

# *Palm Leaf*

*Church of the Palms*

*September 2017*

Connect with God, find community, make a difference!  
We are an Open and Affirming church—You are welcome here!

Seeking justice through Prayer, Action, Love, Ministry & Support

The rainbow flag represents affirmation of our Church's commitment to be open and affirming and to show our support for the LGBTQ community. The flag is commonly flown with the red stripe on top, as the colors appear in a natural rainbow. The colors were determined to symbolize: life (red), healing (orange), sunlight (yellow), nature (green), harmony/peace (blue), and spirit (purple/violet).

This flag is a statement of welcome. We welcome the LGBTQ community, friends, and family. But it is more than just that – it is a symbol of welcome to one and all.





*Pastor Paul Whitlock*

A rainbow is more than just a sign of welcome to the LGBTQ community, it is a Biblical promise to one and all that God loves us and will never abandon us. What a powerful symbol for us to display! The Social Justice Team raised a rainbow flag this past month. With a crowd of fifty (half of which were first-time visitors to The Palms and most of them stayed for worship) loud hallelujahs were heard. Our experience in hanging our rainbow banner, last summer, has been extremely well received. The rainbow windmill flowers around the fountain, while battered by the monsoon winds, remain spinning and showing all who enter of our extravagant welcome.

When considering this step in faith by raising the flag, we contacted other congregations to get their real life experiences. I contacted several clergy friends within the UCC and the Disciples of Christ. Our friend and former Interim Pastor, Jim Meadows, told me his experience at Shepherd of the Hills UCC: three flags have been stolen. Each time, Jim just puts up a new one. Ours, one day, might be stolen. And if that day happens, (maybe I should say, when that day happens), we will follow Jim's lead, and put up a new one, again, and again.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation. We say it print, but we are still learning to do it in our deeds of welcome. It is a lot harder to show the affirming part when we are scared of vandalism, when we have seen folks on TV wronged or hurt. And some, when hearing of the flag, focused on the fear of vandalism or violence. "Why open us to danger?" they asked. The feeling of being scared that some have over this, is just a glimpse, a sliver of what some people deal with 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year! It's harder to actually show love when we are scared; it's harder to forgive when we have been wronged or hurt; it's difficult to show acts of love when we are tired of the grind. Yes, we are an Open and Affirming congregation, we are still working on the affirming part.

To address the "why" question, I believe for us to reach our full potential as a church, as the body of Christ, as God's palms reaching out to a hurting world, we must be in the business of affirming. I know to be faithful to our call from God we must have a heart, use our brains, and we must muster up some courage. Rather than living as though we are untouched by faith, let us be the citadel against bigotry. Let us be bold examples for our neighbors of what faithful living looks like. And let us not shrink and hide from our responsibility to be God's palms reaching out with love and acceptance. Let us not let fear mongers frame the moment, but rather let us live these days and let us define the moment as an expression of what it is – the rainbow is God's promise to one and all of love, grace, and acceptance...even for you and me!

Shalom,  
Paul



**2017 Rummage & Bake Sale  
Part II  
First Call  
DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

Now is the time to begin going through your closets and storage areas. Please consider donating those items that have served you well but now need to have a new life with a new owner who has been looking for just such an item. Your donated items should be brought to the church beginning Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. There they will be sorted, priced and staged for the Rummage Sale which occurs on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. If you need to have an item picked up prior to Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, please contact Paul Hiles or John Durbin. If you will be baking something for our wonderful bake sale, please plan on filling out the Bake Sale sign up sheet which will be available in the Narthex beginning on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

We will be accepting all donations now but the items for the October sale include:

**CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY/TOYS; SMALL ELECTRONICS, CAMERAS & HAND TOOLS; JEWELRY & COLLECTABLES; CRAFTS; PICTURES, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT & SPORTS EQUIPMENT, BOOKS, DVD/CD's & OFFICE ITEMS; HOUSEWARES; and FURNITURE.**

**And, of course, we will be having our BAKE SALE & FOOD SERVICES.**

There will be an organizational meeting at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> for volunteers and all those interested in finding out more about the sale. If you can help or have questions please contact one of the members of the 2017 Rummage Sale coordinating team (John Durbin ~ Board of Mission and Outreach, Pat Durbin ~ Board of Evangelism, Judy Jondahl ~ Board of Stewards). Or sign up on one of the Volunteer Sheets in the narthex or office. We need lots of help and we would love to have you be involved.

