's choir, please contact Roy Nickel at 480-688-8392.

A required rehearsal is on Thursday, March 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Come join in !! All have a fun and joyous experience!!

In Touch

Mission Ministry



Back to our winning ways, FHPC members gave support to the winning team collecting 75 cans and items in the Chiefs basket and 40 in the 49ers basket. 115 items were delivered to EHFB on Monday following the game. Thank you to all those who donated.

Jack Reynolds, Elder

ing the game. Thank you to all those who donated. The annual Food For Kidz food packing event will be

held at the Community Center on March 19th. We are soliciting volunteers who have an interest in helping with this fun event that provides food packets for children around the world as well as in AZ. We will meet in front of the center at 5:00. Please contact Susan Titus @ 608-332-1265 for more information. The annual collection for Blanket Sunday resulted in donations of

\$ 1899.00.

There may be more coming in so we will update the final tally next month. Thank you.





The Mission Committee is collecting prescription pill bottles for a future project. Please don't throw them away. Drop them off at the office.



CHOIR FEST

SUNDAY, March 22, 2020 2:00 PM

Fountain Hills Community Center

Several Church Choirs will singing in the annual Choir Fest

Support your FHPC Celebration Singers

All are welcome to this free event



CAN YOU SPARE \$1 PER WEEK?

This past fall, the Thursday morning Men's Bible Study Group decided to pick a mission program to support. The program chosen was FREE THE KIDS, a program that was already ongoing and designed to help children and their families in Haiti. Our local connection is Jack Reynolds. We agreed to each voluntarily donate \$1 (or more) per week. Is this a lot? No it is not, but over time, it adds up.

Now, we would like to extend two invitations. The first is for each person in the congregation to set aside \$1 per week and give it to this program. You can give weekly or when the chance arises. Put your dollars in an envelope marked "Free the Kids" and put it in the offering plate. If you want more information about the program or how you can help, contact the church office or Jack Reynolds. Also look for the brochures in the Narthex.

The second invitation is for the men of <u>the</u> church to come to the Men's Bible Study Group. We meet at 7:00AM on Thursday mornings in the Adult Center in the lower level of the Fellowship Hall. You will get coffee, donuts, and a chance to exchange your view of what the scripture says, with the others in the group. Don't be shy or think you have to be a Bible scholar to attend. Many times we have opposing views, but that is how we learn.

Support Our Troops



It is that time of year where updated addresses are needed for our Church-connected military to receive their Easter Cards which will be filled with hand-written notes from our Deacons, members of our Mission Committee and many other members of our

Church, including some of our kids and youth. Some of the cards will be mailed before the end of March because of deployment and those who are stationed stateside will have their cards mailed the first part of April. This is just a few weeks from now. Please, please. I ask that you give me your most updated address ASAP.

Hopefully within the next few weeks, I will be able to arrange a pick-up and delivery of your donations of books, magazines, CD's, and calendars to the Phoenix Veterans Hospital and Home and also hopefully be able to arrange a pick-up of the donated clothing, toiletries, jackets, socks, etc., by Community Bridges which items are then distributed to our local veterans and many of the homeless.

The Mission Committee is always happy to see many members placing items in our collection box located in the Narthex. Throughout the year, the signs may change depending on which Mission project is being worked on, but the one project that never stops and never changes throughout the entire year is our Mission Project for our Military and Veterans. The other locations for you to place your donations are the Fellowship Center on the left side as you enter and in the Church office. Gently used clothing, bedding, small household items, books, magazines, CD's, DVD's, puzzle books, calendars and toiletries are always needed. If you have any questions, just ask me. Thank you again for remembering our Veterans and our Troops.

Donna Sims, Mission Committee

Maundy Thursday, April 9 (6pm) - A Moveable Feast

Our worship begins with the recounting of the Maundy Thursday story around candlelit tables in our Fellowship Center as we share in a "family style" meal of rice and beans served by 1st Century disciples. This "meager meal" is typical of food eaten by 2/3 of our Christian brothers and sisters and reflects our response to Christ's command that "the first shall be last. . ." as well as our participation in his call to sacrifice and surrender.

As dinner progresses, we will meet five of the key participants in the unfolding story of that fateful night who will share their stories with us.

