



Mustard Seed

Look Inside for Further Details July 2025

-  New Elders
-  Getting to Know You
-  Feeling the Love at Faith



How many flags can you find in the MS?



Contents

Pastor’s Letter.....	2
New Elders.....	3
Painting Class.....	4
Habitat.....	5
Getting to Know You.....	6 & 7
PW Women.....	8
Valley View Food Bank.....	9
Men’s Fellowship.....	10
Prayer Warriors.....	10
Birthdays.....	11



Dear Members and Friends of Faith,

Tempus fugit. Time flies. My monthly measures are two-fold. First, I conduct a service every second Sunday at the Royal Oaks retirement center. Second, my Mustard Seed article is due every third week. When MaryJo reminds me each month of both, it seems like I just finished the last. Fortunately, I really like both opportunities.

When I write an article or prepare a sermon, I do so with you in mind. I don't write in a vacuum, but envision the many people in different places that will receive the message and in many life circumstances. I marvel at all the different ways that members and friends of Faith Presbyterian are involved with the very life of the church.

This we should not take for granted. The apostle Paul knew that church cannot operate on automatic-pilot. Well, OK, that term was not around in Paul's day, but you get the gist. The church must be in a constant state of renewal, and Paul found himself revisiting and recommunicating with the early churches.

When I read through all of Paul's letters (whether indisputably Paul or possibly penned by colleagues), I am somewhat surprised at the percentage of time he is correcting and admonishing, rather than encouraging. However, the success of the Christian church was never a given. I, too, could admonish the wider church, especially the traditional denominational church, on its lack of adaptability and relevance in recent decades. The church as a whole is weathering a storm of change in culture, pressure from the outside.

This includes Faith Presbyterian and the culture even here in Sun City. However, and this is a big "however", the spirit within the church has remained strong! Faith has been the beneficiary of strong pastoral and lay leadership for years before Anne and I arrived on the scene. With newly ordained elders and continued faithful and active deacons, this remains the case. Add to that a team that has worked on a Vision Process for the future, and we have a vibrant organization of which I believe Paul would be proud.

Let's consider Paul to be speaking to us in 1 Thessalonians 5:

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

I believe God's will is for good for our church. Continue to pray, give and thank. I am thankful for each one of you.

Peace and blessings, Pastor Greg

Faith office & campus

will be closed

Monday, July 7, 2025





Newest Elders at Faith

Sunday, June 22, 2025

Susan Ross

Ken Schaller

Jean Flower

Kathey Owens

Jim Grosskleg - will be
ordained at a later date.



Feeling the love at Faith!



Thank you!



Thank you to Jo Gilmore, Jean Flowers, and Doris Swofford who purchased a Pineapple Palm Tree in loving memory of their beloved husbands.

Thank you ladies.

Summer Painting Class

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

10:00am - Council Room

Come join us for a fun get together out of the heat. Painting class is limited to 20 people. \$10 per person. Teacher is Julie Larrson. Please call or text Pat Redden contact info is in the church directory to reserve your spot. Congregational Life.



Yarn Angels Projects



Yarn Angels make beautiful baby blankets. Estrella Willemssen is a member of the Yarn Angel group who delivered 15 baby blankets to Choices Pregnancy Center in Glendale. Each woman who has an ultrasound receives a blanket for her unborn baby. Faith – Yarn Angels are proud to be part of this ministry.

Many different prayer shawls are made by our Yarn Angel members. Sue Benson crocheted this colorful prayer shawl. It was delivered to one of the Presbyterian Women, Celena, from the Guadalupe Presbyterian Church who was very ill. She loves it and wears it everywhere.

Barbara Munn



A big "Thank You" to Mary Autio for all the wonderful pictures she continues to provide for the Mustard Seed Newsletter.



Jeff Sinley met with Adriana Olaque-Steele of Habitat for Humanity of Central Arizona to present a check from Faith Presbyterian. Adriana is the Habitat contact for the West Valley Presbyterian Coalition. The check will help the West Vally Presbyterian Coalition support the upcoming home build starting in the fall. Church members can make individual contributions to Habitat for this year's home build. See Jeff Sinley for the donation form.



