



THE PALM LEAF

Church of The Palms
EST 1969
14808 N Boswell Blvd
Sun City, AZ 85351



CELEBRATING THE PAST;
EMBRACING THE FUTURE

A Letter from Paul

If confession is good for the soul, then, my soul needs to confess! My confession? Election years aren't my favorite! I actually dread them. I give thanks for the opportunity to choose candidates and to vote on issues. That's not the problem. It's just the bombardment of ads – on TV, car radio, mailers, and phone that are sooooo frustrating. I get especially exasperated at the attack ads. One side note, my reflexes are still quick; I can mute an ad lick-itty-split. I recommend you do the same!



As we approach our 2020 national and local election day, I want to remind us that we are one nation – not blue or red – but red, white, and blue. Rachel Maddow said, "The biggest divide in this country is not between Democrats and Republicans," and I agree with her. She continued, "it's between people who care and people who don't care." I challenge us all to be people who care.

I hope you care enough to put your brains, your heart, and courage into your vote. If you need help getting to the polls or getting your mailed ballot to a drop off spot, contact our church office, and we'll get you help.

Lastly, back when our country was first forming, John Wesley wrote: "October 6, 1774. I met those of our society who had votes in the ensuing election and advised them:

1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy,
2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against, and
3. To take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side."

Sounds like wise words to me.
Shalom, Paul

Make sure you read our Moderator's article on page 2 about returning to in-person worship.

Everything In Moderation

By Judy Jondahl



As the COVID 19 days continue and markers decreasing, the Church of the Palms is investigating the possibility of providing in-person worship services. This investigation is being conducted by the pastors, moderators and chairs of Worship and Fine Arts and Deacons.

Markers being followed include new cases, hospitalizations, COVID deaths and the testing positivity rate. We are following these on three (3) websites, Arizona Health Department, and John Hopkins.

In light of our review at this point, we have set a target date of November 15, 2020 for resuming limited in-person worship. Please note: this is not a firm date and will be monitored closely for changes in the markers. The Arizona Department of Health Services has provided the following as benchmarks:

- Decline in new cases or less than 100 new cases per 100,000 individuals for 2 consecutive weeks. **Currently, the state is experiencing an increase in number of cases, although it is still below 100/100,000.**
- Two consecutive weeks with percent positive below 7%. **Currently met.**
- Two consecutive weeks with percent of hospital visits below 10%. **Currently met.**

Our concerns for safety of you, our fellow members of the church community are key to successful implementation. Below are compliance actions that will be in place to promote safety:

- To meet the minimum 6 feet between attendees, the number per Sunday will be limited to 30 initially.
- You will need to contact the church through established routes, via phone or computer to register.
- All attendees will be required to wear face masks.
- All attendees will have their temperature taken before entering the sanctuary. If your temperature is above 99 degrees, you will not be able to attend.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available, and all attendees will be expected to use one before entering the sanctuary.
- Visiting in the Narthex is discouraged. This should take place outdoors following the service, maintaining the social distancing protocols.
- Deacons/ushers will guide attendees to open seats.
- The church will be sanitized prior to all services.

- Hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the sanctuary.
- The service will be no more than 30 minutes with no singing or responsive readings. Vocal music will be taped.
- Welcome Wagon will be operating with one passenger sitting in the backseat, facing opposite direction of driver.
- The bus will not be picking up and returning individuals initially, but the target date for starting bus service is December 6. The bus will be sanitized between all uses, masks will be required, and seating limited to allow for social distancing.

Reservations will be required and those with a reservation will be notified Thursday if the in-person service will not be held that week. The reservations will be available via the website and an automated phone line at 623.748.3574.

The video worship services will continue to be available indefinitely. There is no plan to discontinue those.

In addition to the regular worship services, the committee is investigating how to proceed with celebrating the holidays. More on this later.

We have all missed being together and while this is limited, it starts the process to moving forward. In the meantime, we will continue to adjust our sails and being the church at a safe distance.

We are a blessed church with pastors who go above and beyond in helping us through these troubled times! And they do it with smiles on their faces!

Stay tuned – details will be coming as we move forward.

WORSHIP THEMES FOR *November*

November 1: We will be celebrating all of our saints on this All Saints Day. We will remember all of our members and friends who have passed away since last year. Pastor Paul will be preaching. Read Romans 16:1-16.