"And after supper, he took a cup. . . ." And so will we as we adjourn together to our Sanctuary to share in the Lord's Supper amidst appropriate music and scripture. Finally, as the events of the night darken around us, we will drape our Sanctuary in black cloths and depart to face Good Friday.

As part of our evening's worship, we will gather a free will offering to be given to Extended Hands Food Bank for care of our needy neighbors here in Fountain Hills. We ask that you consider donating an amount equal to what you might have spent on a night out at your favorite restaurant. "As you did it to the least of these, you did it to me..."



Women's Ministry

_______ March March 3 1:30 pm Afternoon Circle 9:30 am March 12 Morning Circle March 16 7:00 am Evening Circle March 18 10:00 am Hooked on Books March 18 12:00 pm Out 'n About Luncheon March 20 9:00 am Women's Fellowship Monthly Meeting (Fireside)

AFTERNOON CIRCLE

First Tuesday | March 3 | 1:30 pm Fountain View Village, Assisted Living Activity Room

Choose the Future (Chapter 3 pages 31-44, 203-204, 211-212) in THE LAST ARROW by Erwin R McManus. "Kiss your past good-bye" addresses poor choices & hurtful consequences,

chaotic relationships, detrimental selfesteem etc. Elisha was warned that no one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for God's kingdom. With different nuances, Jesus gives each would-be follower the same answer: set your past on fire. Interested in THE FUTURE OF THE PAST?

Jane Allen, Leader 907-538-3223

MORNING CIRCLE 9:30 am | Thursday | March 12 | Adult Center

We will be discussing "Storied Truth" from Parables by John MacArthur. This is a bonus lesson. Please read the section and answer the questions in the accompanying workbook. Our next book will be Twelve Extraordinary

Women by the same author. Join us for conversation and prayer. For information call Monique 336-382-8733.

Out 'n About—Out to Lunch

March 18th | 12 noon | Red Robin

Join the group for a burger, milk shake and more! Red Robin is located on Shea just before the 101 Pima freeway.

Call Nancy Wulfmeier at 837-3021



EVENING CIRCLE

Monday | March 16 | 7:00 pm home of Maria Berry at 14923 E. Summit Dr.

Evelyn Hrunek will be leading the seventh study of the Ten Commandments entitled Words of Love: Do Not Steal. This month's discussion will

be centered around expanding our understanding of stealing beyond the concept of disrespect for personal property. Yvonne Prater will be our hostess.

We hope you will consider joining us. Donna Yordy 480-837-6169 dyordy3@yahoo.com



DEVEREUX EASTER BASKETS

Sign ups for Easter Baskets will be Sundays March 15, 22 and 27. Return to Church Office or at Sunday services no later than Sunday, APRIL 5th!

HOOKED ON BOOKS

March 18th | 10am | home of Carol Fuls

We will once again be privileged to have our great reviewer of fascinating books, Donna Yordy, be our main attraction. You will not want to miss this!



If you have any questions, please call Elsie Hoffarber - 480-837-4518 or Carol Fuls - 480-836-2346.

page 6





Annual Gathering of ECO

Continued from page 1...

- They are marked by their faith in Jesus
- They are marked by a spirit of compassion
- They are marked by action they change lives by doing They are marked by a spirit of collaboration – the work of the Kingdom of God cannot be done by one person. We need partners. They are marked by a spirit of perseverance – they may get discouraged but they

The third speaker was Rev. Dr. Sameh Maurice. He is the Senior Pastor of Kasr El Dobara Church in Egypt. He is a former prominent surgeon and was always involved in ministry throughout his medical career. In 1988 he was called to ministry. He has been working with evangelical churches in Egypt and throughout the Middle East since. He shared his ministry with us.

don't give up.

After each main session there were breakout sessions totaling 39 in number. Many focused on pastoral life and issues. I elected to attend the ones whose topics were on Mission: Global Engagement Connections. The first was led by ECO staff and outside partners including: The Outreach Foundation, The Antioch Partners and World Renew. I have a description as to how each one conducts their mission but due to space restrictions in this article, I ask if you are interested, please see me.

The second Breakout Session focused on "building a better Mission Team" at your church. This session was well attended by church pastors and elders mainly from larger churches with significant budgets. I have written a report for the FHPC Mission Committee to review. Please let me know if this is of interest and I will share.