On April 26th Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona and the West Valley Presbyterian Coalition held a dedication for this year's Habitat home. Jeff and Maria Sinley represented Faith at the dedication.



**Summer Singalong
July 10 & 24, 2025
6:00-7:30pm**



Getting to Know You....

From: Nancy Christy-Moore



A LONG AND WINDING ROAD



That song reminds me of my life so far. Beginning in New Rochelle, New York, my life has taken many twists and turns before winding up here in sunny Surprise, Arizona. My family moved often as my dad was a traveling salesman so had new territories, and I had many new adventures growing up. Raised in a Presbyterian family, I learned all about church and God. I had one older brother (now deceased) and many pets, cats mostly and a few dogs along the way. I spent my early childhood in Ottumwa, and later Des Moines, Iowa, before moving to Indianapolis, Indiana for my Jr. and Sr. High School years.

Upon graduation from High School (Shortridge), I went to Christian College in Columbia, MO with several scholarships in Art (my major). My mother was a professional in the art field (Fashion Illustrator) and was responsible for introducing me to the wonderful world of drawing and painting from an early age. She persuaded me to enter commercial art studies and sent me to the American Academy of Art in Chicago and then on to the Art Center School in Los Angeles where we moved after my father passed away.

It was there that I decided commercial art wasn't for me and in my early twenties set out in the business world with typing and good English my only keys to success in that arena. I joined the Lutheran Church there and met and married my first husband, Tom. Along came my daughter, Lori Anne. Sadly, my marriage to Tom didn't work out and I divorced him. Meanwhile, I worked my way up to secretarial, then executive secretarial, then office manager positions and even a marketing representative for a fledgling health plan.

Art was on the back burner then, but I did start painting again after I married Jack Moore in the early 70's and we moved to Lake Arrowhead, CA. after a brief few years in Oceanside, CA.

It was there that I decided to quit the business world and become the painter I had always wanted to be. I began teaching at art centers and exhibiting my work. After 8 years "on the mountain" we moved to Murrietta, CA and I began exhibiting in Laguna Beach and other Orange County and San Diego galleries. We spent many happy years in California before Jack had a serious heart problem and we had to change gears, so to speak.

We moved to Kansas where my brother and several nephews and a niece live, and my husband started working with my brother. I continued painting and teaching both at art centers and community colleges. I taught both in San Diego County and in Johnson County at Johnson County Community College. I taught both day and evening classes in watercolor and mixed media. Later I had a full-time job for about two years at the University of Kansas as a Department Secretary and taught art classes in the evenings both at the local Lawrence Art Center and in the large basement of our home there. Tragedy struck in 2002 when my daughter passed away from a horrible six-month bout with cancer at the age of 33. Only my faith and my wonderful husband got me through those times. Two years later we grew tired of the Kansas winters and headed west to Glendale, AZ where my husband found work. We lived in a manufactured home community there for 8 years and yes, I had a small studio there.

In 2011 we decided to sell our manufactured home and join the single-family home community in Sierra Montana in Surprise. We found a wonderful home and converted the third car garage into my studio! During those years I was once again teaching workshops at art centers and doing demonstrations for art groups all over Arizona, which I am still doing occasionally. Up until 2019 Jack and I had a wonderful life, and in his retirement, we had many great adventures traveling when I wasn't teaching or doing exhibits and painting. We set up our house for the annual Spring Studio Open Houses I still do every year. Jack put up all the lighting as well as helping carry the paintings to all the years I exhibited in the Hidden in the Hills Art Tours (10 years)! Then in May of 2019, God took my Jack home. And of course, shortly thereafter Covid hit, and I was pretty much shut down for almost 2 years. Yes, I kept on painting and exhibiting my work; teaching was very limited. And again, my faith kept me sane.

