

Pastor

John Johnson
Cell: 312-933-3494
Johnjohnson1010@icloud.com

***Session Members & Committee Heads**

Clerk of the Session

*Nancy Blank
520-705-2127

Treasurer

*Anita Van Wagoner
520-709-2771

Assistant Treasurer

*Tom Harmon
317-289-7067

Finance

*Jim Ludwig
480-492-8180

Admin & Personnel

*Glen Walker
928-369-8133

Property & Buildings

*Stephanie Sullivan
520-371-0481
Mike Palmer
480-299-1372

Mission

*Tom Harmon
317-289-7067

Worship

Mary Palmer
928-580-2030
Georgina Santharaj
*Anne Zawodniak
775-721-5730

Congregational Care

Barbara Lacey

Christian Education

Stewardship

Ad hoc and as requested

*Harold Anderson
414-213-3618
*Pat Blanchard
520-251-1713
*BJ Tyree
602-500-2520
Chris Reid
520-510-3539

... and of great service

Fellowship

Laura Hofmann
520-858-2945

Church Secretary

Beth Harmon (Ex-Officio)
317-289-7067

Staff Members

Bookkeeper

Marlene Bonney
928-951-3509

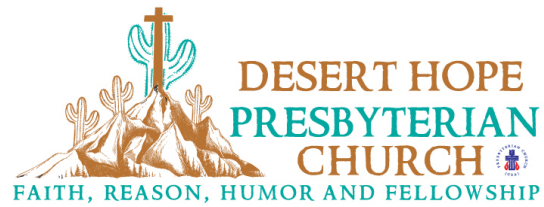
Newsletter

Beth Harmon
317-289-7067

Office@deserthopepresbyterian.org

Memorial Garden & Columbarium

Tanner Foster(520) 5181376
Tannerfoster93@gmail.com
Tyler Foster
(520) 251-8439



July & August 2024 Issue 4

The Mission of the Desert Hope Presbyterian Church
Is to share Jesus Christ through word and action
with all whose lives we can touch.



Our Historic "First
Presbyterian Church"
Florence worship
location

Sunday Worship Service

Florence – 225 E. Butte Ave. -- 10:00 am MST

(And https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM_2CJqv7ELIGw2kQtinISA)

2. From the Pastor
3. Opportunities to serve
4. Friends & Family News - Ladies, Men, Movie
5. Upcoming Events, Bible Study, Mission Moments
6. Mission Moments, Ecumenical Food, Manse
7. Birthdays, Anniversaries
8. Prayers of the people
9. July Calendar
10. August Calendar
11. Communion/Gifts and Giving

Desert Hope Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 950

225 East Butte Avenue

Florence, AZ 85132

Ph: 520-868-5634

Email: FlorencePresby1@icloud.com

Website: www.Deserthopepresbyterian.org

FROM THE PASTOR

From the pastor . . .

If you were not previously aware, I need to state what I told the Session on May 10 and the congregation two days later: Sometime in the first half of 2025 (the timing is not yet certain), I shall resign as your pastor.

I really hate doing this, but three months ago when Patricia and I were in Florida for the 70th birthday of Patricia's brother's wife (Beth Coyne, who has been on our prayer list since her diagnosis), who has stage 4 bone cancer, Patricia remarked, "As we get older, we should be nearer family." (I guess she feels she is getting older; I do not believe either of us is, but . . .) I basically said, "OK," but stressed how difficult it would be for me to leave the church.

As I both assured the Session, not that anyone doubted it, and as I believe has been plain since I made that announcement, I do not intend to coast; I am as engaged as ever in our church and seeking to expand its electronic reach as well as otherwise to seek ways to grow as new housing springs up in the geographic area we serve.

But one of the things for which I would like to ask help is that you help in making people you know who might not be church attendees – or might be church attendees but enjoy Bible study with others – help in making people aware of our Worship services on YouTube and the ability to attend our Bible Study via ZOOM, a free app that can be downloaded on Windows or Mac computers and Android or Apple iPhones or iPads.

It has been amazing how, while the numbers are small, we have individuals elsewhere in the country who feel connected to our congregation, and how the in-person congregation feels connected, not only through the prayer list but otherwise with those who are watching worship on YouTube. (Past worship services are at the same YouTube site.)