The third Session was titled "The Great Commission Today: Disci-

pling and Deploying God's people for cross-cultural engagement." I have a two-page summary of this Session and have distributed it to our elders. It is available to any member.

In addition to the guest speakers and breakout sessions I attended two worship services, including one for our Hope Presbytery, which was centered on the Ordination of Luke Parker, who is planting a church in downtown Phoenix.

I was honored to attend and represent FHPC at the National Gathering. Thank you for the opportunity and I would encourage elders to attend the gathering next year in San Antonio although there will be no Synod business conducted. I found my faith grow at the convention and the music and messages heard are staying in the forefront of my soul.

> - Jack Reynolds, Mission Elder

9th Year! DEVEREUX EASTER BASKETS

Your generosity will bless 55 girls and boys!

Women's Fellowship of Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church asks for your generosity in filling Easter Baskets for young ones, ages 8 to 17, who are residents of Devereux Residential Treatment Center, Scottsdale AZ. They are developmentally and/or behaviorally challenged, and cannot live at home; some have never received an Easter Basket.

 \times



Session Minutes

FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Regular Session Meeting Minutes 5:00 PM - January 21, 2020 – Fellowship Center

Present: Pastor Bill Good, Clerk of Session John Skewes, Elders Joyce Leo, Kristi Robinson, Ron Waldo, Ilene Berg, Yvonne Ellingson, Jack Reynolds, Arlene Stewart, Maria Berry, Todd Corsello, Tim Halchuck, George Holtan and John Scaggs.

Absent: Elder Nancy Grahlmann Also Present: Art Spalding The Session Meeting was called to order with a prayer by Pastor Bill Good at 5:00 pm. A quorum was established. <u>Treasurer's Report</u> - Elder of Finance Tim Halchuck presented the Treasurer's Report as FHPC Treasurer Linda Lull was unavailable for the Session Meeting. The Treasurer's Report is attached.

<u>Introduction of Guests & Speak-Out Time</u> – Art Spalding, the Chair of the Capital Campaign Committee, presented and reviewed a copy of the Committee's Annual Report for 2019. After the January 2020 payment, the FHPC mortgage balance is now \$219,890. The amount of unpaid pledges stands at \$52,906. Mr. Spalding estimated that 60% of FHPC pledging units are participating in the Capital Campaign – although Mr. Spalding cautioned that was just an estimate. The Session thanked Art Spalding for all of his efforts in this critical endeavor.

Under *Speak-Out Time*, Mr. Spalding recommended FHPC congregants receive an advanced distribution of the upcoming Session AGENDA. Pastor Good stated the AGENDA often is not finalized until the very afternoon of the Session Meeting, which would defeat the usefulness of an advanced distribution.

<u>Devotional</u> – Pastor Good inspired the Session with devotional readings.

<u>Approval of Minutes from previous Session Meeting</u> – The minutes from the December 17, 2019 Session Meeting were approved as presented.

<u>Presbytery Report</u> – The next meeting will be at the ECO National Gathering on February 4, 2020 in Dallas, Texas.

<u>Clerk's Report</u> – Clerk of Session presented the Session with the following:

Communions on January 5, 2020: At FHPC - $\underline{136/31}$ At Home Communion - $\underline{6}$

No Baptisms, Memorials or Weddings

Worship Attendance - 12/22 - <u>134/28</u>; 12/24 - <u>85</u> (4 pm) + <u>152</u> (7 pm); 12/29 - <u>86</u>; 105 - <u>136/31</u>; 1/12 - <u>157/37</u>; 1/19 - <u>170/24</u>

<u>Housekeeping Items</u> – Session Members signed up for *In Touch* cover stories and the *Brief Story of Faith* portions of Session Meetings. It was m/s/c to approve the communion dates for 2020 as published in the Elders 2020 FHPC binders.

<u>Moderator's Report</u> - Pastor Good detailed all his pastoral activities since the last Session Meeting. It was an impressive number of activities he undertakes.

Pastor Good will be away the first week of February at the ECO National Gathering in Dallas, Texas and also the last week of February when he travels to Houston, Texas to attend a seminar on (a) resolving conflicts and (b) training in conciliation of parties in conflict.

