

First Presbyterian NEWS

May 2019

Volume 20 Issue 5

The first Sunday in May is on the 5th of the month this year. Many remember this day as Cinco de Mayo. This is not Mexican Independence Day (September 16), as many believe, but commemorates the day in 1862 that a small, poorly equipped force of Mexican soldiers defeated a much better equipped, larger force of about 8,000 from the French Empire, under the political leadership of Napoleon III. The Mexican force, only about 4,000 men, decisively defeated the larger invading group near Puebla. France would try again a year later with a much larger force, and briefly succeed.

If that first invasion had been successful, however, the history of the United States could have been greatly different than what it is today. Speculation has been that Napoleon, if the French took Mexico City and the rest of the country, would have supported the Confederacy in the American Civil War. So this commemoration is important for American history as well. By 1865 the American Civil War was winding down, and American aid to the legitimate government now in exile in Mexico could be greater, and the Mexicans were able to take their country back from Emperor Maximilian I, who was the puppet for Napoleon.

I'm writing this before Easter, and it reminds me how Easter has become a secular holiday as well as a sacred one. Cinco de Mayo is celebrated more in the United States now than it actually is south of the border. It has become significant in commemorating Mexican-American culture (a good thing, I think). It is also a time for restaurants and bars to make some extra money. Likewise, Easter has been commercialized and the Easter Bunny probably gets more air time than the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, I am not the Grinch that stole Easter and I would never take away kid's chocolate rodents (or Lagomorpha, as scientists have recently reclassified them, though I don't know why). It is worth noting, however, that Easter (like Christmas) is really all about Christ entering our hearts, and we can get distracted from the real meaning. Similarly, the roots of Cinco de Mayo can get lost for those who want an excuse to throw a party. Easter should be a great big, rollicking, fun party, and if we get to hide Easter Eggs for kids to find, I say let's get to hiding them. But losing the actual meaning of the day the Lord rose from the dead would be tragic, and unnecessary.

Jim Gaffigan is a Roman Catholic, and he usually tries to inject some of his faith into his stand-up comedy. He puts it this way:

Woman: Easter, the day Jesus rose from the dead. What should we do?

Gaffigan: How about eggs?

Woman: Well, what does that have to do with Jesus?

Gaffigan: Alright, we'll hide 'em.

Woman: I don't follow your logic!

Gaffigan: Don't worry, there's a bunny.

Enjoy the eggs, even wave at the bunny, but remind your kids and grandkids why we're celebrating. Take time to talk to them this week (you are probably reading this a week after Easter) and ask them if they had a good Easter. It might be a good conversation starter, even with grown up kids.

Oh, and thank you, Mexico, for Cinco de Mayo! Otherwise, we might all be saying, *Joyeuses Pâques!* Yes, that's *Happy Easter* in French.



May Anniversaries

6. Gary & Mary Ann Schmadeke
12. Larry & Jackie Shinn
15. Jim & Kay Mokma
18. Mike & Mary Sue Beers
19. Larry Pazier & Debbie Burdett,
Dean & Orma Waibel
20. Roger & Charlotte Duckett
21. Johnny & Jean Gomez, Les &
Marilyn Hehr
23. Kris & Kim Kasper
27. Steve & Ronny Douglass
28. Denny & Marcey Honodel, Dick
& Nancy Powell



May Birthdays

2. Kelsey Pickett
3. Roger Duckett, Keith Mook, Glenn
Olinger
4. Mark Vanderheyden
6. Jacquelynne Brumley, Janet Gray
12. Jackson Ideen
14. Norma Pankau
15. Michael McNutt
16. Josiah Burnett, Dorothy Jean Foster
17. Janell Heinle, Judy Manns, Gene
Moffett
19. June Graber
22. Helen Frazey
24. Cindy Ellis
26. Daniel Dilworth
28. Vicky Hedrick, Judy Kitching
30. Pat Chambers, Barbara Hogsett

June/July Newsletter Dead-
line:
May 15



Church Family News

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Ida Holst who passed away on Sunday, April 7.