After much soul searching and guidance by the Holy Spirit and prayers, I began yearning for a return to attending worship services. Because of recent health concerns many churches began streaming their services and I started watching a different service every week to see which I would like to attend. After finding the services very comfortable at Faith, I decided to give it a try. I asked my friend Jan Dias about it and she invited me to meet up with her and Frank at a service. Well, the rest is history! I loved the welcome I received that day I walked in, not really knowing anyone. The love and friendships I have found here at Faith Presbyterian Church have certainly filled many empty spaces in my life! I am excited to greet visitors as I was greeted and serve in whatever capacity (coffee sometimes) and various committees (the Sing Along committee currently). As a member I look forward to the future of Faith Church! And yes, I'm still painting and exhibiting my work and inviting all to visit my studio in Surprise and attend my Spring Open Houses.

Your friend in Christ, Nancy Christy-Moore

Getting to Know You....

From: Gerri Crothers



Gerald, Gerri, & Carol

I was born on June 29, 1945, to Frank and Leota Stazio. They already had a son Gerald (1941) and a daughter Carol (1943). The first four years of my life we lived in Copemish, Michigan. My grandfather had a farm there and my grandfather worked for Glaser Crandle pickles in the pickle station. My brother who was 7 at that time worked in the salt mines there.

We moved to Maywood, Illinois where I went to Garfield School and to Proviso East High school. I received my compression and first aid certificates so I could babysit. Exciting that this was my first paycheck.

I married my first husband in 1970; I lost 3 children but thank God for the 4 children I was able to have. I divorced my first husband after 29 years of marriage. Again, God was by my side, and I met Bill. God's blessing to us was our family's blended beautifully. Now I have 6 children and 9 grandchildren. Another gift from God because I have 8 grandsons and two were born on Bill's birthday, and one granddaughter born on my birthday.

Two people in my life that I think of often are my brother Jerry who passed away at the age of 32. He lived in Boulder Colorado and started a pillow factory and a landscaping business to help people who needed to do community service. He also is called mister softball because he started a girls softball team. Stazio drive leads right up to Gerald Stazio Softball Fields in

Boulder Colorado.

My uncle Dr. David J. Jones was Mayor Daily's Chicago physician and was the second owner of the national football league's Chicago Cardinals. He also owned half of the Bears with Halas. I have a book Halas VS Halas in which he speaks of my uncle. My uncle saved many lives because he also worked with the police department.

My activities were teaching swimming to the blind and the apathies. I was an aquanaut swimmer. I also did scuba diving. Due to all the swimming and me not wanting to take time to check out my earache I ended up with a cyst that ate the ear drum away and was one quarter of an inch way from my brain. God helped me through this and the cyst did not touch the brain that would have caused me to be paralyzed on my right side.

I knew that God had been by my side, but the final gift was when Bill was going to have triple by-pass and he needed to be on a heart and lung monitor, I told him that God would take his heart and hold it in his hand during surgery and give it back to him to come back to me. When he woke up, he said, "I saw God holding my heart in his hands". What more of a blessing could you have to know that he is now with God.

There are more miracles in my life but not enough room in the "Getting to Know You" column.

My father lived in Arizona and when I found out he had cancer Bill, Pat and I came out here so I could take care of him. We were looking for a church and my sister Carol asked us to come to Faith for the Thursdays@Faith dinners. After coming several times we decided to tryout the service. Bill and I felt so comfortable that we joined.

What a gift from God. Such loving and caring people. Thank you Carol.



Gerri Crothers

Faith Church would love to get to know you.....

**Everyone has a story. Lets hear yours.
Please submit your article to MaryJo at
office@scfaith.org.**

Presbyterian Women (PW)

July 2025

As summer arrives with its longer days and brighter skies, we find ourselves entering a season of both rest and renewal. For many of us, this is a time to stay local and enjoy the blessings of our own community—quiet walks, porch visits with friends, and the beauty of God’s creation right here at home. For others, summer may bring opportunities to travel—whether it’s to visit family, revisit favorite places, or explore somewhere new.