Pastor Bob Simmons will be filling in for Pastor Good during the continuous communion service on Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

The five weeks of Vespers will continue in 2020, and the Maundy Thursday service will be the same as last year, with hopes that a meal will be provided. After a brief discussion a motion was m/ s/c to suspend the vigil service on the Saturday night before Easter for this year - primarily due to disappointing attendance in the past despite efforts to increase participation.

ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Tim Halchuck, Elder of Finance, presented Session with a proposed 2020 Budget. The Budget lists *Revenues* of \$398,890 and *Expenses* of \$415,053 – leaving a cash flow shortfall of (\$16,163) for 2020. Session approved the 2020 Budget, with a discussion about on-going efforts to close the cash flow shortfall. A motion was m/s/c to approve Pastor Bill Good's 2020 Manse at \$43,768.

A motion was m/s/c to establish a *Design Committee* to renovate the Fellowship Center stage using a \$1,000 grant from the FHPC Foundation. Ron Waldo was elected Chair and will submit recommendations to Session for approval.

COUNCIL REPORTS: ACTION REQUIRED

<u>Building and Grounds</u> – Elder Holtan noted a growing problem from the tenants of the Arrive Apartments using the FHPC parking lot without permission. A suggested approach was to meet with the owners and/or management company and ask them to kindly inform/police their tenants not to use the FHPC parking lot. Art Spalding volunteered to assist George Holtan. The entire display table used to promote the Columbarium Biblical Garden, and accept contributions, is sometimes taken down for certain events and not replaced. The display table should remain set up during "other" activities to highlight the beauty/ majesty of the Columbarium Biblical Garden.

<u>Personnel –</u> Elder Arlene Stewart reiterated she was greatly in favor of Pastor Bill Good attending the seminar in Houston, Texas on resolving conflicts and training in conciliation of parties in conflict. Elder Stewart also encouraged Elders to take advantage of the resources which are offered at the *ECO* and *Church Mutual* websites. These resources could prove very helpful and prevent someone from having to "reinvent the wheel." The discourse continues with a group renting FHPC facilities over a recent FHPC change in their meeting room location. The group wants a refund of the \$300 paid in rental fees this year plus \$225 to cover the cost of securing a new location. The Session will only agree to return their unused rental deposit.

<u>Safety</u> – Elder Halchuck is exploring a prototype programmable lock for the door to the Adult Center. The door lock could be reprogrammed when there is a change in people authorized to open the building. If the prototype lock proves workable, it may be considered for the entire FHPC campus.

Elder Halchuck received a vendor's proposal regarding intruder situations. Mr. Halchuck was unconvinced the money would be well spent. Pastor Good recommended Elder Halchuck contact the Baptist Church as they are further down on the road on this issue and would be willing to share their knowledge.

<u>Worship and Music</u> – Elder Ilene Berg reminded Elders to go to the Sanctuary Kitchen right after the service to coordinate Homebound assignments. Separately, FHPC is losing its longtime florist and will need a replacement. <u>Outreach & Communications</u> – Elder John Scaggs noted Pastor Good sometimes spends several minutes reading announcements before the Sunday service, time which would be better spent worshipping God. A recorded message of announcements was tried recently, but its production time/ effort took more energy than it was worth. Pastor Good will implore the congregation to read the information contained in the bulletin, reducing time spent for announcements.

<u>COUNCIL REPORTS – CONSENT AGENDA-</u> m/s/c to accept Council Reports.

<u>BRIEF STORY OF FAITH</u> – Elder Halchuck provided a moving *Brief Story of Faith*.

The Session Meeting adjourned with a prayer at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Skewes, Clerk of Session

Are You a Partner in FHPC?

Most of us know about "Covenant Partners" – these are folks who have made the decision to call FHPC their "home church" and have formally entered into a commitment which grants them full rights of membership – including the ability to speak *and* vote in formal church meetings.

But did you know that ECO also affords us the opportunity to enlist "Affiliate Partners" in our congregation? This acknowledges that a special relationship exists between you and your FHPC family, *in addition to* your primary membership, which remains at another "home church" – back in Minnesota, for example. Becoming an Affiliate Partner witnesses to your engagement in life at FHPC, allows you to participate in church meetings and speak to the issue(s) at hand, while lacking only the right to vote. Is FHPC your church "home away from home"? Consider "Affiliate Partnership" as a way to say so.