The simplest way to find our YouTube site is not to type it in (it's long; if you are on my email list [and you are welcome to join it] I do sent the link every week), but to go to www.YouTube.com and in the search box that appears on that page type "Desert Hope Presbyterian" [and stop there; do not add more]. One of the choices will show our new logo in turquoise and tan of a cactus on a small hill. Click on that and one will see photos showing previous services or, if done at 10:00am MST on Sunday, under "Live" will show our service.

And if anyone wants this emailed to them, have them email me at johnjohnson1010@icloud.com.

And while Bible study requires a ZOOM link (which I generally also send out with my Friday or Saturday email), that might change and the best bet is for someone, again, to email me and I'll see that he or she or they receive the required information.

Some of this has been wonderful. Meg Williams, whom only Nancy ever met, was dying of cancer yet relished our prayers and watching our services; I suppose I need to protect some confidences, but another woman who began watching on YouTube visited us at Easter and felt she knew everyone because she had seen them as we do the "Passing of the Peace."

The world never stops changing. The Church -- any church -- needs to be able to meet the world where the world is, not insist that the world come to it.

So please help us reach others!

I'll provide more information about the eventual transition in pastoral leadership in the future, but, again, not only am I not retiring as a pastor, I plan to go out full-speed as your pastor.

Blessings,

John

Opportunities to Serve

Is it too late for Spring Cleaning?

Never! You know when ladies get together over coffee all kinds of ideas erupt. One of the topics that came up was...you guessed it, Spring cleaning, even though it is now officially summer. There have been two days tentatively scheduled July 22nd and August 26th from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Is that too early? Then come later. You get tired, feel free to leave. The first day will be concentrating on the kitchen. Several ladies have volunteered to help with that, but to get a head start, we need a few people on Sunday July 21, to help pull all the dishes out of the cabinets and transfer them to the tables in the dining area. Sorting will be done on Monday, with some items either being reclaimed from previous times or donated. All that is deemed necessary will be organized, inventoried and placed back in the cabinets. All help would be appreciated. If those time or days don't work, there are other jobs that would be more individual or small group jobs. What might they be you ask. There are 2 refrigerators and a freezer that need to be defrosted and cleaned. The children's craft room is a mess. Georgina is working the bulletin boards but could probably use help. Look around, you might see something else that you would like to tackle.

Everyone (gentlemen, your help is needed for some of these projects, however that) please mark your calendars to come together and joyfully work to clean and tidy up our kitchen and downstairs fellowship area. Any amount of time you can give to this project is greatly appreciated.

Questions? Contact Barbara Lacy at 702-277-2233.

Other Ways to Serve

If cleaning isn't your thing, never worry, there are other opportunities to be a part of the daily activities of Desert Hope Presbyterian Church, by being God's hands and feet. Do you like to talk on the phone or in person (be a part of the prayer chain, make visits to ones who are unable to be out and about, or be a greeter and hand out the bulletins on Sunday mornings), play a musical instrument or sing, decorate (for the seasons, Christmas, etc.), clean and organize (dust, polish, straighten, replenish supplies in the pews) or outside such as sweep the sidewalks, pull the weeds, (thanks to Nancy and the heat, there aren't so many now), pick up litter, count money or use the computer (be a counter for the weekly contributions), talk in front of people (be a liturgist-we are all friends, so no need to be afraid), paint, (iron fences, walls going down into Hannah Hall), organize (the children's craft room), cook (take food to those who are ill or not able to prepare a meal), shop (pick up grocery items or other supplies for those you have a hard time getting out) or just need something to do to while away the hours.

Friends and Family News

Ladies Koffee Klatch

While we have a new name, we will still be meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 9:00, and will meet at The Coffee Station, thus the name change. Our format is very informal. We have been having a good time and it is



so much fun to sit at the table sipping on our favorite drinks, maybe munching on one of the excellent “goodies” and discovering more about each other’s lives. As always, this is a good time to bring a friend, neighbor, or family member to a gathering “outside” of the church property, which may be a good way to introduce some new people to our church family.

Men’s Breakfast

Men’s breakfast has not gone away. It was scheduled to pause for the summer, but after additional discussion and interest, it is back on the table! They are meeting on the 1st and 3rd **Tuesday** of the month, which seems to be a better day for most. They will continue to meet at 9:00 am and the location will normally be at the Florence Café, but occasionally they decide to try somewhere else, so be sure to check the actual location. I try to send out a reminder with the information, but occasionally it sneaks up on me, so if you didn’t catch the location during worship, feel free to call, John Beth.



out
or

See you at the movies

Movies, pizza, and popcorn and, air conditioning! What a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon especially as the temperatures are so excruciatingly hot. Elmer Gantry is considered a classic and you may have seen it previously, but those of us who have attended previous movies, find we are viewing them from a different perspective now. An additional benefit is the discussion afterwards, that brings up questions, opinions, and differing viewpoints. Our next viewing will be on Sunday July 28 following coffee fellowship.