November 8: It is always better to stay ready than get ready. Jesus encourages us in Matthew 25:1-13 to remain alive in God's grace, light, and love. Pastor Jim will be preaching.

November 15: Pastor Paul is back in the pulpit. Read Matthew 25:14-30. We have an extravagant opportunity to be the church. That is, invest our time, talent, and treasure into something eternal. We will lift up in prayer our retired and active clergy in our church community.

November 22: Thanksgiving Sunday. Matthew 25:31-46 reminds us that we are the hands and feet of Jesus. Pastor Paul will be preaching.

November 29: Advent begins! Can you believe it! Hope springs eternal in the midst of problems. Read Mark 13:24-37 and Isaiah 64:1-9.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Vicky Leggett	11/3		
Jeannie Brandenberger	11/5		
Suzanne Boisclair	11/6		
Linda Hoffman	11/8		
Michael Balch	11/10		
Mark Behle	11/10		
Toni Berg	11/10	Jim Chapman	11/25
Michael Spindle	11/10	Dawn Delaney	11/26
Kevin Nicastro	11/11	Bonnie Green	11/26
Scott Wilson	11/11	Bob Krueger	11/26
Jack Elliott	11/14	Inis Clark	11/29
Beth Sutto	11/14	Carl Gruber	11/30
Bonnie Adrian	11/15	Rosie Tockstein	11/30



Volunteers Needed to Provide Meals for Our I-Help Guests in November

Please contact Laurie Cathey at 623.238.3826 or spkplg1941@hotmail.com if you can provide meals on any of the following dates:

Dinner: November 2nd, 16th and 30th.

Breakfast: November 3rd, 7th, 14th, 17th, and 28th

Packed Lunch: November 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th

We will also be providing a Thanksgiving meal for our guests on Nov. 27th. Side dishes are needed, as the meat is provided.

THE SHOWER TRAILER IS HERE; NOW WHAT?

By Max Klinkenborg

The shower trailer arrived at Church of the Palms on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2020, after a 1,534-mile trip from Elkhart, Indiana, where it was manufactured. It came with a notebook full of instructions and manuals for the air conditioner, water heater, controls, etc. To provide the electrical power for the trailer, we have a 7,500-watt portable generator. We had it all operational by that Friday noon and were able to offer showers to three of our I-HELP guests that afternoon.



Seth Dyson, Director of Human Services and Community Vitality for the City of Surprise, invited community leaders from the NW Valley to a “show and tell” on Oct. 28 at COTP, to see the trailer and

talk about how it can be used with the homeless population in their communities. Seth has been a supporter of I-HELP from the beginning and is now an advocate for our shower trailer.

We have been in conversations with Capt. Mark Merritt of the Salvation Army on Avenue of the Arts regarding the use of the shower trailer in partnership with their ongoing ministries to the homeless. We want to honor that partnership by making our trailer available there as one of our first locations for regular showers.

Through Seth, we have also had conversations with the City of Surprise regarding the use of the trailer. We have scouted some preliminary locations in Surprise that are easily accessible to the homeless. Again, with Seth’s assistance, the City of Surprise has offered us the opportunity to dump our holding tank into their sewage system. As far as community utilization, we will probably begin with Surprise, developing our protocols and contractual arrangements. Once again, we are partnering with others to meet needs.

Beyond Surprise, we anticipate reaching out to other communities with the shower trailer for regularly scheduled times and/or special events.

As part of our ministry to the homeless, we want to provide toiletries, clean socks and underwear, and haircuts. We will invite other social-service providers to be present with medical and dental services, inoculations for COVID-19 and Influenza, etc. We do not know where this will lead us, but we want to be ready, creative and generous in what we do.



The Church of the Palms' W.I.S.E. focus will be combined for November and December. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's will be experienced differently than ever before in our lifetime because of COVID-19, traveling restrictions, sizes of groups recommended for safety. Amidst the celebrations and losses, we all come with anticipation and hopes of something to touch our souls as only the Divine can.

"PROMISES" and reminders of God's continued presence can comfort and embolden our choices of how to respond to the myriad of emotions that holidays bring. Most of us own our nostalgic tendencies during this season. That brings sorrow and joyful memories. So let's go exploring about God's "PROMISES" for eight weeks.

Please read the overview and scripture ties for each week and pray that Emmanuel will open you to new ways of celebrating the holidays of 2020. God *is* with you!