Interested? Contact Pastor Bill or Yvonne Ellingson (480-471-1027) or Aleyne Larsen-Craig. (602-625-6201), Outreach Elders.

Not Yet A Member?

*If you are attending our church and don't have membership in another church, you can join our church by profession of faith and receiving the Sacrament of Baptism or, if you've already been baptized, you can join by <u>reaffirmation of faith in</u> Jesus Christ.

*If you belong to another church, but would like to transfer your membership to our church, we can arrange for a <u>letter of transfer</u> from your current membership church to ours.

*If you are a winter visitor, and are an active member of another church "back home", you can become an <u>affiliate partner</u> at our church here and maintain your full active membership there.

For additional information, please contact Yvonne Ellingson at 480-471-1027 or John Scaggs at 937-510-7976 or call the church office at 480-837-1763.





John Scaggs

Yvonne Ellingson



Sweetheart Brunch

Kudos to all who make this year's Sweetheart Brunch such a fun time. We had 112 reservation, making this brunch one of our largest in some time. From the planning get-go we had a great group of men readily volunteer to make the event successful. Todd Corsello was outstanding as our cowboy emcee. Lots of guys efficiently handled set up, ticket sales, clean up and publicity. Putting in the most hours slaving over hot ovens were great cooks Art Spalding, Bob Lull, Jack Morris, Bill Matty and Bob Titus. George Holtan artfully arranged the flowers and cut the cake. Thanks again to Stacey Nelson for sending us quiches, sausage and pastries, all gratis, for the event. The brunch was highlighted by vocalists Nancy Damone and Larry Arbanis.

Special thanks are due Ron Waldo for putting together an outstanding video of our "youthful" church members who graciously lent their old photos. Thanks to all of you who did.

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED! - Bob Titus and Bill Matty









March 2020

Sweetheart Brunch



page 12

Baptism



Congratulations to the Martinson family: Kent & Mary Martinson (grandparents), Tyler & Mai Martinson (parents), brother Ryder and baby Chloe Thi Martinson upon her baptism on Sunday, February 9.

ANCIENT GUIDANCE ON PRAYER

When we pray, we are not to pray for ourselves alone. We do not say "My Father, who are in heaven" or, "Give me this day my daily bread"; we do not ask for our own trespasses alone to be forgiven; and when we pray that we may be delivered from evil, we are not praying only for ourselves either.

Our prayer is for the general good, for the common good. When we pray, we do not pray for our own single selves; we pray for all God's people, because they and we are one.

- Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage (third century)

-The Newsletter Newsletter by Communication Resources, Inc

Pat Covault Memorial Concert Series 2020

March 10, 2020

The Black Market Trust American Traditional Pop/Vocal Jazz with a Gypsy Flair This 5 piece group is an American Traditional Pop/ Vocal Jazz group. Be transported as they meld two distinctly different vibes- one of a gypsy campfire,

March 24, 2020

the other a slick metropolitan nightclub- into a cohesive, stylish sound. THIS IS A HOT GROUP!!!

Southwest Surfers The Ultimate Beach Boys Tribute & More

Arizona's Premier Beach Boys Tribute -Providing each audience with a fun and high-energy exciting experience. You won't be able to sit still during this show, as they perform all those wonderful groups playing that "BEACH" music we all love. You'll hear a little Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, The Safaris doing "WIPE OUT", Jan and Dean and more.

INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICING

GOLD SECTION	- \$30 ea
First 5 rows reserved	
FUCHSIA SECTION	- \$25 ea
Rows 6-7 reserved	
TEAL SECTION	- \$20 ea
Rows 8-10 General Admission	
NARTHEX & CHOIR SECTION	-\$15 ea
General Admission	

ALL PERFORMANCES AT 7 PM

For ticket purchase call: 480-837-1763 Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

Of rocks and repentance

Before recently closing to tourists, Australia's majestic Uluru (formerly called Ayers Rock) was popular with climbers. Many took home illegal souvenirs, sometimes later mailing them back to park rangers after experiencing what they considered bad luck. So many pilfered mementos were returned, often with notes of apology, that rangers called them "sorry rocks." The returns merely created more work for park staff, who urged visitors not to take specimens in the first place.