*No matter where this season takes you, remember:
“The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.” – Psalm 121:8*

Whether you're near or far, the spirit of fellowship remains strong. This is a perfect time to reach out—call a friend you haven’t seen in a while and invite them for a cup of coffee or meet for lunch at one of our town’s recreational centers. These small moments of connection remind us of the love and support we share in Christ.

Let this summer be a time to reflect on God’s goodness. Take joy in the small blessings: a shared laugh, a beautiful sunset, a quiet moment in prayer. May your days be filled with peace, purpose, and the gentle reminder that you are never alone.

We look forward to seeing you again soon, to share stories, smiles, and continue the mission that unites us as Presbyterian Women—faith, fellowship, and service.

We have wonderful news!!

Karen Harris has volunteered to take over the “Flowers for the Sanctuary” in October. If you are interested in purchasing flowers for memorials, special events, honoring someone special or just for Faith Church contact Karen this fall. You can reach her at 602-448-0409. The cost of the arrangements are \$30.00 for the medium size and \$50.00 for the larger size.

***The 2024 Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women
“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only***

supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.”

– 2 Corinthians 9:11–12 (NRSV)

Presbyterian Women are grateful for your generosity to the 2024 Thank Offering. Your faithful giving blesses communities across the country and around the world, supporting ministries that meet critical needs and reflect Christ’s love in action.



Below is a list of 2024 Thank Offering

Grant Recipients:

Dakota Presbytery Pine Ridge Indian Reservation; Presbytery of the James, Voices of Jubilee; Presbytery of New Hope, SAFEchild; Central Florida Presbytery, Forward Paths Foundation, Inc.; Presbytery of Carlisle, Peace Promise Kitchen Renovation; Office of Immigration Issues, Public Affairs Software Platform for Grassroots Advocacy; Presbytery Church in Congo (CPC), Protecting Children in Greater Kasal; Heartland Presbytery; Surgicenter Ambulance. Your support has made a meaningful difference in the lives of many. Thank you for being a part of this ministry of compassion, justice, and thanksgiving. With gratitude, to the Presbyterian Women of Faith Church.

Check out the Presbyterian Women’s Bulletin Board for more information

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”

1 Peter 4:8





 **VALLEY VIEW**
COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Back To
School

Supply Drive

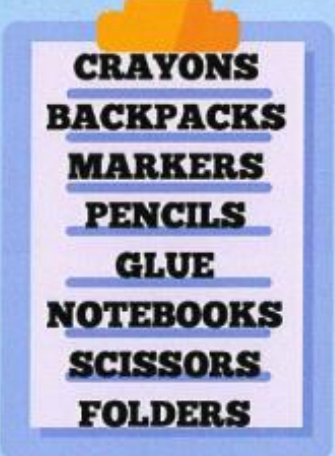
Shop Our Amazon Wishlist



DONATIONS NEEDED BY:

 **JULY 20TH** 

VALLEY VIEW COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
10733 W. PEORIA AVE
SUN CITY, AZ 85351



CRAYONS
BACKPACKS
MARKERS
PENCILS
GLUE
NOTEBOOKS
SCISSORS
FOLDERS

If you are not receiving the Faith Church emails and would like weekly information, send an email to MaryJo at: office@scfaith.org

Deadline for Mustard Seed newsletter is the 20th of each month. Send your information to MaryJo at office@scfaith.org.

HERE'S THE DEAL!

Bridge players
Hand and Foot players
Are on break for the summer.
Call Ann Kennaly if you
have any questions!



Monday, July 28, 2025
1:00pm - Understanding Medicare
in Illingworth Hall

To include your group or committee on the calendar and/or in the bulletin, we ask the chair/leader to submit the time, date, location with an email to MaryJo at office@scfaith.org by no later than the Wednesday before at 10 a.m. to be put on the calendar or included in the Thursday emails and/or Sunday bulletin.