Thank you very much!!

## In Sympathy

We express sympathy to  
Debby and Russell Stinton on  
the death of her son, Rick.

We express sympathy to Gordy and Mary Funck on the death of his  
daughter, Toni.

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### Congratulations to Jim Alexander!

The Southwest Conference's  
Committee on Church and Ministry "A" has voted to give their blessings for  
Jim Alexander to be ordained. Wahoo! And thanks be to God!  
The next step will be for Jim to have an ecclesiastical council (which is when the churches  
from the SWC send representatives and Jim defends his ordination paper).  
That event will take place on Sunday, November 19 at The Palms. A vote will then be  
taken, and, should he pass, we will have an ordination some time in the following months!

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### Special Offering for Hurricane Harvey Relief

The Church of The Palms is extending an invitation to everyone to donate to our special  
offering for Harvey Relief. The scenes are heartbreaking! The results are  
devastating. Our response must be extraordinary! One Great Hour of Sharing is  
already there with aid. More is needed.

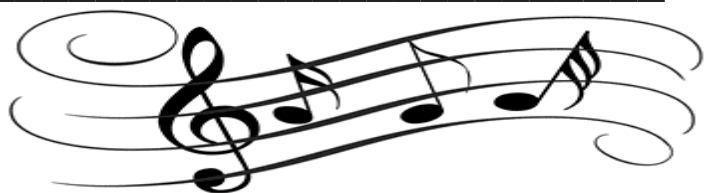
On September 10, we will receive  
financial donations that will be matched! That's right! We will take money from our re-  
serve account, which is our "rainy day fund", and match the total amount of gifts up to  
\$5,000. So, your gift of \$100  
becomes \$200! Your gift of \$5  
becomes \$10.

**Any and all amounts are needed.**

**Please give generously!!**

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1:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
September 7th  
"Ruthless  
People"



*NOTES FROM THE  
BOARD OF WORSHIP AND FINE ARTS*



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2017 AT 1 P.M.  
SESSIONS WILL BE HELD EVERY FRIDAY IN THE  
BOARDROOM OF THE CHURCH OF THE PALMS  
FROM 1 P.M. TO 3 P.M. PLEASE COME TO THE  
FIRST SESSION FOR A BRIEF ORIENTATION AND  
MORE DETAILS.**

**A sign-up sheet is in the narthex on  
the opportunity table**

## **When to Join A GriefShare Group**

You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any session. Each is "self-contained," so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. You will be able to continue with GriefShare through the next 13-week cycle and view any of the videos you have not seen.

If you like to take photos when you are here at church or attending one of our events...we have a word for you...SHARE! Wende Gonzales has created a Church of the Palms Community Photo Album on Google Photos so that members and friends can view and upload photos of events at Church of the Palms. You will need a Google e-mail, but they are free to create. There are a couple of ways to access the

Photo Album:

- go to the church website, click on get involved link, then click on view and upload photos of events at Church of the Palms link
- just type in the address [goo.gl/u2QtrE](http://goo.gl/u2QtrE)  
a step by step on how to load your pictures will guide you through the process.

Jan Hutchins would be glad to walk you through the process at the church if you need help. Or, you can still contribute photos by emailing them to [janet.l.hutchins@gmail.com](mailto:janet.l.hutchins@gmail.com) or [manager@thepalms.org](mailto:manager@thepalms.org), or by stopping by the office and ask us to download them for you. As you can

see...



WE REALLY WANT YOUR PHOTOS!  
THANK YOU!



