



# EFOCUS

## Weekly Missive

### Ignite the Spark 2019 Digging the Data!

Fake News! Alternative Facts! Confirmation Bias! Recency Bias! Silos! As the headlines scream with reasons to distrust the information with which we are daily bombarded, it is easy for me, a pastor, to smile smug in my assurance that I have been right all along: intuition and artistic perception are far more powerful indicators of truth than *mere facts*. Certain of my rightness – ne brilliance – I lift my lip and sneer at the bankers and business types, the engineers and educators who populate my churches and who rely on science, numbers, and known quantities in their decision-making.

Then again, maybe I've been wrong all along.



[CONTINUE READING](#)

### THIRD THIRTY: FINDING FULFILLMENT AFTER 60

Saturday, February 9, 2019  
10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
16000 N Del Webb Blvd,  
Sun City, AZ 85351



What would happen in our churches if we paid more attention to the well that restores and equips us in our life together? We would experience healthier churches. When our churches are healthy, we are nurturing and equipping people to follow Jesus into the lives of others and into God's mission in the world. We bear fruit that nurtures others. Keynote Speaker Ray Jones, acting director of the PC(USA) Mission Agency says "I cannot think of better leaders for this movement than our older adults." Click the link below for more information on how you can better serve those in their "Third Thirty" in your congregation.

10:00 a.m. "Bearing Fruit: Digging Wells vs Building Fences Ray Jones, plenary  
11:15 a.m. Worship  
12:15 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Workshop I  
2:00 p.m. Workshop II

(Choose 2 workshops from these 4)

#### Light Beams

Led by Cathie Bamber, R.N., Faith Presbyterian Church Parish Nurse

Let your light shine for Christ! AND for those with sight impairment or those caring for people with sight impairment. Learn more about Faith Church's Light Beams group, and adapt it for your own church. We have guest speakers, special programs and activities designed especially for those with low vision.

#### Caregiving 101

Led by Rev. Linda Lloyd

Have you found it challenging to care for yourself while caring for others? We will talk together about the importance of self-care and coping with changes as we care for one another.

## Getting Started with "Third Thirty Ministries"

Led by Revs. Sheryl and Mike Campbell, co-pastors, Faith Presbyterian

Gain insights on building Older Adult Ministries as well as sharing the resources. The practical experience, wisdom, attitude and example of people in-but-not-limited-to their "Third Thirty" are valued gifts to the life of the church.

## Life Lessons

Led by Kim Porter, AZ Commission on the Arts

Looking at the things we have learned in life with an eye for telling our stories. This storytelling workshop uses simple, low resistance prompts and exercises to explore our memories and uncover images and stories we might have forgotten about. Then, using best story- development practices we will shape our recollections into Stories with a capital "S".

Registration is \$10 per person and will include a healthy lunch.

[PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIRD THIRTY BY CLICKING HERE](#)

# Registration is open for January Presbytery meeting



## HIGHLIGHTS FOR JANUARY 25-26 PRESBYTERY MEETING Mesa First Presbyterian

Worship and Celebration of the Lord's Supper  
Installation of Moderators-Jim Nelson (de Cristo) and Carol Gerlach (Grand Canyon)  
Commissioning of: Triennium participants, CREs, Thrive congregations

Dedication of Pledges  
Rev. Bill Brown and Rev. Tom Letts- Congregational Renewal  
Annual meetings of the Presbyteries

[CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE AMENDMENTS TO BE VOTED UPON](#)

[PLEASE REGISTER FOR PRESBYTERY BY CLICKING HERE](#)

# Ignite the Spark



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2019**  
**9. AM- 2:30 P.M.**  
**First Presbyterian, 161 N Mesa Dr, Mesa, AZ**  
Contact us at [pbyoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pbyoffice@gmail.com)

## PRESENTERS

Dr. Bill Brown is the William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary and, more importantly, a member of Presbytery de Cristo. Dr. Brown's most recent book is SACRED SENSE: DISCOVERING THE WONDER OF GOD'S WORD AND WORLD, (Grand Rapids: WM.B EERDMANS, 2015) He will present on the connection between our theology of Wonder and the work of discernment for ministry.