"Sorry rocks" is a fitting image for our sins, which the Bible describes as weights and entanglements (see Hebrew 12:1). As sinners, we can't remove those heavy burdens on our own. But through Christ's redeeming work on our behalf, we can "return" the rocks of wrongdoing. When we repent and seek forgiveness, God promises to "remember (our) sins no more" (Hebrews 8:12).

-The Newsletter Newsletter by Communication Resources, Inc



U.S. Military Medallions for our Veterans

for our Columbarium niches are now available. Please call or stop by the church office for more information.





Lenten Season

Lenten Season... preparation and prayer season, a season where we strive for true humility after the likeness in Whom God's Only Son revealed in Himself.

We have Wednesday Vesper Services that are very precious to this season. We are blessed by these beautiful services. The Music for these services is most gentle, and reflective, and it brings our thoughts, and our prayers to the forefront. It's a beautiful process and engages us deeply. These services compliment our weekly

Sunday Worship experiences

Debbie Fisher, Director of Music

leading us into the joy of Easter, and the truth of His resurrection.

Our Celebration Ringers will be taking part in the "Choir Fest 2020" held at the Community Center on March 22, at 2:00 p.m.. We look forward to this fabulous event of Anthems and song as each choir performs 2 pieces. We end in singing the glorious "Hallelujah Chorus" with 200 voices joined together. It works so well to strengthen our Spirit. Also on March 22, our Men's Sunday will bring together our Men's Chorus. They make a wonderful sound!

There is music everywhere, and I hope you are lifted by the spirit of these wonderful people providing it for you! We love to be together, making new music each week, rehearsing and making good effort to glorify God in our presentation. Anyone is welcome to partake in the joy we live, day by day, week by week, year by year, as we journey onward together in love.

> "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts." Psalm 139:23

Deborah Fisher Director of Music Ministries Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church-ECO







May the SUM shine all day long. everything go right and nothing wrong. May those you love bring love back to you and may all the wishes you wish come true!

Member Spotlight Did you know?

My name is Fred Hansen. I was born and raised in north Jersey, about 10 miles from New York City. My youth was quite normal. I grew up in a home with my parents, my grandmother, an older brother and sister. Church and the Lord were a part of my upbringing. I was confirmed at the age of 14 in the Lutheran Church.

After high school, I had an opportunity to go to college thanks to my high school baseball coach and guidance counselor. A year ago, I shared this part of my story with church

members, so I will not repeat that segment of my life.

In college, I met my first wife, Nancy, and we shared a wonderful married life. We had three boys and together we raised them in a loving Christian home. Over the years, I worked in university alumni relations as well as being the Director of Development raising monies for the universities. Nancy and I went to Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Florida State University in Tallahassee, Illinois State in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois and Mississippi State in Starkville, Mississippi. In 1991, Nancy was diagnosed with liver cancer. At that time, treatment for that type of cancer as not very successful. She died five months later. We were married 34 years.

At the time of her death, I was working at

Mississippi State and was Director of Development and President of the Foundation. We had just launched a 115million-dollar campaign. My immediate goal was to move forward in my life, and with God's help, complete my commitment to Mississippi state. The boys (one in college, one married, and one living with me) were my concern as well as the campaign.

About a year later, my life took a major turn. A friend of Nancy's and mine from our Michigan days notified everyone on her Christmas List that she was divorcing. I was saddened to hear this and noticed that the envelope was addressed to Nancy and myself. Because it was not December yet, I had not written my Christmas letter and this person did not know Nancy had passed away. I immediately decided I had to call her and inform her of my loss and express my condolences for the upcoming divorce. She responded to my call with sadness as she loved Nancy also. Well — that phone call changed my life.