The Lydia Group will be having their first meeting of the year on Wednesday,

September 13th at 1:00 p.m. The program will be a demonstration given by Marie Wall on her fantastic new sewing machine. Maria used this state of the art machine to stitch the name and moto of The Church of the Palms on many items for sale on our Service Project Group table in King Hall and especially on the beautiful hand towels presented to new church members as they are welcomed into the congregation.

You are all welcome to come and enjoy the demonstration of this elegant sewing machine. If you plan to come please call Bonnie Tweedy at 623-933-0803 so we have refreshments for everyone.

Y'all come-You'll enjoy it!

### Children First Academy

*And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."*

*Matthew 10:42*

The need was there and The Church of the Palms answered the call! Thank you for providing 1,200 bottles of water for students at Children First Academy, school for homeless kids in the Phoenix metro area. Your generosity is both touching and deeply appreciated. Because of you, the children's chances of success have been improved. Water is essential and helps convert the thirst for water to a thirst for learning. You make a difference!!"

# PAINTING THE STARS

## Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith

Monday Morning Life Long Learning Class will continue with "Painting the Stars" through September 18. We will not meet on Labor Day, September 4. A new program will begin on September 25. Details will be announced when our next program is determined.

"When I have a terrible need of – dare I say, 'religion'?  
then I go outside at night and paint the stars."

-- Vincent Van Gogh

Celebrating the communion of science and faith, *Painting the Stars* explores the promise of evolutionary Christian spirituality. Featuring over a dozen leading theologians and progressive thinkers.



Greetings!

We certainly are a blessed church!!

For the past several months we have been experiencing difficulties meeting the needs of our bus ministry. We were short of drivers and assistants. It is amazing what prayers, new members, and some well-placed announcements will do. We now have the strongest group of volunteers we have had since the initiation of our bus ministry nearly ten years ago.

Our goal, as the Church of the Palms Bus Ministry, is to make it possible to have folks attend Sunday Services that would not otherwise be able to do so. We also provide transportation for other church related events.

Thank you again for your involvement in this important ministry.

Shalom,  
Pat & John Durbin



**Welcome to the  
Singles & Solos  
Fellowship, Games,  
Entertainment!**

**All are Welcome!**



**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month = walk the Arrowhead Mall 7:30 & Game Day**

**10am -12:30pm**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month = Arrowhead Mall 7:30 & game day**

**11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**For More Info contact**

**623-977-8359**

**Secretary, Debi Martin, who will assist with questions.**

**COME & ENJOY THE FUN**

## **September 2017 Events**

**Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> Cliff Castle Casino near Prescott.**

**Bus Trip/Day Trip**

**Cost of Bus=\$10.00. Receive \$25.00 FREE PLAY. Leave from Bell Rec. Center 8:15AM**

**99<sup>th</sup> Ave & Hutton. Bus departs 8:20-8:30am.**

**Returns approx. 4-4:30 pm. Please make your own reservations after September 1<sup>st</sup>  
by calling 1-888-582-5287**

**Dance Rock & Roll**

**DANCE to 50's 60's 70's D.J. Music**

**Saturday Sept. 16**

**MEET AT: Fairway Rec Center in Sun City. 107<sup>th</sup> AVE & Peoria**

**Cost is \$6.00. Bring your own snacks & beverage. Ice, cups, napkins provided.**

**Dance begins at 6pm – Ends at 9pm**

## **October 2017**

**The Arizona Winds Concert Band. Sunday-October 22, 2017**

**Carpool from Church at 1:45.**

**The concert is FREE and will be held at Cactus High School. 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave & Greenway**







## 2017

09/01	Darlene McShane
09/04	Ruth Emanuel
09/06	Mary Whitlock
09/07	Erika Saltzman
09/09	Shirley Fackelman
09/12	Jan Eckstein
09/14	Delores Krull
09/15	Arloa Hymans
09/18	Joni Babbitt
09/19	Kay Shaddox
09/20	Young Miller
09/23	Pat Waterman
09/23	Michael Whitlock
09/24	Sue Kooiker
09/29	Elaine Fox
9/30	Robert Brickley



Art Show  
2018

The Board of Worship and Fine Arts is giving you a years' notice of The Palms' Art Show.

