



Mustard Seed

Look Inside for Further Details July 2026

-  New Member Sunday
-  Remembering Karen Walker
-  Getting to know you....



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Dear Members and Friends of Faith,

We were fortunate to make it through mid-June before the true summer heat set in. When my family moved to The Valley in 1970, the monsoon rains were a regular thing. There are always rumors of a welcomed return.

Phoenix, and especially the West Valley continue to grow, which makes it more difficult to actually experience the desert or see some open space. One popular respite is the Japanese Friendship Garden in downtown Phoenix, which started as a sister-city project with Himeji, Japan. Anne and I visited last week, which included a meeting (and Japanese tea) with the Executive Director.

The Garden sits on 3.5 acres and includes a water-fall, pond and creeks, along with a wide variety of plants and trees. Walking paths meander through. When I say it is “popular,” last year 97,000 people paid \$14 to enter and experience whatever particular sense of spirituality or tranquility that they were seeking. Another 30,000 participated in events, classes or tours. This reinforces the notion that people are seeking places of spirituality. Not necessarily “church” in the conventional sense.

I am sorry to report that interest in “church” continues to decline. Despite talk of some younger age groups discovering religion and church, the numbers do not support this. Even the mega-churches are seeing, in some cases, measurable declines. Articles are now appearing regularly on this topic. Not to fret ... we know that people of all ages continue to desire connection and spirituality. And we continue to welcome new people, even those who come from different traditions or none at all. One statement I hear consistently, when talking to

folks about why they chose Faith, is that they “felt” good, they felt at home, they felt welcomed.

I believe that “feeling” is the Holy Spirit at work. In our continuing study of the Book of Acts, the apostles are trying to introduce the concept of the Holy Spirit and the Truth of Jesus to those who only know God according to the law. It is not going well. The powers that be are not “feeling it.” The Jews had expanded the 10 Commandments into 613. Structure was in place. Don’t mess with it. No more preaching and healing in the name of this “Jesus.”

Those disciples persevered in spite of overwhelming opposition. We are asked to persevere in an atmosphere of religious apathy, to a country distracted, divided and skeptical. That is okay. We will take it on right here in our little corner of God’s creation. And maybe we will be blessed with a little rain this summer. Maybe.

And right here in our little corner, we celebrate the 100th birthday of Betty Forsberg. She and her husband David have been integral to the 50+ year history of Faith – see photo.

peace and love, Greg

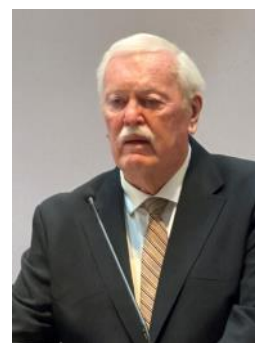
**Happy 100th Birthday!
Betty Forsberg**





Pastor Greg

**In Remembrance and Celebration
of the Life of
Karen Walker
September 30, 1943 - March 13, 2026**



**Reno Walker
Karen's husband**



**Annabelle Pierson &
Emily Pierson
Karen's granddaughters**



**Rev. Mike Campbell &
Rev. Sheryl Campbell**



**Kristen Pierson
Karen's daughter**

**Missing someone is sadness
wrapped in the blessing of
having know them.** ❤️



**Nicole Pesce,
pianist
Priscilla Hoskins,
soloist**



New Member Sunday, June 14, 2026

WELCOME



Julie Yake
Sponsors - Laurie & Bill Cherry



Mary Autio

Happy 4th of July



Servant Hearts



To the many deacons, elders, and others;

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your dedication to serving our church and its members during the celebration of life service for Karen Walker.

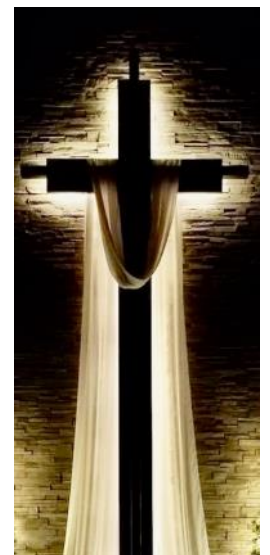
This was one of the largest memorials that many of us have done. We served about 110 people. From the preparation to the cleanup, I am truly grateful for all of your help.

