

Gillespie Creek Journal

A quiet walk within Nature's cocoon will bring respite from the past week's International heartbreak. Try out a visit to the **Hassayampa River Preserve** 45 minutes north of Sun City, just south of Wickenburg. There is an entry fee. Call ahead for hours. You will find great peace hiking beside the gently flowing Hassayampa.

Prayer for Ukraine

O Lord God of life, as you care for all creation, give us your peace. May our security come not from weapons, but from respect. May our strength come not from violence, but from love. May our own wealth come not from money but from sharing.

May our path be not one of ambition, but of justice. May our victory not be one of revenge, but of forgiveness. Unarmed and confident, help us to defend the dignity of all creation, sharing today and always the bread of solidarity and peace.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
Faith Vigil for Peace in Ukraine



Phainopepla , Silky-Flycatcher

Photo by Buddy Walker



Vermillion Flycatcher

Photo by Buddy Walker



Cedar Waxwing

Photo by Wikipedia

Three strikingly different **Flycatchers** are the focus in this newsletter. Currently they are migrating, finding prey in the Wickenburg/ Phoenix, Arizona region.

Waxwings are the sleekest birds, Each has a pointed crest that the bird can raise or lower as needed. Some have red tips on their secondary wings as you see with Mr. Cedar below.

Each of these species has its own unique flight pattern, prey and personality.

Phainopepla and **Vermillion** are solitary birds. **Cedar** chooses to flock noisily within species groups.

Cedar Waxwings along with their cousins, Bohemian Waxwings are found in the Midwest and East as well as the desert. Look for them after a late spring frost flocked and singing in chorus within a fruit tree... they are having a party drinking the fermenting fruit's nectar!

Phainopepla and Vermillion are found alongside running water in the desert. Along with fruit growing on Desert Mistletoe they eat insects in flight. Vermillion especially chooses bee and grasshopper prey.