In February of 2018 we will be featuring creative people in our own Congregation. We will host the show on Saturday with a follow-up viewing on Sunday morning until noon. All Media are welcome. Space consideration in King Hall will determine size restrictions for individual showings.

Look for more information on this popular event in early Fall 2017.

*Get Your Creative Juices Flowing!*

*Judy Beal*



### *Celluloid Psalms*

Jack Evans is our guide through a series of four films that draw their inspiration from four different faith sources.

These are not "religious" films but are instead films that derive their stories from characters and themes based on the tenants of Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

9:30 a.m. Boardroom

September 15th  
The Salesman

October 20th  
A Serious Man

November 17th  
Spring Summer  
Fall Winter and Spring

## Services in August

Lord's Day Service each week at 10 a.m.  
*Fellowship Time in King Hall at 11 a.m.*

### For bus pick-up:

Please Call Mary Kennicott: 623-249-8999  
or the church at 623-977-8359



Sunday, September 3, Pastor Paul will be preaching. The text will be from Exodus 12:1-14. We will be discussing time - how do we spend it, how do we mark it, how do we look at it.

Sunday, September 10, the text from Matthew 18:-12-20 talks about lost sheep. Who are the lost sheep of this world? Could it be the person we see in the mirror every day? Pastor Paul will be preaching.

Sunday, September 17, we will be presented with a math problem - how many times should we forgive? The text Pastor Paul will be addressing comes from Matthew 18:21-35. Forgiveness is always a timely subject.

Sunday, September 24, from Matthew 20:1-16 and Exodus 16:2-15 Pastor Paul will be looking at the provisions of God. God always provides! Say that in your heart.

### *Staff Updates*

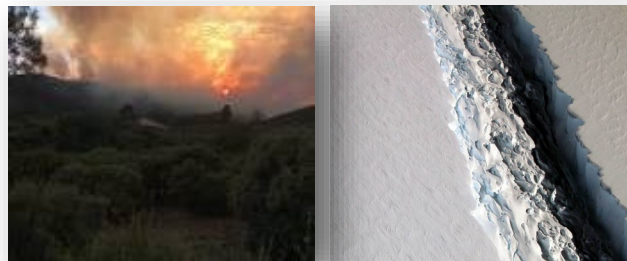
**Jim Alexander CPE:** Jim has been approved for ordination by the Committee on Church and Ministry A of the Southwest Conference. Wahoo! He will be taking one last course to complete this journey: Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). We are needing to shift some of his responsibilities to others temporarily while he takes CPE. He will not be preaching once a month and he will not be doing the slides for Sunday during his CPE class timeframe. Please be patient with any request you have of him.

The next step in the ordination process is an ecclesiastical council to defend his ordination paper. After that, we will schedule his ordination and we will then welcome the Rev. Jim Alexander.

**Debi Martin Vacation:** I will be leaving on September 1st, back on September 12th. Pastor Paul and our volunteers will be available in the church office from 8 a.m. to noon Mon. thru Thurs. Please feel free to contact me at 530-570-0315 should there be something that can't wait. I will also be checking church e-mail frequently.

***Tuesday Fellowship Breakfast returns!***  
***September 12, 8:00 a.m.***

**George Wall presents:**  
**Global Warming**



Enjoy a full, hot breakfast provided by our always smiling kitchen team of Maria and George Wall and Bonnie Green. There is no charge for our breakfast. The free will giving basket will be out. Invite a friend or neighbor!

Back several years ago, Al Gore came out with a documentary on Global Warming. I was much taken with the program and now he's coming out with a Part II on the subject. Well, as many of you know I'm an avid bird watcher, but you may not know that I'm also a strong conservationist. Global warming means a lot to me, because if it continues people in the future won't see as many birds and wildlife that they are able to currently see. This is a program I designed for the Church of the Palms back in August of 2008. Since then Global warming has really materialized much more in the news. So I decided to update and bring it to you.