Fred Hansen

That lady is now my wife. To this day, we are still surprised at how things have turned out. Bab and I talked on the phone for 6 months and exchanged cards and letters. We had not seen each other in 30 years, just communicating through Christmas letters. When Nancy and I were in Michigan, our boys played hockey with Barb's boys and we spent many hours in the ice rink watching our children. I told her she needed a change of scenery and invited her to come and see the Mississippi State/Alabama football game as Alabama was

#1 in the nation that year. Having practically secluded herself from everything but work and her family, trying to heal, she initially said she couldn't come. Within a week or two, she changed her mind and said yes — she would come visit me. We laugh at this sometimes as we think Nancy had something to do with this. Nancy had told my boys before she died that if I ever had a chance to find happiness again to make sure that they were supportive.

As they say, the rest is history. What a great weekend and the airlines loved us after that! Much travel between Mississippi and Arizona resulted in our being married 6 months later. Yes, our children (who all knew each other when they were young (6-10 years old) thought it was great that we were dating but marriage plans seemed to be too soon. We heard their concerns, but listened to our hearts, flew to Las Vegas and married. It did not take long for the

kids to realize it was a great decision on our part. To say the least, my marriage to Barb has been an unbelievable adventure. She has kept me happy, laughing, traveling, and feeling younger than I ever thought I would feel at this age. We both feel extremely blessed.

It was much easier for me to move to AZ as Barb could not breath well in Mississippi due to her asthma. When I moved to AZ, I took a job with the Payson Regional Medical Center which was a non-profit hospital. They needed a Director of Development to launch a fund-raising program for a surgical suite at the hospital. We were all happy with the success of the campaign and in 1996 the hospital was purchased by a conglomerate company which was in the profit-making business. This change was made in the perfect time for me to retire.

Looking back at my life, I count the blessings of faith, two spectacular wives, 3 sons, 3 stepchildren, 11 grandchildren and two great-grandsons. Thank you, Lord, for your gracious guidance and love.

BIBLE: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth

Recall the old story of the grandmother who was reading the Bible. When her grandson asked her why, she said, "I'm getting ready for my final exam."

Homeless MATters



A Project for the Homeless Turning grocery plastic bags into mats

The youth group at FHPC volunteered to help our project as well as the ladies of the church. If you wish to volunteer for this worthwhile project, just call the church office or Donna Yordy at 480-837-6169.



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"Tony and I can't begin to thank all of you so very much for all of your special cards, texts, emails, phone calls,

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prayers and Facebook posts. They gave us hope, encouragement, love, peace and the strength to face and cope with each day. Tony's severe leg infection led us both in so many directions going on 6 weeks now including 4 weeks in the hospital and 5 surgeries with at least one more in the future for regular skin grafting to close both incisions. We have so many ups and downs and still a long journey to hopefully a good recovery. But we also have all of you surrounding us with prayers to move us forward with the courage needed to face whatever is in our path. "

> Much Love & Blessings, Connie & Tony Harris

Leeeeeeeeeeee

Facebook

FACEBOOK PAGE: Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

Go to our website and click on Facebook on our home page. When you are there also click on the like it icon.



When you do that you will get news feeds directly from our site whenever anything new is added. It is just another way to stay connected.



Library Footnotes

Practice Resurrection by Eugene H. Peterson

This book is a conversation on growing up in Christ written by Eugene Peterson, the author of *the Message*, a contemporary rendering of the Bible from the original languages. Peterson has written many books including a five volume spiritual theology series with *Practice Resurrection* as his fifth and culminating contribution. Author Marva J. Dawn calls this book "a lifetransforming book for us all." In 2011 it was the winner of Christianity Today's award for the best book in spirituality.

Eugene Peterson uses Paul's letter to the Ephesians throughout the book. Growth IN Christ and character formation for the Christian are explored by him. An emphasis is placed on their application to life and potential value to the church. The author acknowledges that there is hypocrisy in the church, but no church can avoid the reality of communal imperfection. Yet most churches do strive for perfection. The author of Practice Resurrection says "Church is an appointed gathering of named people in particular who practice a life of resurrection in a world in which death gets the biggest headlines... The practice of resurrection is not an attack on the world of death; it is a nonviolent embrace of life in the country of death." Many of the questions we have about the church are answered in this book.

How much of the church would be transfigured if we could more fully live as one with Christ in His Resurrection? The book of Ephesians describes the ways and means by which the Holy Spirit forms church out of just such lives as ours. These are the conditions that make it possible for us to grow up in Christ – to become mature. Peterson asks the question: "Why do so many of us who see Jesus every day of the week never see him?" The real question is: Why do we see God's handiwork every day but don't really see His son resurrected as our personal Savior and Lord? We miss seeing the forests because we concentrate on the trees.