Senior Ministry

It has been a lovely winter with our friends from the frozen north, but as we say goodbye and prepare for the summer heat, we are planning on some fun!

1. We have tickets to a Diamondbacks game again! The game will be May 15 at 12:40 pm. We will carpool and probably use the light rail to get to the game and limit Phoenix freeway driving. We have limited seats available, so if you want to be part of this fun trip, please contact Elizabeth Elgin or Lavena Snyder as soon as possible.
2. Our May potluck will be a church birthday party! There will be cake, balloons, singing, a history lesson, in short, everything a good birthday should include! May 1, 5:00 pm in Room 17.
3. We will participate in the Cancer Support Center's group meeting on May 6 at 10:00 am at the center. (Dr. Mourelo's office on Cottonwood Lane). This is a wonderful way to talk openly with others who have had or are living with cancer with the support of professionals. The group is free. If you have questions, contact Lavena Snyder or Marilyn Hehr.
4. The cooking class will continue monthly. These classes have been producing some delicious meals and lots of laughter! And what's coming? Do I hear homemade bread? Ice cream? Cheese? Salads and salad dressings? Dates and times will be forthcoming. Elizabeth Elgin and Karen Lloyd are the teachers/co-conspirators...

All activities are open to all ages and the community.



Women's Ministry

The Spring Luncheon held on April 6 was a huge success!

There was a record of 90 tickets sold and 83 ladies in attendance. Cynthia's Catering service provided us with delicious food and the harpist, Hannah Mack, was an extremely talented young lady.

Carolyn Larsen, our speaker, was entertaining and spoke on "Between a Rock and a Hard Place." God is always in control of our lives.

Steve Schaidler, our lights and sound man, made the day complete.

The season is over until September 17. I pray everyone has a safe and cool summer.

Renee Lovell
Women's Ministry Leader



Session Update

Montlure Day Camp will be held at FPC the week of June 17. Scholarships are available. Please register at Montlure.CampBrainRegistration.com or see Vicki Cooper for scholarship information.

Seeds of Hope will host National Day of Prayer on May 2 at 2:00 in the Family Life Center.

A proposal to form a committee or commission to bring people into our church was discussed. Summer schedule begins on May 5. Traditional Worship will be at 9:00 am and Contemporary Worship will be at 10:30 am.

Mission Team is providing women's clothing and hygiene products to the police department and for young school age children. Bags with FPC logo for hygiene products have been ordered.



Worship

There's an old saying that goes "April showers bring May flowers" well, in our case it's not much with the April showers and we already had the May flowers in April. If you had a chance to hike up in Picacho Park you would have been in for a wonderful sight this year. The wildflowers were magnificent. The beauty of what our Lord has provided for us was there to behold.

What else is May noted for? Mothers' Day, it's when we honor our mothers who gave us life. Memorial Day where we honor those who gave up their lives. We all have individuals whom we memorialize. However, should we also be celebrating the most memorialized, Our Lord Jesus Christ? In worship, we should honor Him each time we are here. Yes, in worship on Sundays we are in His house. We should feel especially close to Him while we are there. After all, this "is" His house. Should it be considered holy ground? We are there because we want to be close to Him. So yes, we should consider it holy ground.

As far as our worship in church goes, the bible tells us in Ephesians that **"In (Christ) the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit."** Do you feel that it is a temple where you can commune with our Lord Jesus Christ? I pray that you do! It's our time of the week where we should feel the presence of our Lord, praying and thanking Him for the blessings that He bestows on us each and every day.