Who doesn’t love seeing Burt Lancaster and Jean Simmons together in a movie? Throw in Arthur Kennedy, Shirley Jones and Patti Page and it becomes even better. No wonder it was/is a favorite movie that was nominated for 5 Academy awards. The novel was written in 1927 by Sinclair Lewis. Not a big fan of his? Do not be deterred. The movie was adapted by Richard Brooks, and to quote Tom Harmon “You can hardly tell it is the same story”.

So what is the story? Elmer Gantry is a hard-drinking, fast-talking traveling salesman with a charismatic personality who infuses biblical passages and fervor into his pitches as a way to collect money. He is drawn to the road show of Sister Sharon Falconer and is immediately attracted to the revivalist’s saintly aura. Needless to say, Elmer uses his smooth talking and manages to join the troop. Come watch with us to discover the rest of the story with all its twists and turns.

You may bring snacks and drinks. If you have a favorite lawn chair you prefer to sit in, bring it. However, there are plenty of chairs available and even a few cushions. This is a fun event that you may bring neighbors, family, and friends for an afternoon of **FREE** entertainment! What a deal! Emails will be sent out as a reminder. Hope to see you at the movies!



Upcoming Events

- *Thursday July 18 Session meeting 2:00 pm*
- *Monday July 22, clean-up day in Hannah Hall 8:00 am - 12:00 (or until too tired to work anymore).*
- *Sunday July 29 Movie afternoon - Elmer Gantry*
- *Wednesday August 14 Personal Care Products Distribution 9:00 am - 10:00 am*
- *Saturday September 7 Pancake breakfast honoring first responder*
- *Wednesday Sept 11 Personal Care Products Distribution 9:00 am - 10:00 am*
- *Sept Movie afternoon 12:00 am - TBD*

Bible Study



Bible study will continue through July. There will be a break in August and will resume sometime after Labor Day. If you have not yet attended, no problem. Please join John and others for the Bible study, which is on Tuesday in the choir room at 10:00 am. It is also be offered on Zoom! John will be sending out the link which is the same link each week.

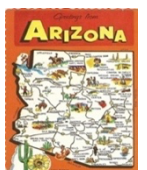
CMA Meetings

The Crystal Meth Anon group will not be meeting this summer, but plan to resume this fall.

MISSION MOMENTS

Loving Our (Navajo) Neighbors

Summer in the desert is especially tough in the Indian Nation where air conditioning (or even electricity) is scarce and the available of clean drinking water may involve long travel times. Loving and caring for the Navajo nation remains an on-going mission We are sending money to help buy book bags and school supplies if you would like to contribute, and school will be starting soon, but their other needs, such as food and water are always present.



Loving Our Local Neighbors

Hope Women's Center

Hope Women's Center has moved to a new and larger (and easier to find) location at 2020 9th Street, Coolidge, AZ 85128. The center is open for donations Monday through Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. However, please call before going to make sure they are open.

How can we help? *DONATE - VOLUNTEER - MONETARY GIFT - PRAYERS –*

- Dish soap – small bottles, shampoo & conditioner, lotion, toilet paper, Kleenex, size 6 & 7 diapers, and baby wipes

These items are made available to the women by using points they have earned by attending educational programs and classes offered at the centers. Hope Women's center takes a compassionate and holistic approach to education that helps engage, encourage and equip women in all stages of life. The women who go there have many opportunities to learn and grow—from parenting classes to life skills and faith-based education, to job skills training.

Ecumenical Food Council - Harvest Share

We thank all of those within our church family and those within the larger community that have helped and continue to make the distribution of meals within the Florence and surrounding areas possible. The next project will be on Saturday September 7 which is the pancake breakfast for the community, but focusing on our first responders and all they do for the community. It will be held in the Desert Hope parking lot and we hope many of you will be able to attend so we can show how each of us can be the hands and feet of Christ, even in a small way, such as extending his love through greeting people, sharing smiles and even pancakes. More information will be available as plans are confirmed.