### ***Used Bikes for Hart Pantry***

If you have a used bike to donate to the HART (Helping At Risk Teens) Pantry for use by the teens of this great organization, please contact Jan at 623-875-7015 or Ruth Langford 252-259-5331.

Don't worry about the condition of your donation; the bikes are repaired before they are gifted. HART Pantry gets them to our at-risk teens as soon as they can get them refurbished and checked out, sending along a new bike lock with each bike so they are protected.

Thanks as always for your generosity!

Jan Eckstein and the Board of Mission and Outreach





## "JUMP START" BIBLE STUDY RESUMES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>

### Tuesday evening Bible study to focus on Lectionary

"Jump Start" resumes on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. The Tuesday evening Bible study group will be meeting at 4:00 in the chapel area or board room for fellowship, study and discussion of the scriptures from the lectionary for the following Sunday. The lectionary is a pre-selected collection of scriptural readings from the Bible used for worship, study and/or theological discussions. Many Christian churches use the Revised Common Lectionary which follows the liturgical year in a 3-year cycle and provides scriptural recommendations that complement the current season of the liturgical year. The Bible study group, which meets weekly, begins with a brown bag dinner and fellowship from 4:00 to 4:30 and Bible study from 4:30 to 5:30. All are welcome to participate. If you have any questions, please contact John Durbin.

## COSMIC CHRISTIAN

The Cosmic Christians are currently completing our discussion of John Shelby Spong's "Why Christianity Must Change or Die." On Tuesday, September 19, we will begin a book by Lloyd Geering, Tomorrow's God: How We Create Our Worlds. Geering speaks of God as a central symbol of meaning and discusses the collective drift towards meaning that gave rise to the various religions and explores reasons for their decline. He challenges us to "consciously create new meaning in our lives" and he shows how the Christian tradition may lead towards a new world of meaning. We meet at the church every Tuesday from 11:30 am till 1 pm. Many of us bring a lunch. All are welcome.

Linette Stenberg



**HELP WANTED**  
Part time rewarding job with flexible hours. Excellent opportunity to meet new friends, be part of a great team and have a giggle. No experience required.

It is almost hard to believe! The Church of the Palms will be hosting 21 years of community Thanksgiving Dinners on Thursday, November 23, 2017! This great event, along with Bring-A-Friend Sunday and the completion of the always successful October Rummage Sale, ushers us quickly into our always anticipated Christmas season.

This Thanksgiving our joy of the day will be tempered by a bit of sadness as our "Organizer of All Things Thanksgiving" (this is not a joke...this is her official title!), Joyce Spaulding will be stepping down and after 21 years of service to become a mere guest and spectator at this annual event. Joyce will still be here of course, to share her knowledge and offer guidance but she is restricted from manual labor.

Which brings us to our plea. The Church of the Palms is looking for someone to take over the organization of the Thanksgiving Dinner. There are always many, many volunteers for this great day, but we are in need of an "Organizer of All Things Thanksgiving" in training. One person...or a couple...if taking on this rewarding and always fun position sounds like something you would enjoy, give Joyce a call at 623-977-3938 or call the church office at 623-977-8359.

The Church of the Palms would like to take a moment to say good-bye and thank you, to Volunteers extraordinaire, Joyce Spaulding and Joni and Rusty Babbitt. Volunteers are worth their weight in gold. They share their time and talents without any compensation and it our pleasure to acknowledge their contributions. Joyce and Joni have been dedicated, committed, efficient, ever smiling, gal's Tuesday and Thursday and Rusty our ever trusted head of the Bus Ministry. Each of them will be missed more than we can say. Always keep in mind that volunteers are not the same as employees. They can choose to stay or walk away at any time without any real loss to themselves and that's one reason why it's so important they know how appreciated they are! All of our volunteers are faith-based service minded folks, critical to the success of The Church of the Palms.

Thank you, Joyce and Joni and Rusty! God bless you!



*Immigrant; Alien; Illegal Immigrant; Illegal; Refugee; Asylum* – We hear these terms everyday through whatever news media we watch or listen to. But, do we understand the meaning? It is my opinion that it is important to know the difference, as “words do matter.”