While we are in the house of God worshipping Him, we should feel the peace that He intended for us. Do you believe that when we tell Him our troubles, He will take those upon Himself to make things better? There are times when we pray that He will take away our problems, heartaches and other worldly issues. But no matter what happens and how He answers us, it's our time to be with Him. There are times when we may not think He's answering, but He "will" guide us through those troubled times one way or another. Psalm 55:22 says that you should **"Cast your burden on the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved."**

One last thing in May, we change to our summer worship times. Worship times from May till September are 9:00 (Traditional) and 10:30 (Contemporary).

We pray that your month of May will be filled with the memory of what our Lord has done for us and know that He is with us.

Your Worship Team



Missions

This school year, the Mission Team and a Grace Group have reached out to Cottonwood Elementary School. Our Grace Group started the year handing out popsicles and will end the school year with more popsicles. Our Mission Team received a request from the school expressing a need for size 5 and size 6 clothes for both boys and girls. They had the clothes in just a few hours. On May 9, Cottonwood will celebrate Family Night. Missions will furnish hot dogs and condiments as well as offer the children an opportunity to apply to attend camp at our church this summer. We love reaching out to them!

As you travel this summer, remember to collect and save hygiene items from hotels/motels. If you are bored, go ahead and knit or crochet 12 inch squares, blankets, hats, and scarves.

Hold up our members, friends, and our missionaries in prayer. Have a blessed summer!

Seeds of Hope

Thank you to everyone that helped support SOH on Arizona Gives Day on April 2. This year we raised \$57,200! That amount helped us be the second highest amount received in all of rural Arizona. Our efforts will give us an additional bonus prize of \$5,000 making our total \$62,200. Your donations thru the Fifth Sunday offering really helped make a difference. Praise be to God for every one of our supporters.

We hope you have had a chance to walk on the west side of the campus to see the beginning stages of the community garden ministry. There are tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, peppers, corn, and okra planted and growing strong. Next up will be developing the raised planter bed area. We have our pergola purchased and are in the process of putting it together. If you have any interest in building, planting, or overall garden upkeep, please call our office at 836-6335 so we can get you involved.

We are looking for driver(s) to help us with the Second Harvest food program. Our driver goes to Olive Garden, Chipotle, Pizza Hut, and Chick-fil-a in the afternoon and picks up food donations that we use at all of our ministry sites. He takes our vehicle around 2:00 pm to pick up, deliver, finishing no later than 4:00 pm. If that sounds like something that interests you, please contact the Seeds of Hope office.

Please join us for National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2. We are going to try something a little different this year. We will meet in the FLC at 2:00 pm for some prayer time. At the same time, we will be having a watch party on Facebook encouraging those that cannot make it to pray alongside of us. Around 2:19 pm, we will go live on Facebook with our final community prayer that both those in the FLC and those on Facebook can hear together. Our goal is to have as many people as possible praying in earnest for our community and nation. Let's all pray for a successful day of prayer.

For more information on these events or on any of our ministries, follow us on Facebook, our website www.seedsofhopeaz.com or call our office at 836-6335.

Blessings to All,
Mark

First Presbyterian Church



June 17 - 21

For students having completed Kindergarten - 5th Grade.

\$100 registration fee.

Extended care is available.



Register at Montlure.CampBrainRegistration.com
More details at Montlure.org

 www.facebook.com/Montlure

 [@MontlureCamp](https://www.instagram.com/MontlureCamp)

