






Mustard Seed

Look Inside for Further Details June 2026

-  New Member Sunday
-  Faith Heroes
-  Remembering Tal Rice



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Dear Members and Friends of Faith,

Who in Arizona doesn't start off with the weather report? As I write this on Memorial Day, the high temp is not projected to hit 100 until May 31. We'll call that a win. I hope the summer finds you well, wherever you may be.

In Romans 8 we read, "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Nor shall any of these things separate the church from its destiny and the ever-evolving congregation. We are blessed with a continuum of new members and pray for those who depart, whether "back home" or to the great congregation in heaven, pastored by Jesus himself.

We live, and we grow or we fade, according to the Spirit. It has been that way as a people going back to Moses, whose wish was, "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!" (Numbers 11). Through the arrival of the Holy Spirit, as promised by the Father and delivered through Jesus Christ, that wish is fulfilled.

Paul further details the nature of the Spirit - that unto each is given certain gifts. Sometimes I get the feeling that many people have the gift of humility first, which does not allow them (this may be you) to accept that God has gifted you in a particular and special way. I find it highly improbable that God would call me to pastor. Instead of shying away in humility, I ask that we thank God for calling us, each in our own way,

and commit to using our gifts, collectively, for the growth of the church ... which simply means spreading the Word and love of Jesus as widely as we can.

Growth is not a goal unto itself. But it is very difficult for any organization to tread water indefinitely. However measured, a group is likely trending up or down at any moment. I believe Faith is trending up in many ways. There is a sense, a Spirit, of optimism even though we come from a tradition that is under strain: post-Christian and post-denominational our world has been dubbed.

Our call is to be creative and sacrificial. There is no magic wand. To create a new concept of church, one that faces reality but looks to future success, takes invention and giving. We all have umpteen uses for our money. But opportunities to invest in a truly innovative version of church do not come along often in our lifetimes. So, I ask that you be creative and sacrificial in looking into how you can free up money to invest in the future of Faith. Some of you have given very generously already - thank you!

And thank you for the continued love and support afforded to Anne and me as we labor alongside, Canoeing Mountains and looking for new Icebergs. I think the forecast for icebergs in Phoenix in June are slim; but maybe in Alaska ...

peace and love, Greg



New Member Sunday, May24, 2026



Jessie Fenter sponsor for Cheryl Davis



**Welcome our newest
members to our
Faith family.**

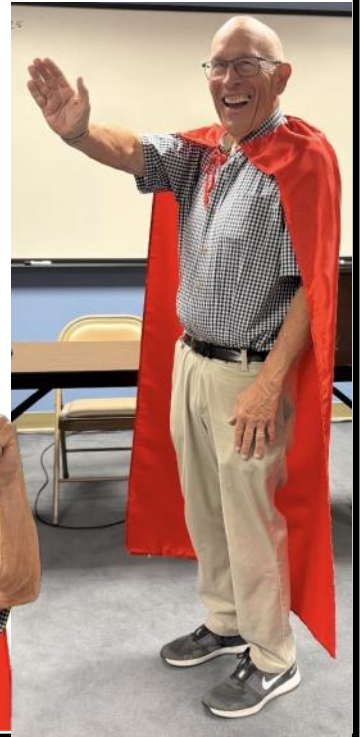


**Jeff and Maria Sinley sponsors for
Rev. Allan and Phyllis Conover**

Heroes of Faith Speakers



Nancy Christie-Moore
In all the difficulties I faced in life, prayer changed them.



Dick Sisson
Your spirit isn't growing old, it's growing better.



Bob Geier
You do what you have to do to make life work. You just pick up and keep going. Doing your best, with God's help.



Michael England
After being in a coma for 30 days, Jesus showed up and healed me.



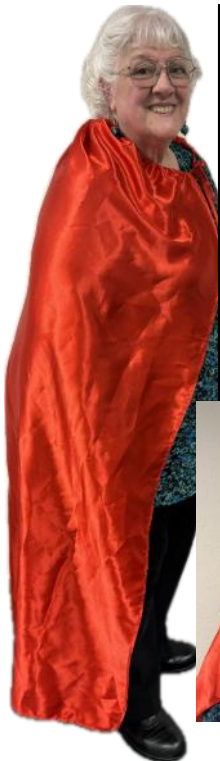
Heroes of Faith Speakers



Barbara Munn

Good and bad happens to everyone. I relied on prayer and the loving support of friends and neighbors. You never know what you might do that helps someone.

Bill Cherry
Random kindnesses often turn people to faith in God.



Gerri Crothers
Through many challenges in my life, I learned to trust in God.
Proverbs 3:5-6 has carried me and continues to do so.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.



John Harris
Music turns my heart more and more toward God. When facing fear and doubt, worship with music helps conquer that. God is real! He's alive!



Heroes of Faith Speakers



Allan and Phyllis Conover

Rev. Allan Conover
As a pastor, I learned the best way to help people who have conflict in their hearts is through prayer, patience, and firm, loving guidance.