An IMMIGRANT is a PERSON who comes to a country to take up permanent residence. The need to escape from poverty, to find available employment or to escape natural disasters drives immigration flows.

A foreigner who enters the US without an entry or immigrant visa (one who crosses the border by avoiding inspection or who overstays the period of time allowed per a visa ) may be referred to as an ALIEN; ILLEGAL; ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT, or ILLEGAL ALIEN, UNDOCUMENTED or UNAUTHORIZED. However, these terms are NOT interchangeable. Let’s explore the meanings.

**WHAT'S  
IN A  
NAME?**

ALIEN is a term used in legal language for a noncitizen resident, regardless of whether that person resides in the country legally or illegally. This term originated from British law and has been a legal designation for foreign-born residents since the Revolutionary era and continues to be used by the Department of Homeland Security and US Immigration and Customs. It is used as a technical term in legal documents. Alien is a word that is also associated with extraterrestrial life and is perceived as dehumanizing when applied to immigrants. It is now associated with anti-immigration policies and advocates we have all heard the term “the illegals,” a term that makes the immigrant advocates (and me) cringe. Recent years have brought about a push to change the vocabulary to avoid the term “illegal” and in 2013, the Associated Press stated that “illegal” should be used to describe actions, not people, and dropped the term “illegal immigrant” from its pages. USA Today, CA Governor Jerry Brown and the Library of Congress have joined in removing the term “illegal alien/immigrant,” In 2012, the US Supreme Court advocated omitting the term “illegal immigrants/aliens” Justice Anthony Kennedy noted in the majority opinion that “It is NOT a crime for a removable alien to remain present in the United States.” “We don’t call pedestrians who cross in the middle of the road illegal pedestrians. A kid who skips school to go to Disneyland is not an illegal student. And yet that’s sort of parallel,” said Otto Santa Ana, professor in UCLA’s Department of Chicana/o Studies.

(Cont. on page 15)

(Cont. from page 14)

A REFUGEE is a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, ethnic, tribal, or religious violence or natural disaster. It is someone who leaves their own country, often for political reasons and who travels to another country hoping that the government will protect them and allow them to live there. Refugee status is a form of protection that may be granted to people who meet the definition of refugee and are of special humanitarian concern to the US. They are generally people outside of their country who are unable or unwilling to return home because they fear serious harm. One may seek a referral for refugee status only from OUTSIDE the US.

SANCTUARY is a place where someone is protected or given shelter and protection provided by a safe place. The concept of sanctuary is deeply embedded in Western tradition (the underground railroad in the US for example) –In biblical times shelter was offered even to those who might have qualified if the crime lacked intent.

ASYLUM---When people flee their own country and seek sanctuary in another country, they apply for asylum – the right to be recognized as a refugee and receive legal protection and material assistance. An asylum seeker must demonstrate that his or her fear of persecution in his or her home country is well-founded. At the end of 2014, there were approximately 1.8 million people around the world waiting for a decision on their asylum claims.

Jose Luis Benavides, journalism professor at Cal State University said “The words that the candidates (we) use frame the political conversation. Using dehumanizing language then makes it easier for people to justify dangerous policies against a particular group. Words really do matter.” Why not just call them immigrants?---That is what they are--- whether undocumented or not. And, unless one is Native American Indian - - we are all immigrants.

Beth Malmgren  
Member Church of the Palms  
Social Justice Team

**WHAT'S  
IN A  
NAME?**

## *Trouble in Charlottesville*

The events which unfolded in Charlottesville in the second week of August, with hundreds of white people bearing torches and shouting slurs and chanting about the value of white lives, was not a politically “far right” protest. When you move that far right—you’re something else. I wouldn’t call them supremacist, nationalist, or alt-Right, either. Plain and simply, they represent racism, domestic terrorism, and extremism. They are the faces of bigotry and hatred of the most vile kind. They don’t represent America, Jesus, and most certainly don’t



Protestors chant after white-nationalist organizer Jason Kessler was chased off while trying to give a press conference.