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<u>1</u> 7:30 Walking Group 10:00 Women's Bible Study 5:00 Potluck (Church Birthday)	<u>2</u> 8:00 Men's Fellowship 1:00 Adamavich Grace Group 2:00 National Day of Prayer	<u>3</u> 6:45 Al-Anon 10:00 AA	<u>4</u> 6:45 AA 7:30 Traffic School 6:30 Al-Anon 6:30 AA
<u>5</u> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Children's Church 10:30 Worship	<u>6</u> 7:30 Walking Group 1:00 Senior Ministry Games 6:00 Cub Scouts	<u>7</u> 10:15 Music Rehearsal 4:30 Praise Team	<u>8</u> 7:30 Walking Group 10:00 Women's Bible Study 5:45 Fellowship 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<u>9</u> 8:00 Men's Fellowship 4:15 pm Deacons	<u>10</u> 6:45 Al-Anon 10:00 AA 6:30 Godwin Grace Group	<u>11</u> 6:45 AA 7:30 Traffic School 8:30 Montlure Board 6:30 Al-Anon 6:30 AA
<u>12</u> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Children's Church 10:30 Worship	<u>13</u> 7:30 Walking Group 1:00 Senior Ministry Games 6:00 Cub Scouts	<u>14</u> 10:15 Music Rehearsal 4:30 Praise Team	<u>15</u> 7:30 Walking Group 5:45 Fellowship 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<u>16</u> 8:00 Men's Fellowship 1:00 Adamavich Grace Group 3:00 Memorial Committee	<u>17</u> 6:45 Al-Anon 10:00 AA	<u>18</u> 6:45 AA 7:30 Traffic School 9:30 Kairos 6:30 Al-Anon 6:30 AA
<u>19</u> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Children's Church 10:30 Worship	<u>20</u> 7:30 Walking Group 1:00 Senior Ministry Games 5:00 Missions 6:00 Cub Scouts	<u>21</u> 9:30 Cottonwood Elementary Kindergarten Graduation 10:15 Music Rehearsal 4:30 Praise Team	<u>22</u> 7:30 Walking Group 5:45 Fellowship 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<u>23</u> 8:00 Men's Fellowship 3:00 Early Bird Buffet @ Golden Corral 4:30 Stephen Min 5:30 Session	<u>24</u> 6:45 Al-Anon 10:00 AA 6:30 Godwin Grace Group	<u>25</u> 6:45 AA 7:30 Traffic School 6:30 Al-Anon 6:30 AA
<u>26</u> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Children's Church 10:30 Worship	<u>27</u> OFFICE CLOSED	<u>28</u> 10:15 Music Rehearsal 4:30 Praise Team	<u>29</u> 7:30 Walking Group 5:45 Fellowship 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<u>30</u> 8:00 Men's Fellowship	<u>31</u> 6:45 Al-Anon 10:00 AA	



The church office will be closed
Monday, May 27, in observance of
Memorial Day.

Vision Statement:
Belong to God and to each other
Believe God's word
Be more like Christ
Build a better community

Ministry Connection	
Accompanist	Ginny Lewis
Bell Choir	Kim Freyermuth, Susan Quintanar
Chancel Choir/Acquire	June Graber
Custodian	Harold Lovell
Funeral Director	Mary Lu Brooks
Nursery Attendants	Jasmin Diaz Geovani Hernandez
Office Manager	Heather McNutt
Organist	Jane Ethington
Pastor	Rev. Paul Elgin
Pastor of Caring Min.	Bill Heinle
Seeds of Hope	Mark Vanderheyden
Sexton	Pete Vogel
Stephen Ministry	Bill Heinle
Trad'l Worship Music	Roberta Doerges
Women's Bible Study	Donita Godwin
Women's Ministry	Renee Lovell
Youth Director	Kylie Powell

How To Reach Us

Phone: (520) 836-5981
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.
(closed for lunch 12:30-1:30)
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Session

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Treasurer: Gary Ellis
Clerk of Session: Kay Svedjan

Deacon Parish Assignments

Judy Kitching	Moderator
Terry Sullivan	A-Bo
Jim & Bobbi Antholz	Br-Coo
Larry & Jackie Shinn	Cop-Et
Doug & Darlene Antrobus	Ev-Gre
Ken & Judy Davenport	Gri-Jac
Richard & Peggy White	Jah-La
Kitty Bertness	Le-Mod
Marcey Honodel	Moe-Pic
DeeLane Heinle	PI-Sch
Renee Lovell	Scl-Thu
Bill & Summer Burkert	Tow-Z