Notice -Sale of manse

Pending final paperwork, the manse (the building in the south east corner of our block) has been sold to a very lovely couple who are willing to put a lot of time, hardwork, money and love into updating the property to make it their home. The Session over the past several months made the decision to sell the property. Why? The most obvious reason is the considerable amount of maintenance that the house requires: a crack in the outside wall, flooring, air conditioner, painting, new appliances, plumbing, blinds, new roof and the second reason is of course the weekly maintenance of the yard.

Over the years, pastors no longer desire to have a house provided as part of their salary. The reasons make sense: maybe too much room, or not enough room, may have their own house already, want to build equity in their own home, or may not want to live next door to the church (a little too close for their privacy), so the need to keep it no longer exists, and being a landlord is not something we want to continue doing.

Special



Birthdays (Belated, current & future)

Anniversaries (Belated, current & future)

July	5	Judy Nelson
	13	Shirley Alberg
	14	Patty Hyypa
	14	Lew Moon
	19	Ronnie Brown-Woodhull
	19	Anita VanWagoner
	23	Bill Johnston
	26	Beth Harmon
	30	Carolyn Gilbert

July	2	Patty & Ray Hyypa
------	---	-------------------

Aug	3	Gladys Sherman
	8	Susan Forest
	31	Robert Stephens

Aug	12	Shirley Alberg & Jim Fena
	23	Phyllis & Bill Zwanziger
	29	Pat & Ron Vucson

Sept	8	John Guy
	8	Jean Askov
	8	Mark Stephens
	9	Lunn Vilhauer
	17	Marc Hart
	18	BJ Tyree
	25	Bob Phillips

Sept	14	Shirley & Art Colley
	14	Mark & Connie Stephens
	17	Georgina & John Santharaj
	18	BJ & Larry Tyree

**Please let Beth know if she missed your Birthday or Anniversary or have the wrong date

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Susan Forest, Cadence, Abby, and Holly, Bob & Doreen Stephens, Pat Dixon, Jean & Farley Granger, Phyllis & Bill Zwanziger, Patty & Ray Hyyppa, Katrina & John Guy and Mark & Heather's children, Art & Shirley Colley, an ex-student of Linda Dallman, Phyllis Carlson, Sandra & Allen Saunders, Mindy & Kaylie, Carol Murtaugh, BJ, Connie & Mark Stephens, Glen Gizelle, Pat Reed, Verna Boyle, Linda Ernst, Joanne & J.L., Diane Wilde, John Chambers (Marge Thompson's son-in-law), Tracy Grub, Teran, Gary (Nancy's friend Meg's husband) Marian Swingdoff's daughter, Karen Walker, Elizabeth Ann Brown, Warren Morgan, Paulette Melick, Beth (& Joe) Coyne, Elaine Burress, Judy Nelson, Ed Pentilla, Judy's sister Deb, Karen & Harold Anderson, Linda Ludwig, Carl Bailey, Pat Dixon, Josh Wells & Jamie Newman, Hilde Majors, Carol, Barb Newman, Alex Feierstein, Ron & Pat Vucson, Carolyn Gilbert, Jean Askov, Don Williams, Anne & Jerry, Carolyn Osborn, Glenn & Sande Hamberg, Bruce Hadrill, Charlene Albright, Howard Wuertz, Jan Witt, Pat Bankston, Sister Barbara, Gary. Maria Santiago and other's un-named but held in our hearts.

All that does not reflect accepting others as, and then loving as, one's neighbor.

Local beneficiaries of Hygiene and holiday food boxes and other of our church mission and all who need such help may they be Navajo Nation, Kayenta Presbyterian family, Calandria McCabe.

All those in the hospital and other facilities, those who have lost loved ones, and all your children wherever they may be.

All those dealing or with loved ones dealing with dementia or Alzheimer's.

Peace and safety for Jews, religious or not, wherever in the world they might be.

Safety for members of our Armed Forces in harm's way in Middle East and Asian waters or wherever they might be. Men and women of our armed forces, police, fire, corrections departments, EMT's and medical workers, teachers, and educators and those who care for children.

People of Hong Kong, Ukraine, and Taiwan, and of China, Russia, Cuba, and other countries not knowing freedom. Real freedom for those living in effective dictatorship.

Those traveling, whether going back to their "other" homes or traveling to visit family and friends.