They speak for the majority of white Americans. They are a malignant, putrid disease that represents the absolute worst of who we are. It is necessary to name it. It’s necessary for us to say it out loud—especially when the media won’t and when our elected leaders won’t. It’s necessary to condemn it so that we do not become complicit in it.

America has systemic illnesses, structural defects, and national blind spots that we need to address loudly and clearly. But in times when common sense and decency are stepped upon, when the cancerous disease is so fully on display—we’d better have the guts to speak out. So, I’m saying it. I do not stand with torch-bearers, in Charlottesville or anywhere. This church does not give consent to this. We will speak against and stand against you at every opportunity.

We will rise alongside the beautiful diversity which you fear. We stand with people of every faith, ethnicity, orientation, nationality, and native tongue.

Shalom, Paul



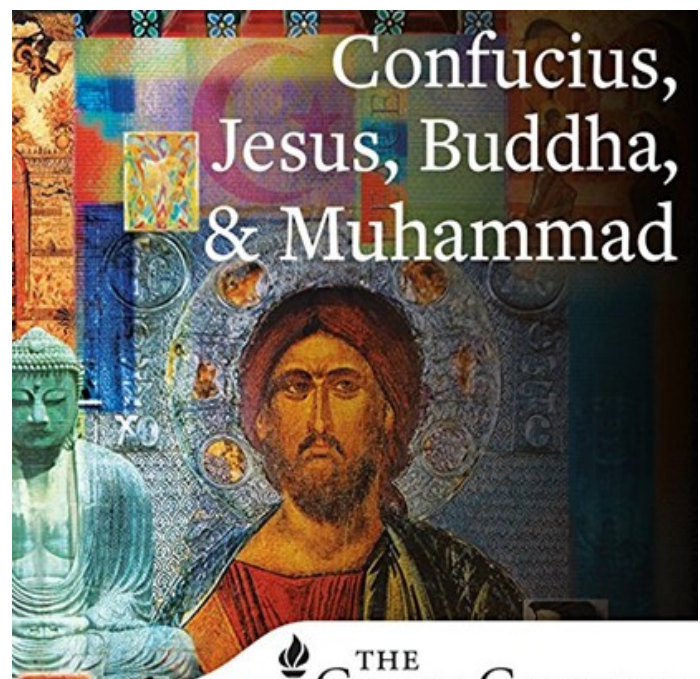


Our Board of Lifelong Learning Sunday Morning Discussion at 8:30 am presents  
**The Great Courses**  
**“Confucius, Buddha, Jesus, and Muhammad”**  
 taught by Professor Mark W. Muesse. In this course, we examine these four  
 figures both separately and comparatively in an  
 effort to grasp the essential features of their lives and teachings and to explore  
 the factors that contributed to their greatness. This course  
 includes 36 lectures, but feel free to stop in to view the ones that interest you the  
 most. Come join the Sunday morning community of lifelong learners!

September 3 – Heaven and Earth  
 September 10 – Doing unto Others  
 September 17 – How to Rule a Kingdom  
 September 24 – What a Sage Does

December 03 – The Jewish and Roman Worlds  
 of Jesus  
 December 10 – The Son of Mary  
 December 17 – The First 30 Years

October 1 – Confucius and Confucianism  
 October 8 – India at the Time of the Buddha  
 October 15 – Siddhattha Gotama  
 October 22 – The First and Second  
 Great Awakening  
 October 29 – Knowing the World  
 November 05 – Can’t Get no Satisfaction  
 November 12 – Getting to the Farther Shore  
 November 19 – How the Buddha Taught  
 November 26 – The Buddha and Buddhism



If you use Facebook, you are invited to "like" Church of the Palms and become a friend of the church.

**New!**

The Palms Community Photo Album - share your photos of church events!

[goo.gl/u2QtrE](http://goo.gl/u2QtrE)

[www.thepalms.org](http://www.thepalms.org).