The Rev. Tom Letts is a Presbyterian pastor, church consultant and 1001 New Worshipping communities coach. As both a church pastor and church planter, the Rev. Letts seeks to engage parishioner in Reality-tested decision-making. He will present on how data and demographics lead us to define ministry targets and get real about our commitments.

[PLEASE REGISTER FOR IGNITE THE SPARK BY CLICKING HERE](#)

## CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCES CORNER

The Congregational Resources Committee is looking for input on the kinds of mission funding that would be useful to our congregations. Please take a few minutes to download and complete the attached form and return it to Shannon Langston, Moderator by the end of the year. Your insight will be

## PEACEMAKING RESOURCES



### HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN TODAY'S WORLD

After drug dealing, trafficking in people is tied with arms dealing as the second largest criminal industry in the world. (U.S. Department of Justice) An estimated 1.2 million children are trafficked, and 12.3 million people are being trafficked as you read this. 56 % are women and girls. (international Labor Association, UNICEF)

“Human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining, by any means, any person for forced labor, slavery or servitude in any industry or site such as agriculture, construction, prostitution, restaurants, manufacturing, begging, domestic service or marriage.” Shelkha Haya Rashad Al Khalifa, president, 61<sup>st</sup> session, U.N. General Assembly.

[SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION IN CONGREGATIONS](#)

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**Please keep these people in your prayers:**

The family of Rev. Art Bell, who passed away December 26. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, January 5, 1PM  
Desert Palms Presbyterian Church  
13459 W. Stardust Blvd  
Sun City West, AZ

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Take a Look! Several new Job postings to explore! Feel free to share with friends!

**JOBS and GOODS**

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### Upcoming Events and other Resources

To access information below, click on text that is underlined!

#### JANUARY

11- Cook Appreciation and Leadership Awards Banquet

25- Ignite the Spark- REGISTER HERE

25-26 Presbytery meeting, Mesa First- REGISTER HERE

#### FEBRUARY

9- Third Thirty: Finding Fulfillment After 60- Faith, Sun City- REGISTER HERE

#### APRIL

11- Senior Service Awards- Valley Presbyterian

[Presbytery calendar](#)

[THIS WEEK'S PCUSA NEWS](#)

[Sign Up for a 1001 Worshiping Communities Assessment](#)

Board of Pensions- [Board Bulletin](#)

[Presbyterians Today](#)

[Lenten Study- Lighten Up with the Humor of Jesus](#)



## Attention Congregations!

HAS YOUR SESSION PRAYERFULLY CONSIDERED YOUR CHANCE TO THRIVE? [Click here for a preview of the program](#)

Registration for 2019 Overnight camps is open, please spread the word as families begin to transition after the holidays to making summer plans. (Traveling Day camp registrations will open early in the new year.)



Register at: [Montlure.CampBrainRegistration.com](http://Montlure.CampBrainRegistration.com)

### Overnight Camps:

Senior High: June 2-7, 2019

Junior High: June 23-28, 2019

Juniors: July 7-July 11, 2019

### Traveling Day Camps:

Orangewood Presbyterian Church (Central Phx): June 3-7

Gilbert Presbyterian Church (Phx/East Valley): June 10-14

First Presbyterian of Casa Grande: June 17-21

Valley Presbyterian (Green Valley): June 24-28

Please [follow us on Facebook](#) for the latest news and updates.

Visit our website

STAY CONNECTED



Presbytery of Grand Canyon | 602-468-3820 | Fax- 602-468-3824 | [pbyoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pbyoffice@gmail.com)  
[www.pbygrandcanyon.org](http://www.pbygrandcanyon.org)