Practice Resurrection is easy to read, challenging and recommended. Peterson is inspiring and thought-provoking. This book, if read slowly and carefully, facilitates a "conversation on growing up

in Christ." It also is timely based on the sermons and studies which are going on at FHPC. We are blessed with an excellent church library made possible by the work of a dedicated group of women. Why not take advantage of the available resources as you continue to grow in Christ?



- John Bivens



Sunrise at Fountain Park Submitted by Joyce Hartley

WHOSE HAND HOLDS YOUR HEART?

Talk-show host Larry King said that ever since his open-heart surgery he has felt a special connection with his surgeon, Dr. Wayne Isom. It's because Dr. Isom had actually held Larry's heart in his hand.

Christians are those who have allowed Christ to hold their hearts in his hand. The security Christ offers is found in these words: "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:27-28, NRSV).

> -The Newsletter Newsletter by Communication Resources, Inc

page 17

FH Presbyterian Church Foundation

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Foundation

"An Investment Today for the Life of Our Church Tomorrow"



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The FHPC Foundation is registered as a 501[c][3] non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. The Foundation's tax ID number is 46-2970452

March 2020



With deepest sympathy we list those members who have passed away in 2020.

> Don Stark Bernie Christenson

Well done, Thou good and faithful servant.... Enter thou into the joy Of thy Lord."

Matthew 25:21

CLOSE AT HEART

No distant Lord have I, loving afar to be; made flesh for me, he cannot rest until he rests in me. Brother in joy and pain, bone of my bone was he; more intimate and closer still—he dwells himself in me. I need not journey far, this dearest friend to see; companionship is always mine; he makes his home with me.

Hospitalized? Call the church!

If you are sick, hospitalized or home recovering from illness, we want you to call the church and let us know! In a congregation like ours where people leave in droves for extended summer months, it is easy for the staff, elders and deacons to assume, when we don't see someone, that they are simply "vacationing away." The truth is that some of you are sick and we are not aware of it. You can help us by simply letting one of the staff know of your situation. We have an excellent support system in place due to the diligent efforts of our deacons. Help us serve you by communicating your situation.

GOD'S WONDERS

People travel to wonder at the height of the mountains, at the huge waves of the seas, at the long course of the rivers, at the vast compass of the ocean, at the circular motion of the stars, and yet they pass by themselves without wondering.

- St. Augustine

-The Newsletter Newsletter by Communication Resources, Inc

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

- 3/3 Pam O'Hara
- 3/7 De Amend
- 3/7 Kathy Cole
- 3/9 Mary Lou Dresser
- 3/11 Jay Moyer
- 3/13 Sandra Coultrap
- 3/13 Jim Roy
- 3/20 Judy Hamouda
- 3/22 Len Modder
- 3/24 Helen Quigley
- 3/26 Phil Katz
- 3/27 Virginia Nelson
- 3/29 Bill Good
- 3/29 Donna Lyons
- 3/29 Terri Schmidt
- 3/30 Kurt Ahrens
- 3/31 Dallas Amend
- 3/31 Matt Jefferson

In Touch is published monthly; deadline for each issue is the **15th** of the month before publication. News and information should be submitted to the church office in hard copy, or email to fhpc.marta@gmail.com Editor, Marta Ludwig; Proof Readers: Phyllis Rapp ; Staff Photographer: Gary Oakeson



Wednesday Vespers	March 4, 11 April 1	l, 18, 25 6:00-7:00 pm	Sanctuary Candlel	ight, prayer and sacred song
Palm Sunday	April 5	9:00 am 11:15am	Sanctuary Fellowship Center	
Maundy Thursday	April 9	6:00 pm	Fellowship Center	A Movable Feast (see page 5)
Good Friday	April 10	Noon-1:00pm	Mt View Presbyterian 8050 E	Church Mt. View Rd, Scottsdale
Easter - The Day of I	Resurrection	6.00		

April 12	6:00 am	Easter Sunrise Service (Fountain Park)
	9:00 am	Traditional Service
	10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt
	11:15 am	Casual Service

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