©KFK

**Check out our
Tools2Thrive
Page**

P

Proclamation:

Isaiah 41:10
I will be your God.

R

Ready:

Psalms 32:18
God will be our guide.

O

Overture:

Jeremiah 1:5
Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you...

M

Mercy:

Hebrews 2:18; 4:15; 12:3
We never walk where Jesus hasn't already walked.

I

Initiator:

Psalms 42:1
As the hart panteth after the brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.

S

Steadfast:

Psalms 123:1 *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.*
Hebrews 13:5 *I will never leave you.*
Isaiah 43:3,4 *God will carry us.*

E

Endued:

1 Peter 1:4
...to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away...

S

Shining Forth:

Deuteronomy 33:2
And he said, the Lord came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them: he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints...



BLOOD DRIVE WITH THE RED CROSS

CHURCH OF THE PALMS
14808 N BOSWELL BLVD
SUN CITY, AZ 85351

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

**NOVEMBER 11, 2020
10:00am - 3:00pm**

SIGN UP

ONLINE
REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG

CALL
1-800-RED CROSS

OR TEXT
BLOOD APP TO 90999

Dysart Community Center School Supplies Needed

We at The Church of the Palms may feel like we have been challenged by lingering affects of Covid 19. But imagine being a small kid trying to figure out this new way of doing school. Are you supposed to be in school with your friends and teachers or home with your siblings and parent(s)? Regardless, you need school supplies and the knowledge that people in the community care about you and want you to succeed. So, Church of the Palms, let's step up and donate school supplies to the kids at the Dysart Community Center.

Suggested items:

- #2 pencils
- Extra erasers
- Pens (blue or black)
- Box of crayons
- Box of markers or colored pencils
 - Glue sticks
 - 1/2 inch 3-ring binder
- Composition or spiral notebooks
 - Dividers-at least 6
 - Pack of graph paper
- Packs of loose-leaf paper
 - Two-pocket folders
 - Highlighters
 - Scissors
- 3X5 ruled index cards
- Ruler (inches and centimeters)
 - Compass
- Graphing calculator

Our school supplies drive will run through Nov. 15. There will be a drop off box in the church narthex. Thank you!!! —John Durbin

THANKSGIVING

(Just not a Meal)



As was announced earlier, it has been decided for safety reasons that The Church of the Palms will not serve a meal this year for Thanksgiving. However, we do feel that some of the goals of the activity can still be met.

The goals of The Annual Joyce Spaulding Memorial Thanksgiving Feast:

- Opportunity for ministry
 - Provide extravagant welcome
- Remember Joyce and Roy Spaulding
 - Have fun

As an opportunity for ministry, we are asking those who are able to consider donating what they would have spent on their Thanksgiving dinner food donation to the church. In turn, the church will give that money to church ministries that feed people. This would include feeding the homeless in our part of the I-Help program and to the Hart Pantry which, among other things, feeds at-risk teens.

To make it fun, we will track the donations on a board that represents King Hall. We have calculated that our normal dinner costs about four dollars per person. For each four dollars we receive, we will put a token on the board to represent a diner. Our goal is to fill our imaginary King Hall with imaginary diners. The wonderful part comes later when actual people are fed with these donations.

Though this is not the same as gathering together and enjoying a meal of Thanksgiving, those of us who are able can have the opportunity to give thanks for our blessings by sharing with others. I cannot think of anything that would please the Spauldings more than knowing that hungry people are being fed. Bless you all as we enter the holiday season.

—Wendy Whitlock

Personnel Committee Requests Your Help

The Personnel Committee is conducting its annual evaluation of our Senior Pastor. We are asking you to complete a short evaluation form to make this process successful. If you have email, you will receive a link to the online evaluation form in the next few days. So, please be on the lookout for it. If you do not have email, we are asking you to stop by the office to pick up a copy or call the church at 623-977-8359 to request that the form be mailed to your home. We would like to have this process completed by Monday, November 23. But please know your input is very valuable so we are happy to receive your input at any time. Help us by completing and returning the evaluation following the direction on the form itself. Thank you – Church of the Palms Personnel Committee

Life Long Learning in November

LLL classes continue [online](#). For more:



- ◆ Nov. 10, Tuesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesday Breakfast in Your PJS. **“Choices for Honoring These Unusual Holidays.”** Presentations by Kay Klinkenberg and Dr. Phil Ladd with questions and response. Exploring options to manage the upcoming holidays can empower us, reassure us and give us a chance to honor and memorialize past and present holiday experiences. 2020 holiday celebrations will be significantly altered for over 90% of the people. Some have lost loved ones this year and grief is important to honor. Not participating in our “normal family/extended family rituals” is a loss, as well. Kay and Phil have ideas for you to consider that can make these holidays have rich meaning for you while honoring holidays in prior years.
- ◆ Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Current Issues & Faith: “How to be an Antiracist.”** DVD of Ibram X. Kendi, author of “How to be an Antiracist,” and a study of his book by that name. Facilitated by Kay Klinkenberg.
- ◆ Tuesdays, 4:00-5:00 p.m. **Jump Start: Prep for Sunday Sermon with Scripture/ Discussion.** Facilitated by John Durbin.
- ◆ Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., except for the first Wednesday of the month, when class meets 11:00 a.m.-noon. **Spiritual Growth: Exploring and Experiencing the Naked Now.** DVD by Fr. Richard Rohr from his book: “The Naked Now: Learning to See as the Mystics See.” Rohr explores what it means to “see the naked now instead of hiding in the past or worrying about the future, ...to see rightly is to be able to be fully present: without fear, without bias, and without judgment.” Facilitated by Kay Klinkenberg.
- ◆ Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m. **Cosmic Christians.** Discussion of the book “Begin Again” by Eddie Glaude, Jr. The author examines the writings of James Baldwin and the lessons we learn and those that need asked in today’s context. Facilitated by Linette Stenberg.

HART Pantry Christmas Drive 2020

Can you be one of Santa's little elves and help us make this a wonderful Christmas for our At-Risk Teens?

Our wish list of items:

- Hooded sweatshirts (adult sizes S, M, L, XL or XXL)
- Throw blankets (no larger than twin size)
- Face masks
- Small (2 oz.) hand sanitizers
- Target and Walmart gift cards in \$25 denominations (for teens to buy shoes)
- Fast-food gift cards in \$10 denominations

Donations will be accepted in the HART Pantry box in the Narthex **until Nov. 23.**

Monetary donations can be made online or sent to 8456 W. Sanna St, Peoria, AZ 85345.



In Memoriam

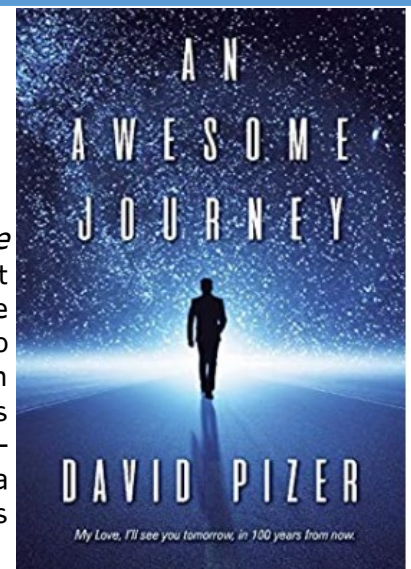


Lloyd Groseth

February 1927—October 2020

I am thankful to the members of the church who helped me with the Christian parts of my novel and win this FIVE-STAR REVIEW (highest possible) from highly-respected [Readers' Favorite](#) (review and awards contest). —David Pizer

Reviewed By Tammy Ruggles for Readers' Favorite
[An Awesome Journey by David Pizer](#) is a science fiction romance novel about eternal love. The novel opens in the 1950s in Phoenix, Arizona, where the main character Ralph is a girl-watching teenager. We get an introduction to Honest John and the business of car dealerships, and Ralph witnesses an incident that changes his way of thinking forever. He learns about cryonics (along with the reader), then meets the young woman of his dreams — high-spirited Becky — and this is where the heart of the story begins. In spite of a rocky introduction, they fall in love and plan to marry, but fate intervenes and she's taken away from him forever. Or has she?



The combination of cryonics and romance is an irresistible premise. And although you have a hint of what could take place in the future, the journey Pizer takes you on is compelling, romantic, philosophical, religious, and thought-provoking. There is also a dash of humor, which makes for some entertaining reading. Pizer's plot and pacing are balanced, the dialogue and explanations of cryonics are stimulating, and the characters believable. As you read and the story unfolds, you will be touched by the simplicity of everyday events, and by the complexity of life's big questions and concerns. If you had the chance to live again, be with the love of your life again, would you take it? Some science fiction novels end in a negative way or have a negative outlook, but this author makes even death sound hopeful in the future world.