Tom Bougher
Raised in a Christian family, I came to Christ early in life. God's great love, mercy, and grace have directed my steps and kept me safe. I will always praise him with the music of my heart.

Distance may separate us, but our friendship will remain strong.



Barbara Munn

These two special ladies will be moving and they will be missed.

Barbara Munn is moving back to Indianapolis.

Annette Murphy is moving back to Colorado.

Both moving in June.

We are more than friends we are Faith family!



Annette Murphy

Presbyterian Women (PW)

June 2026

Women of Faith Gathering
A Season of Blessing and Fellowship

Greetings
to each
and
everyone,

For those who have already left to be with family and friends, we wish you safe travels and look forward to your return this fall. During the summer months, we will be preparing and planning our upcoming Women of Faith programs, and we believe you will be eager to gather together once again in October.

Our new leaders are as follows: Moderator: Priscilla Hoskins, Moderator Elect: Bonnie Cate, Secretary: Barbara Livergood, Treasurer: Sandra Baldwin, Assistant Treasurer: Gerri Crothers, Historian/Photographer Mary Autio and PJ Pawlowski, Mission Coordinator: Susan Ross, Luncheon Coordinators: Nancy Stockton and Fay Owens, Tickets Sales: Faye Owens, Proof Reader: Carole Bentley, Library Liaison: Anne Daughters and Jo Gilmore, Search Committee: Fran Rechedy and Geni Olson, Door Prize Baskets: Gerri Crothers. We are so happy to say that Susan Benson will be our caterer again for our luncheons.

“United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other,” is our new 2026–2027 Bible Study, beginning in September 2026, which is based on Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth after receiving a letter asking for guidance and help in resolving questions and conflicts within the church community. Many of the concerns faced by our earliest brothers and sisters in faith are still very much our own today. How do we demonstrate our trust in Jesus Christ’s victory over death? What happens when differing understandings of the Gospel challenge the unity of the church? And when conflict arises, how do we respond in faith, love, and understanding?

Through this study, we will explore these questions together while deepening our relationship with Christ and one another. As Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13:4–7, love is patient and kind; in 1 Corinthians 12:27, we are all members of the body of Christ; and in 1 Corinthians 11:23–26, we are called to remember Him together in faith and unity.

We pray that you enjoy a blessed and restful summer and return renewed in spirit as we continue our journey of faith together.

Ladies, I have sad news that Barbara Munn, and Annette Murphy two of our faithful helpers, will be moving. Barbara back to Indianapolis, Indiana, in June. Annette Murphy back to Colorado also in June. Please give them your love and blessings when you see them, and let them know how much kindness, dedication, and friendship have meant to all of us. We wish them safe travels and many blessings as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

We know Barbara will be thrilled to hear from her friends, and as soon as we receive her new address, we will pass it along to you. So please keep an eye out for it and continue to keep her in your thoughts and prayers during this time of transition.

Ladies, do you enjoy reading as much as I do? The new PWP Grand Canyon Book List offers a wonderful selection of Memoirs, Middle Grade Fiction, Fiction, Poetry/Memoirs, and Nonfiction to enlighten our minds, inspire our hearts, and entertain us throughout the summer months. Whether you enjoy thoughtful reflection, uplifting stories, or learning something new, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy.

Stop in and visit Anne Daughters or Jo Gilmore at the library to see if they can help you select one of the books from our reading list. They will be happy to assist you in finding something enjoyable and inspiring for your summer reading.

Library hours are from 9:00am to 3:00pm M-Th, on Wednesday volunteers are always there to assist you. It’s opened on Sunday mornings 9-12 and during office hours during the week. Stop in for a visit!

Good news is never late! Our congratulations go out to Barbara Livergood, who participated in the Octogenarian Tournament for Women. She was awarded prizes for Closest to the Pin, Longest Putt, and Second Place Low Gross in her division!

- continued on page 9 -



Talmadge (Tal) Hugh Rice passed on his 101 birthday.

Talmadge Hugh Rice was born on April 29, 1925, in Alameda, California. He was the only son of Mabel May Rice and Talmadge Ransome Rice. They felt truly blessed. From a young age Tal struggled with severe health issues, battling allergies and asthma. Thus, arrangements were made for a private tutor. The tutor provided private lessons from kindergarten through the 8th grade at the Rice residence. As Tal grew older his allergies and asthma symptoms lessened. He matriculated to Alameda High School to complete grades nine—twelve. Following high school, Tal's dream was to be a P-38 Pilot with the United States Air Force. He was excited to enroll and proudly serve his country, however, due to asthma, the United States Air Force refused his enrollment. Unfortunately, Tal ran into the same health refusal with the Navy, and the Army. Tal was heartbroken but was still determined to preserve and proudly serve his country, as they were at war, so he volunteered with the United States Coast Guard. Tal served as a Skipper, working on the patrol boats. At 18 years old Tal operated the ocean worthy tugboats powered by diesel fuel, patrolling the San Francisco Bay. Tal also worked as a draftsman at the shipyards and as an assistant test engineer, operating many boats. Tal completed test runs and worked should to shoulder with the top brass of the United States Coast Guard.