We offer:

Sermon Gallery

Paul at the Palms

News and Events

The Palm Leaf Newsletter

Monthly Calendar

General Synod News

Photos

Welcome New Member Dates



The Church of the Palms  
14808 N. Boswell Boulevard,  
Sun City, AZ 85351  
Phone (623-977-8359)



Winter Office Hours: 9-11-2017

Monday-Thur. 8am-2pm

Friday- 8am to Noon

Office e-mail: [manager@thepalms.org](mailto:manager@thepalms.org)

Website: [www.thepalms.org](http://www.thepalms.org)

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



Drawn together by the Holy Spirit, we are a distinct and diverse community of Christians that come together as one church, joining faith and action.

In covenant with the church in all of its settings, we serve God in the co-creation of a just and sustainable world as made manifest in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"That they may all be one," Jesus, speaking in prayer. —John 17:21

**Palm Leaf** is a monthly newsletter from the Church of the Palms that makes it easy for you to keep up with opportunities, events, and friends at church.

Articles deadline: 15th of each month

You may submit an article or information for an article by:

Email ([manager@thepalms.org](mailto:manager@thepalms.org))

Phone (623-977-8359),

Or drop it off at the church.

Office Staff:

Pastor Paul Whitlock, Senior Minister

Jim Alexander, Assistant Pastor

Debby Stinton, Assistant Pastor

Deborah Martin, Secretary



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 8:30AM Sunday Discussion 9:15 Choir Warm-up (MR) 10 Worship /Communion 11 Fellowship (KH)	4 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	5 11:30AM Cosmic Christian Circle	6 9AM Service Project Craft Group (BR)	7 1PM BOWFA presents: Summer Movie "Ruthless People" 2:30 Choir Rehearsal (MR)	8 Retreat/Chapel Rock	9 7:30AM Singles and Solos Mall Walking 9 Communion Preparation 10 Singles and Solos Game Day (BR) 2PM Rick Woodford Memorial (SA)
10 Equal Exchange Products	11 Fall/Winter Hours Begin Mon.-Thur. 8-2pm Fri.- 8-12	12 8AM Fellowship Breakfast George Wall: Global Warming 4 Board of Stewards (BR) 9 1st Rummage Sale 9 Organizational Meeting (KH) 10 "Trinchworm" Bible Study 11:30 "Cosmic" Christians 4 PM "Jump Start" Bible Study	13 9AM Service Project Craft Group (BR) 10 Board of Evangelism (KH) 1PM Lydia Circle (BR)	14 2:30PM Choir Rehearsal	15 9:30AM-Jack Evans presents: Celluloid Palms "The Salesman" Noon Bridge Group (CP) 1pm-3 Grief Share (BR)	16 9AM Church Council Singles and Solos Presents: Dance Rock & Roll Fairway Rec. Center 6-9pm Cost: \$6.00/person
17 8:30AM Sunday Discussion 9:15AM Choir Warm-up (MR) 10 Worship (SA) 11 Fellowship (KH)	18 10 LLL-Painting the Stars Imagining A Future	19 10 "Inchworm" Bible Study 11:30 "Cosmic" Christians 4 PM "Jump Start" Bible Study	20 7:30AM Singles and Solos Mall Walking 9 Mission& Outreach (KH) 9 Service Project Craft Group (BR) 11:30 Singles and Solo's Game Day (BR)	21 10AM Care Team Meeting 1PM Board of Worship and Fine Arts Meeting 2:30Choir Rehearsal	22 1pm-3 Grief Share (BR)	23 10AM Bus Ministry Meeting (BR)
24 8:30AM Sunday Discussion 9:15AM Choir Warm-up (MR) 10 Worship (SA) 11 Fellowship (KH)	25 10 LLL-Painting the Stars An Evolving Spirituality Mysticism	26 10AM "Inchworm" Bible Study 11:30 "Cosmic" Christians 4 PM "Jump Start" Bible Study	27 9AM Service Project Craft Group (BR)	28 2:30PM Choir Rehearsal	29 1pm-3 Grief Share (BR)	30