

Pastor

John Johnson
Cell: 312-933-3494

Johnjohnson1010@icloud.com

Session Members

Clerk of the Session

Nancy Blank (Ex-Officio)
520-233-1563

Treasurer

Anita Van Wagoner (Ex-Officio)
520-709-2771

Assistant Treasurer

Tom Harmon
317-289-7067

Finance/Personnel

Tom Harmon
317-289-7067

Property /Buildings

Ed Pentilla
406-291-7386

Congregational Care

Katrina Guy
623-334-0402

Evangelism/Newsletter/Website

Heidi Lowe
520-221-5676

Mission

ShaRon Liedl (Local)
520-431-0883

Mary Palmer (General)
928-580-2030

Worship

BJ Tyree
602-500-2520
Mary Palmer
928-580-2030

Christian Education

Margie Lewis
818-261-6824

Stewardship

John Guy
520-858-3322

Admin & Personnel

Ray Hyyppa
303-941-4893
John Guy

520-858-2945

Fellowship

Laura Hofmann
520-858-2945

Bookkeeper

Jane Whitaker
50-252-5270

Church Secretary

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

Prayer Chain

Patty Hyyppa
303-941-4893 – Cell
520-251-5588 – Home

Memorial Garden & Columbarium

Robert & Joan Phillips
520-868-0507
jkcoop@gmail.com

Church Hours

Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 – 1:00 pm

newsletter225@yahoo.com

Deadline is 25th of month



August 2020 Issue 7

The Mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Florence
Is to share Jesus Christ through word and action
With all whose lives we can touch.



P.O. Box 950
225 East Butte Avenue
Florence, AZ 85132
Ph: 520-868-5634
Fax: 520-868-3053

Email: FlorencePresby1@icloud.com

Website: www.florenceazchurch.org

**Sunday Church Service
10:30 am**

2. From the Pastor
4. Prayers, Birthdays & Anniversaries
5. Mission Moments
6. Church Directory
7. Virtual Fellowship Hour
8. Children are Quick
9. August
10. British Humor
11. Calendar

From the Pastor

This past week, a new “rover” sat on a rocket that shot off, payload destined to Mars to explore the possibility that there was once life on the “red planet.”

That is a far cry from when the Russians shooting the first “Sputnik” into space and catching the US by surprise. (Quiz: What part of government was then responsible for the US’s effort to launch a satellite – and the first successful US satellite was not launched by them? An “attagirl” or “attaboy” for whoever recalls it was the Navy with its “Vanguard” program.) That event sort of sealed by youthful commitment to be either an aeronautical engineer or physicist and may have been what determined me for the latter. Yet as a physicist, as it turned out, I was far more likely to be dealing with small devices called *semiconductors* than with rockets and spacecraft (though I spent a fascinating summer dealing with the latter and even visited Cape Kennedy, as Cape Canaveral had been recently renamed, as part of that job). At the time I left physics, *semiconductors* basically referred to transistors and solid-state diodes and were just beginning to appear in television sets; microprocessors were still several years away and the Internet (which those semiconductors made possible)? If anyone had thought of it, I was unaware.

So I left physics and after various twists and turns, thirty years later I found myself a seminary student and answering a call in which my background in physics would certainly play no role.

. . . or at least a different one.

As we as Christ’s church(es) continue to try to determine how to deal with the COVID-19 crisis, both the virus and disease and with the impact it is having on our normal lives, we of course turn to . . . *semiconductors*, or more precisely, to the semiconductors in computers and cell phones and Internet servers that at least make it possible to communicate in ways that were never imagined when I left physics, and hardly when I entered seminary twenty-five years ago (though AOL had started). Today, I am struggling to learn how to use those semiconductors so that those with home computers or smart phones can “attend” church as we seek to stream live the weekly worship – with face masks and social distancing, no hymns (so as not to broadcast “droplets”) nor, at least until we receive proper supplies, no Lord’s Supper observance.

We are almost there with this streaming, our trial on August 2 was reasonably successful, so join us at 10:30 am MDT pm August 9. (If you have email, you will receive a link from me; if you have email but have not been hearing from me, I need your address [send to me at johnjohnson1010@icloud.com].) If one waits until Sunday evening, we post a video recording on the Florence church website: www.florenceazchurch.org.

“But John, what if I do not have a computer?” Which is an obvious question and a fair one. It is not meant as an exercise in ego, but if you would wish that each week, we mail you a copy of the sermon text, we can do that. It is not much of a substitute, I know, for live worship, but ask and we’ll send.