Diana Pomeroy

In-Home Communion

If you are unable to attend service and would like in-home communion, please contact your deacon or Diana Pomeroy.

Diana can be reached at
602-751-3398 or



**Faith office & campus
will be closed**



Monday, July 6, 2026





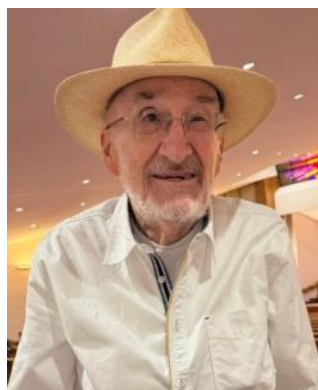
**Vern Meury &
Bonnie Cate**



**Susan Edwards, Barb Clubb,
& MaryJo Steger**



**Yehudy's aunt with
Gerri Crothers**



Bruce O'Neal



**Yehudy with aunt, Georgia Sherman,
Kerry King and Kris Martin**



**Stephanie
Murphy**



Anne Daughters

Yarn Angels Knit/Crochet Group

**This is called a
“fiddle faddle”.
It is for memory
patients. The
Yarn Angels sent
16 of these to
Hospice of the
Valley.**

**Summer Hours
11:00am-2:00pm
On Mondays**



Pat Eilders, Sharon Strasbaugh, and Faye Owens

Presbyterian Women (PW)

July 2026

Women of Faith Gathering
A Season of Blessing and Fellowship

Greetings to each and everyone,

Presbyterian Women are aligned under a shared purpose; we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Pictures from throughout the year at PW.

Moderator Elect Bonnie Cate &
Moderator Priscilla Hoskins for
2026-2027





Getting to Know You....

Phyllis Conover

I taught Sunday school (all ages), VBS, and worked at a Christian camp putting together their children's programs.

Through 54 years of marriage, three children and five churches, God has always been there guiding us through the good times and the bad times.

It's your turn now to help us get to know you. We are looking forward to being an active part of faith Presbyterian Church.



Phyllis & Rev. Allan Conover

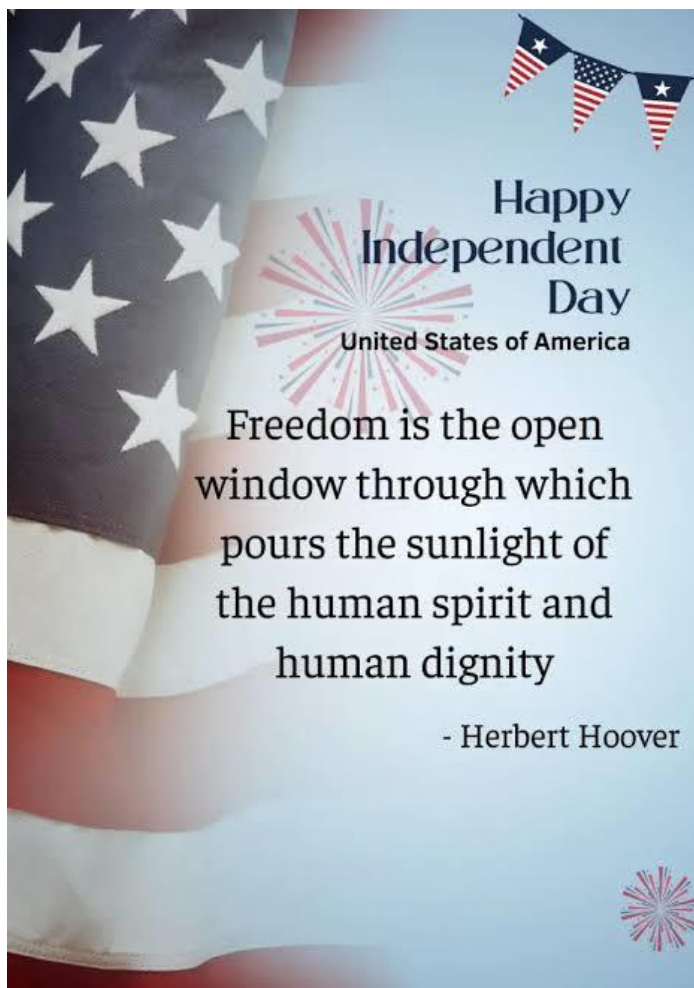
As new members here at faith church, our aim is to get to know the wonderful family's that we are worshipping with better and so I thought I would get the ball rolling by sharing a little more about us.