Prayer Warriors

2nd & 4th Saturday of Every Month

Saturday, July 12 & 26 at 11:00 am phone conference 1-774-267-7989. Please send prayer requests to Esther McKinney at 206-227-5142 via email at esthermckinney@hotmail.com



Men's Fellowship

Ice Cream
Social - July 6,
2025



Men's Monday
Fellowship

Dominoes

Thursdays from 1:30pm-3:00pm
in the Iona Room.

Any questions
Call Frank Dias
contact info is in
the church
directory



If you are not able to join Sunday
worship in person, please
join us Livestream

Sunday morning or view
recordings on other days:

www.scfaith.org/video-center

If you miss us in the morning, check back Sunday afternoon, or any day following, to play the video recording on your computer.



Happy Birthday to ALL celebrating a birthday in July

	Birthday
Tom Boyer	2
John Blackmar	12
Bonnie Cate	13
Judy Dessert	15
Toni McMasters	15
Iris DePasquale	17
Patty Insley	18
Karen Wahlund	20
Mary Kelly	23
Floyd Chmelka	24
Dana Kovach	27



Low Vision Support Group



The Low Vision Support will meet.
Monday, July 14, 1-2pm in the Council Room.
For more information contact Dr. Mary Ann by
email at makhoss777@gmail.com.



Faith Presbyterian E-mail Addresses & Phone # and extension #'s

Church Phone 623-974-3611

Pastor/Head of Staff

Greg Emery greg@scfaith.org
..... ext. 104
Cell Phone.....731-345-6765

Office Manager

MaryJo Steger office@scfaith.org
..... ext. 105

Building Superintendent

Peter Bugilan pbugilan@scfaith.org
..... ext. 112

If you know of a member or friend of the church who is in the hospital or needs special attention, we ask that you call the church office at 623-974-3611 or the Pastor's cell phone. We appreciate your help in obtaining this information.

Thank you for your generous giving to all good causes as the Spirit of God guides you. Faith Church offerings may be sent by mail, or use the drop-off mail slot at the south door. Visit our website and click on the  button on the Home Page with your charge card, debit card, or PayPal.

CALENDAR INSTRUCTIONS

To get the most up-to-date calendar of church events go to www.scfaith.org. On the right hand side of the "home page" you will see the following information:

Faith Church Calendar

<https://7404426> 8.view-events.com

To return to the Faith Presbyterian Church web site
click the "back arrow" in your web browser

Closing the calendar at the X will close the Faith
Church web page

Just click
on this
button to
get the
latest
calendar.

16000 N. Del Webb Blvd. Sun City 85351-1604

Mustard Seed

Editor MaryJo Steger
office@scfaith.org
Church Office 623-974-3611
E-mail info@scfaith.org
Web Site www.scfaith.org

July 2025



Please remember Faith Church as a
Beneficiary in your Will, Trust or IRA.

Office Hours

8:30am-3:00pm Monday - Thursday

Worship Service

10:00am on Sunday in the Sanctuary

Please call the office:623-974-3611.

- When you or a member of your family is admitted to the hospital or is otherwise injured or seriously ill.
- When a new family moves into your neighborhood.
- When your class or group plans to meet so that a room can be reserved for you and placed on the church calendar.
- When your home address, or phone number, or email changes so the church records can be amended.
- When you are planning to move - either out of town or locally.
- When you feel the church can assist you in any way.



A Memorial Fund Reminder

When you lose a loved one, you grieve that loss in many ways. You want to remember each person with special memories of your lives together.

The Faith Church Memorial Fund is a prayerful way to honor loved ones. Donations can be made to the church in such areas as music, library, or worship - some area your loved one enjoyed. You can also let the Memorial Committee choose where your donation will most help the church.

The Committee meets regularly to review the funds and needs of the church.

Contact Barbara Benson or Office Manager, MaryJo for more information. Your generosity in memory of your loved one can be part of your grieving, showing your love for Faith Church.

*Faith Presbyterian Church is an welcoming, and caring community, committed to serving Jesus Christ, who calls us to love God and to love one another. We worship, study and grow in understanding as we work for justice and peace in the world, inspired by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.
If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, great things are possible. (From Matthew 17:20)*