A nation torn apart over politics and race and other factors that should not overcome that which is shared and the that the world resume some normality. And so guidance in wisdom and justice and understanding for the leaders of the nations of the world, including not only our President, Joe Biden, but all others, *including Pres. Putin and Chairman Xi*, the leaders of Iran and of Israel, that whether they acknowledge you or not, they might follow your will for the children of God.

Peace, justice, freedom, joy, and abundance for all of God's children.

If you or you know someone in need of prayer or changes need to be made to the above list, please contact Beth Harmon (church office) 520-868-5634

July 2024

Use of face masks, social distancing, at your own discretion.

Sermons will be available on the church web site (deserthopepresbyterian.org), YouTube (First Presbyterian Church of Florence), 1st Presbyterian Church of Florence Facebook page.

HH – Hannah Hall TBD – To Be Determined

Subject to change

Desert Hope Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	¹	² Patty & Ray Hyyppa Anniv	³	⁴	⁵ Judy Nelson B/D	⁶
⁷ 7 th Sunday after Pentacost 10:00 am Service	⁸	⁹ Bible Study – Choir room and zoom 10:30 am	¹⁰ Hygiene Bank 9-10 AM	¹¹ Ladies Coffee 9:00 am The Coffee Station	¹²	¹³ Shirley Alberg B/D
¹⁴ 8 th Sunday after Pentacost 10:00 am Service Patty Hyyppa B/D Lew Moon B/D	¹⁵	¹⁶ Bible Study – Choir room and zoom 10:00 am	¹⁸	¹⁸	¹⁹ Ronnie Brown-Woodhull B/D Anita VanWagoner B/D	²⁰
²¹ 9 th Sunday after Pentacost 10:00 am Service	²²	²³ Bible Study – Choir room and zoom 10:00 am Bill Johnston B/D	²⁴	²⁵ Ladies Coffee 9:00 am The Coffee Station	²⁶ Beth Harmon B/D	²⁷
²⁸ 10 th Sunday after Pontacost 10:00 am Service Movie 12:00 noon HH	²⁹	³⁰ Bible Study – Choir room and zoom 10:00 am Carolyn Gilbert B/D	³¹			

August 2024

Subject to change

Use of face masks, social distancing, at your own discretion.

Sermons will be available on the church web site (deserthopepresbyterian.org), YouTube (First Presbyterian Church of Florence), 1st Presbyterian Church of Florence Facebook page

HH= Hannah Hall TBD – To Be Determined

Desert Hope Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				1	2	3 Gladys Sherman B/D	
11 th Sunday after Pentacost 10:00 am Service	4	5	6	7	8 Ladies Coffee 9:00 am The Coffee Station Susan Forest B/D	9	10
12 th Sunday after Pentacost	11	12 Shirly Alberg & Jim Fena Anniv	13 Men's Breakfast – 9:00 am Florence Café	14	15	16	17
13 th Sunday after Pentecost	18	19	20	21	22 Ladies Coffee 9:00 am The Coffee Station	23 Phyllis & Bill Zwanziger Anniv	24
14 th Sunday after Pentacost	25	26	27	28	29 Pat & Ron Vucson Anniv	30	31 Robert Stephens B/D

COMMUNION



If you are not attending church and would like the pastor to bring communion to you, please let John or one of the session members know.

Gifts and Giving

	June	YTD 2024	June 2023	YTD 2023
Income (includes donations, misc. income and rent)	6,698.55	56,523.67	7,354.50	62,497.62
Earnest Money from sale of manse	5,000.00	5,000.00	0	0
Expense	11,588.64	76,130.70	12,757.01	79,440.74
Attendance*	137	817	134	1358

*Does not include those who attend Zoom.

Newsletter Mailings

If you currently receive a newsletter that has been mailed, but receive a copy on-line and no longer need one mailed, please let me know. We can save on stamps and paper that way. Beth

DISCLAIMER

Articles shared or written by individuals are not necessarily the views or opinions of the church. If you have something you would like to share or something you have written, I would be happy to include them in the newsletter. All shared or written articles will be attributed to the person who sent them in.

ATTENTION PLEASE!!

**IF YOU WISH TO HAVE SOMETHING,
PUT IN THE NEWSLETTER,**

PLEASE SEND IT TO

florencepresby1@icloud.com

Deadline is 23rd of the month

Desert Hope Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 950

225 East Butte

Florence, AZ 85132

**The Mission of Desert Hope Presbyterian Church
is to share Jesus Christ through word and action
with all those whose lives we can touch.**