But church is, of course, not “just” worship. I know we all miss fellowship (especially when there is chocolate), and we do not have real, physical fellowship even for those who attend the limited Sunday worship at Florence. Again, those with computers for whom I have email addresses can attend a “ZOOM” Fellowship and Happy Hour at 4:00 pm on Saturdays.

All of which is a way of beating around the bush and avoiding the question, “When can we resume regular church activities?”

And the answer is: “Not yet!” The situation in Arizona has not been good, and while it is true that much of the increase in COVID 19 cases (and this is true nationally, as well) has in fact been among those in the broad 20-54 age range, it remains older people, not that any in our congregations are over 65, but for those over 65 the fatality rate for those getting the disease is distressingly high. (Arizona’s statistics do not indicate

what percentage of these deaths occur in nursing homes; nationally, it is about 43%.) *We simply do not want to encourage anyone to feel an obligation to attend church when his or her health and life is at such risk.*

We do continue to support mission as best we can (and the church continues to have financial need) and look forward to when we can all be together, but it will not be in August and, just my opinion and that of elders to whom I have so far posed the question, it may well not be in September, either.

So let me know – and do not hesitate to call me at 312-933-3494 – what we can do to serve as your church during this extended and difficult time, but most importantly know that, “Yes, Jesus loves you!”

Blessings,

John

ATTENTION PLEASE!!

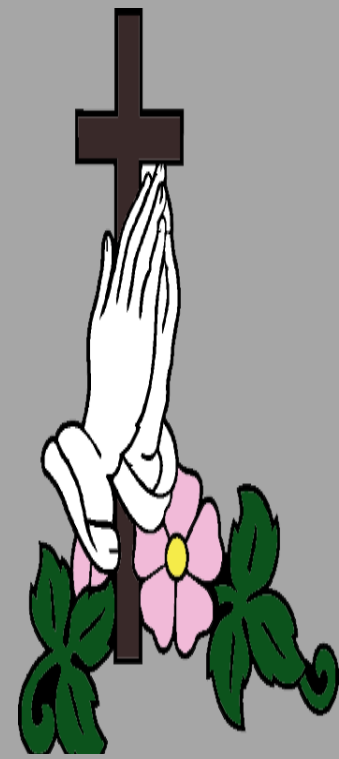
**IF YOU WISH TO HAVE
SOMETHING PUT IN THE
NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SEND IT
TO newsletter225@yahoo.com**

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.

Please be careful of copyrighted material.

Please use our website: www.florenceazchurch.org



Florence: Aggie Eeg's nephew, Philip Ross, Bob & Joan's friends Janet Ford & Lois, Judy Nelson's sister Deb and Johnny, John Guy, Don Balsley (Suzan Forrest), Suzanne Tinka, Mary's Methodist minister (Lisa) cousin's husband (Rodney) Throat cancer), Ed Demar, Donna Studer, Jonathan, Art and Shirley Colley, Dave Baier, Kurt Brummage, Ray Hyppa, Lew and Delores Moon, Granddaughter Libby, Peggy and Neil Rathke, Bob Sherman, Allen Saunders, Gary Liedl, Ethel, David, Ira Cohen, Mindy, and granddaughter, Kaylie, Phyllis Carlson, Maria, Ann Schneider, BJ, John Buttram, Connie Stephens, Mark Stephens, Pat Reed, Miriam Reid, Verna Boyle, Barb Newman, Margie's cousin, Melissa Artis Fletcher, Hilde Major, Pat Vucson and her and Ron's grandson, Linda Ernst, Bonnie Brunner, Myrna Leef, Muriel Marsteller, Lois Kuder, Joann and JL Hooper, Denise and Larry Kollert, Joyce and her family, Tracy Grubb, Taren, Peggy, Steve, David, Diane Wilde

COVID-19: Navajo Nation and all those in hospital, those who have lost loved ones, all of your children to be spared and world resume some normality
 A nation torn apart over politics and race and other factors that should not overcome what is shared.
 Healthcare workers and Police, fire, emergency workers
 People of Hong Kong
 Peace, justice, freedom, joy and abundance for all of God's children



- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3. Gladys Sherman | 12. Jim Fena & Shirley Alberg |
| 15. William Wilke | 19. Murle & Elaine Linke |
| 18. Joyce Smith | 22. Gary & Joyce Baker |
| 18. BJ Tyree | 23. Bill & Phylli Zwanziger |
| 25. Leigh Stewart | 29. Ron & Pat Vucson |
| 26. Wayne Stewart | |
| 27. Betty Rieffer | |

**Please let me know if I missed your Birthday or Anniversary or have the wrong date. Thanks

Mission Moments



Box tops for Menaul School

We are collecting box tops to send to Menaul School as part of our mission's projects. Please cut and save them and bring to the church. They can be found on hundreds of products from pencils, cereals, frozen foods, and many others.