Then Tal met Vi Venson while attending a First Presbyterian Church youth outing at Lake Tahoe. When he first saw Vi, she was wearing a bathing suit, standing in the water rotating watermelons, keeping them cool for the youth picnic. Tal says, "That was a Lucky Day—Indeed!" Tal and Vi were married on April 24, 1954. They had a big wedding at the Episcopal Church in Alameda, California with 400 plus guests.

Next Tal started working for Mike Roberts' Color Productions—printing firm - where he learned photography. The company grew over the years, becoming very popular and well respected. When Tal started his work with the Mike Roberts' Color Productions they employed 18 people. Upon his retirement the company employed 300. Tal and Vi enjoyed

the world—wide travel sponsored through his work with Mike Roberts' Color Productions. They enjoyed a memorable trip to China in 1987 as guests of the Chinese Government. They also enjoyed river cruises from Amsterdam to Budapest, river cruises in France, and a cruise on the Mississippi. They did extensive travel throughout the USA, Europe, and Asia. A highlight of Tal's career as a photographer was taking President Gerald For's photo. The day following his photography session with President Ford, Herb Caen, a San Francisco humorist and journalist, placed the following headline in the San Francisco Chronicle, "Tal Rice Shoots President." Tal enjoyed his work so much that he didn't retire until age 87.

Tal was a talented musician and played both the organ and the piano by ear. He also assisted his father in building a pipe organ in his father's home in California. The organ was huge! In fact, one pipe was started in the basement, went through the maid's room on the first floor, and ended up being built all the way up to the second floor. Upon completion the organ was transported and donated to the Lutheran Church in Sonora, California, where it is still housed today.

Serving the community was very important to Tal. He served on numerous boards and volunteered time at his local church, Kiwanis, and YMCA. Tal received many awards for his service which were proudly displayed on the office walls of his home.

Tal had a love for water. He and Vi enjoyed numerous excursions sailing off the coast of California on a 36-foot ocean worthy sailboat which slept six. Tal had a passion for downhill skiing and animals.

In 1995 Tal and Vi decided to leave their lovely home in California and move to Peoria, Arizona to be closer to family. They purchased a beautiful home on the golf course at Westbrook Village. They enjoyed this home during the winter season and purchased a 5th Wheel motorhome in Pinetop, Arizona for the summer season.

Tal enjoyed his final years at Sierra Winds Retirement Community in Peoria, Arizona. He was actively involved in exercise class, computer club, concerts, dinners, speakers, and many other activities.



BEST LIBRARY EVER
BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS
Faith Church/Calvin Library

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.

The Book Cart is available every Sunday in Illingworth Hall or the library. These books are “free”. New ones are added each month.

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

More details to come!!!



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.



Presbyterian Women (PW)

June 2026

- continued -

Ladies, we have been invited to participate in the Ladies of Zion Church Bible Study. This will be held on the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in Illingworth Hall. With the exception of June 6, 2026, it will be in the Council Room due to Karen Walker’s Memorial Service.

Come join the fellowship and get to know our new friends. Enjoy coffee, tea, rolls, and great conversation before we come together for a meaningful time

of study and fellowship.

I leave this thought and prayer with you and hope it will encourage you today!

God, Bless the Lord, oh my soul. I’m tired but I’m still standing. I don’t have all the answers, but I trust you with the outcomes. Take what’s heavy, strengthen what’s weak and lead me into peace. Amen

See You in Church!

Priscilla Hoskins

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, June 13 & 27 at 11:00 am phone conference 1-774-267-7989. Please send prayer requests to Gerri Crothers.



Men's June Monday Fellowship

1:30pm

- June 1 - Bocce Ball - Sundial Rec Center
- June 8 - Billiards - Lakeview Rec Center
- June 15 - Darts - Bell Rec Center
- June 22 - Cornhole - Illingworth Hall
- June 29 - Billiards - Lakeview 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 June

	Birthday
Kenneth Schaller	2
Dottie Oliver	3
Karen Harris	8
Susan Arnold	9
Betty Forsberg	15
Susan Benson	15
Betty Wilder	16
Shirley Gerhart	16
Sandie Johns	25
Jean Flower	28
Gerri Crothers	29
Sara Mitchell	29
Marsha Malsack	30

Low Vision Support Group

The Low Vision Support will meet. **Monday, June 8, 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 Emerygreg@sfaith.org
..... ext. 104
Cell Phone.....731-345-6765

Music Director

Rory Dowse.....rory@sfaith.org


Office Manager

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

Building Superintendent

Peter Bugilan pbugilan@sfaith.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.sfaith.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
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Mustard Seed

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Web Site www.scfaith.org

June 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.