My husband Alan has shared quite a bit about himself (40 years plus as a pastor; grew up in New Jersey, and a family history with the Reformed Church in America). So I thought I would tell you more about me.

I grew up in Western New York about 20 miles South of Buffalo (yes the winters were brutal). I attended an evangelical Congregational Church, which I joined when I was 16 years old. I had received Jesus as my Savior when I was 8 or 9 and my Christian journey began to grow after that.

I appreciated pastor Greg's sermon last week when he talked about our "calling". It hit home with me because at a very young age I felt my "calling" was to be a teacher. I pursued that calling right through high school and then in college. My second "calling" would be for some type of Christian service. Later I discovered it would be as a pastor's wife.

God has given my husband and me many opportunities to serve him. We both were given musical abilities which we have used by singing in the choirs at our churches.





Faith Church/Calvin Library BEST LIBRARY EVER

Attention!

Book Club will meet Monday, Sept. 14, 2026, at 10:00am to enjoy the book, "Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napalitano; discussion leader is Faye Owens. Snacks will be provided along with coffee, tea and water.

Please come and join us.

Library hours 9:00am to 3:00pm M-Th.

On Wednesday volunteers are there to assist you. The library is open on Sunday mornings 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Our book club meets on the second Monday from September - April.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Sunday, July 12, 2026

After Service

Sponsored by Men's Fellowship!!!



Topic: Nutrition and Heart Health

When: Monday, July 27, 2026

Where: Illingworth Hall

Time: 1:00pm

Come check it out!

Two United States of America flags fly proudly on our campus. From time to time these need to be replaced. Members and friends are invited to donate a flag in honor of or in memory of a loved one. These are the specifications: The flag must have 50 stars and the size needs to be 6'X10'.

If you do not have access to a flag that size but still want to give one, a \$125 donation will cover the cost and Peter will order one in your name for the church.



Valley View Community Food Bank

Jesse Ramirez states, "We are in need of more food donations, personal hygiene items, and cleaning and sanitation supplies."



Drop donations at the
food bank table in the Narthex.

Thank you.



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

HERE'S THE DEAL!

Hand and Foot players are every 2nd Wednesday in the Iona Room at Noon - All Summer
Contact Gerri Crothers



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



Men's Fellowship on Mondays

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

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. Thank you!

Prayer Warriors

2nd & 4th Saturday of Every Month

Saturday, July 11 & 25 at 11:00 am phone conference 1-774-267-7989. Please send prayer requests to Gerri Crothers.



Men's July Monday Fellowship

1:30pm

July 6 - Darts - Bell Rec Center

July 13 - Shuffleboard - Bell Rec Center

July 20 - Horn hole - Faith

July 27 - Billiards - Bell Rec Center

Dominoes

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

Any questions
Call Frank Dias



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

Member	Birthday
Tom Boyer	2
Pat Eilders	3
Roy Gray	6
John Blackmar	12
Bonnie Cate	13
Judy Dessert	15
Toni McMasters	15
Iris DePasquale	17
Karen Wahlund	20
Debbie Young	21
Mary Kelly	23
Floyd Chmelka	24
Faye Owens	24
Dana Kovach	27

Low Vision Support Group

The Low Vision Support will meet. **Monday, July 13, 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**

Music Director

Rory Dowse rory@scfaith.org

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.

Faith Presbyterian Church
16000 N. Del Webb Blvd.
Sun City 85351-1604

Mustard Seed

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

July 2026

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 Gerri Crothers or our 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.

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, great things are possible." (Matthew 17:20)

That is our theme. It plays out this way: we are big enough to flourish, but small enough to be personal; caring for the world & community, but above politics; take the Word seriously, but ourselves not so much.

Our pastor, elders, deacons and members are here for you.