Donations can be made at any time, just make a note on the memo part of your check.

The Hygiene bank is reopening. It will be run a little differently right now. At this point in time it is a drive-up procedure. The individuals drive up to the gate and a bag will be given to them with all their hygiene supplies. This helps ensure the practice of social distancing and keeping everyone safe. If you'd like to donate, please indicate this on your offering or donate using the website application. We appreciate your generosity in supporting our missions.



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*Donate through our website
Your gift makes a difference!!*



2020 First Presbyterian Church Directory

Good news the long-awaited event is preparing to arrive! No, it is not the Baby Jesus, he already came that way once and I do not have any insider information as to when his next expected arrival will be. However, I hope to get the new directory sent out in the next 7 to 10 days. I apologize it has taken so long. With the Covid19 outbreak, I'm afraid the completion of the directory had to take the backseat to some other projects that required my time, plus it was difficult to verify information with very few people still in Florence and social distancing for those who remained.

The directory will be emailed to those for whom we have email addresses and mailed to those who do not. This is a preliminary, subject to change and/or correction as needed. I had planned to have copies available at the church for people to verify information, however...that didn't happen for reasons that you know. When you receive the directory, please check your information. If something has been left out, or I entered something incorrectly (hopefully not), please let me know. There are some of you for whom I do not have a picture. If you have a picture, or if you want a different picture, please send it to me via email (florencepresby1@icloud.com) or snail mail (First Presbyterian Church of Florence, PO Box 950. Florence AZ 85132) and I can scan it and use it. If your information is not in the directory and you would like to be included, please let me know. I will send an information sheet to you to be completed and returned to me.

I believe you will find the new directory extremely helpful. We were able to include more information with this edition than in previous directories. I must say, we have a very good-looking group of members and the pictures are helpful, when we don't see each other as often as we might like. I won't add, (but I just did) that for some of us, the pictures really help when it has been maybe months since we have seen somebody, and our memories have a hard time connecting names and faces! Plus, with masks on it is even trickier. Maybe we should include 2 pictures, one with masks and one without!

Thank you for your patience and I hope you will find this new directory helpful.





[This Photo](#) by Unknown

Are You Busy Saturday Afternoon?

What does your calendar look like for Saturday afternoons? I am pretty sure that going to the movies or the opera, flying to Tahiti for the weekend, heading off on a cruise, or even going to the library are not options right now. OK, so how about getting together (virtually) with fellow First Presbyterian Church friends? The last few weeks, John Guy and John Johnson have been hosting a live Zoom gathering. An email with the link to click on to attend is sent out earlier in the week, with a reminder email normally sent out Friday. The ***Virtual Fellowship Hour is every Sat. 4:00pm MST (6:00 pm CDT, 7:00 pm EDT, 4:00 pm PDT)***. We have discussed a wide variety of subjects from local weather, what we've been doing, gardening, rain or lack of, the beauty of a green backyard in WI and are also open to wherever the conversation may lead. It is a nice opportunity to reconnect with those we haven't seen or been in contact with lately. Dress is casual (in fact, if you do not turn on your video, we can't even see you), masks are NOT mandatory, food and drinks are optional (depends on what you have at your house), and all are welcome! So...take a few minutes to pull up your calendar and mark Sat. afternoon as a reminder of this fun gathering! Hope to see you there!



Children Are Quick

TEACHER: Why are you late?
STUDENT: Class started before I got here.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?
JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?'
GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'
TEACHER: No, that's wrong
GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.
(I Love this child)

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?
DONALD: H I J K L M N O.
TEACHER: What are you talking about?
DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.
WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Glen, why do you always get so dirty?
GLEN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it.
Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?
LOUIS: Because George still had the axe in his hand....

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?
SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my Mum is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's.
Did you copy his?
CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog.
(I want to adopt this kid!!!)

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?
HAROLD: A teacher.



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AUGUST

“Roll out those Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer. Those days of soda and pretzels and beer. You’ll wish that summer could always be here.” Nate King Cole 1963*

The month of August is indeed the Lazy, Hazy, Crazy days of summer as sung by Nate (King) Cole in 1963. In the old days, before air-conditioning, there wasn’t much one could do about the heat except to take it easy. The best way to handle August was to find a hammock under a large shade tree with a glass of lemonade, or to sit by the old fishing hole down by the river. We called this; “Dog Days “of summer.

Dog Days are the hottest, muggiest days of the year. In ancient times, the night sky was un-obscured by artificial light. At that time, people in different parts of the world drew images in the sky by “connecting the dots” of stars. The pictures they created were given names. The brightest star in the night sky was Sirius in the constellation of Canis or “Dog”. It was thought that Sirius combined its heat with the sun to make excessive heat during this time of year. Webster defines “Dog Days” as a period of stagnation or inactivity. Today, we understand that the heat of August comes from the tilt of the earth and not from the combination of stars.

Life has its own “Dog Days,” when decision making becomes unbearable. Days when we have been on the job too long or have been forced into activity, we are not excited about. There are muggy days in our lives. This present confusion about a deadly virus, is a Lazy-Hazy-Crazy time in our life. Teachers become overwhelmed with preparation. Students don’t know how they will be learning. The song tells us to, *“Just fill your basket full of sandwiches and wieners, now you are set, and you’ll wish that summer could always be here.”* We do need escape, and August is a good a time to get away from all the craziness around us. The Song may be right. Picnicking may be just what is needed.

August derives its name from the nephew of Julius Caesar. When this Emperor came to power after the assassination of his uncle, he declared himself Caesar Augustus. The “August” Caesar! That was during the time when the calendar was being settled and a few more months were needed to make the year come out right. It was this ‘Caesar Augustus’ who sent out a decree that the world should be enrolled, and a pregnant couple was sent off to Bethlehem. This Caesar not only added 'August', to the calendar but he changed the whole world from BC to AD. What follows then, is the story of the Gospel, and Salvation. With that change, renewal and hope, came into the world.

The lazy-hazy-crazy days of summer are followed by the cool nights of September and the beauty of October. God sees us through our DOG days and leads us into beauty. Caesars may think they are “August”, but they are just part of the calendar. You and I are a part of eternity.

“For everything there is a season ...I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men. He has made everything beautiful in its time: also, he has put eternity into man’s mind.” Eccl. 3:1-11 **Nate might be right:** *“Summer could always be here.”*

* I recommend you 'Google' the song and listen to Nate King Cole sing it.

BRITISH HUMOR IS DIFFERENT

These are classified ads, which were actually placed in U.K. Newspapers:

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER.

8 years old,

Hateful little bastard.

Bites!

FREE PUPPIES

1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog.

FREE PUPPIES.

Mother is a Kennel Club registered German Shepherd.

Father is a Super Dog, able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

COWS, CALVES: NEVER BRED.

Also 1 gay bull for sale.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY !

Must sell washer and dryer £100.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE .

Worn once by mistake.

Call Stephanie.

**** And the WINNER is... ****

FOR SALE BY OWNER.

Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes.

Excellent condition, £200 or best offer. No longer needed, got married, wife knows everything.

Statement of the Century

Thought from the Greatest Living Scottish Thinker--Billy Connolly. "If women are so bloody perfect at multitasking, How come they can't have a headache and sex at the same time?"

Attending (Worship) requires use of face masks, social distancing and your own discretion.

August

Subject to change

Sermons will be available on both the church web site (florenceazchurch.com) and YouTube (First Presbyterian Church of Florence).
Virtual Fellowship Hour every Sat. 4:00pm MST (6:00 pm CDT, 7:00 pm EDT, 4:00 pm PDT).

2020

1st Presbyterian Church of Florence, Arizona

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Virtual Fellowship Hour 4:00 PM MST
2 9th Sunday after Pentecost	3 Gladys Sherman B/D	4	5	6	7	8 Virtual Fellowship Hour 4:00 PM MST
9 10th Sunday after Pentecost	10	11	12 Jim Fena & Shirley Alberg – Anniv Hygiene Bank 9:00- 10:00pm	13	14	15 Virtual Fellowship Hour 4:00 PM MST William Wilke B/D
16 11h Sunday after Pentecost	17	18 Joyce Smith B/D BJ Tyree B/D	19 Murle & Elaine Linke - Anniv	20	21 Session Meeting 11:00 AM	22 Virtual Fellowship Hour 4:00 PM MST Gary & Joyce Baker - Anniv
23 12th Sunday after Pentecost Bill & Phyllis Zwanziger - Anniv	24	25 Leigh Stewart B/D	26 Wayne Stewart B/D	27 Betty Rieffer B/D	28	29 Virtual Fellowship Hour 4:00 PM MST Ron & Pat Vucson Anniv
30 13th Sunday after Pentecost	31					

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