November 1-16, 2020

<p>1 Sunday JOIN US ONLINE AT https://thepalms.org/online-worship-services/</p>	<p>9:00 am (SA) Open prayer 11:00 am (BR) Holy Grounds Coffee with Pastor Paul 11:30 am (NA) Good Vibrations Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 Monday</p>	<p>4:00 pm (KH) I-Help</p>
<p>3 Tuesday</p>	<p>8:30 am (KH) Shower Trailer Committee 10:30 am (B2L) Current Issues & Faith: "How to be an Antiracist"</p>	<p>4 Wednesday</p>	<p>10:00 am (B2B) Board of Evangelism & Growth 11:00 am (B2L) Spiritual Growth: "The Naked Now: How to See as the Mystics See"</p>
<p>5 Thursday</p>	<p>10:00 am (B2L) Cosmic Christians 1:00 pm (B2B) Board of Worship & Fine Arts</p>	<p>6 Friday</p>	<p>4:00 pm (KH) I-Help</p>
<p>7 Saturday</p>	<p>12:30-2:30 pm (KH) Prairie Sands HOA</p>	<p>8 Sunday JOIN US ONLINE AT https://thepalms.org/online-worship-services/</p>	<p>9:00 am (SA) Open prayer 11:00 am (BR) Holy Grounds Coffee with Pastor Paul 11:30 am (NA) Good Vibrations Rehearsal</p>
<p>9 Monday</p>	<p>2:00 pm (B2B) Board of Trustees 4:00 pm (KH) I-Help</p>	<p>10 Tuesday</p>	<p>8:30 am (B2L) Breakfast in your PJs 10:30 am (B2L) Current Issues & Faith: Origins of White Supremacy 4:00 pm (B2L) Jump Start</p>
<p>11 Wednesday</p>	<p>10:00 am-3:00 pm (KH) Red Cross Blood Drive 10:30 am (B2L) Spiritual Growth: "The Naked Now: How to See as the Mystics See" 1:00 pm (BR) Service Project Craft Group</p>	<p>12 Thursday</p>	<p>10:00 am (KH) Neuropathy Support Group 10:00 am (B2L) Cosmic Christians 12:00 pm (KH) Board of Finance & Investment</p>
<p>13 Friday</p>	<p>9:00 am (B2B) Social Justice Action Team 4:00 pm (KH) I-Help</p>	<p>14 Saturday</p>	
<p>15 Sunday JOIN US ONLINE AT https://thepalms.org/online-worship-services/ <u>Palm Leaf Deadline</u></p>	<p>10:00-10:30 am (SA) RSVP In-Person Worship 11:00 am (BR) Holy Grounds Coffee with Pastor Paul 11:30 am (NA) Good Vibrations Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 Monday</p>	<p>4:00 pm (KH) I-Help</p>

November 17-30, 2020

17 Tuesday	10:30 am (B2L) Current Issues & Faith: Origins of White Supremacy 4:00 pm (B2L) Jump Start	18 Wednesday	9:00 am (KH) Board of Mission and Outreach 10:30 am (B2L) Spiritual Growth: "The Naked Now: How to See as the Mystics See"
19 Thursday	10:00 am (B2L) Cosmic Christians	20 Friday	
21 Saturday	9:00 am (B2B) Council Meeting	22 Sunday	10:00-10:30 am (SA) RSVP In-Person Worship 11:00 am (BR) Holy Grounds Coffee with Pastor Paul 11:30 am (NA) Good Vibrations Rehearsal
23 Monday	4:00 pm (KH) I-Help	24 Tuesday	10:30 am (B2L) Current Issues & Faith: Origins of White Supremacy 4:00 pm (B2L) Jump Start
25 Wednesday	10:30 am (B2L) Spiritual Growth: "The Naked Now: How to See as the Mystics See" 1:00 pm (BR) Service Project Craft Group	26 Thursday	
27 Friday	4:00 pm (KH) I-Help	28 Saturday	
29 Sunday	10:00-10:30 am (SA) RSVP In-Person Worship 11:00 am (BR) Holy Grounds Coffee with Pastor Paul 11:30 am (NA) Good Vibrations Rehearsal	30 Monday	4:00 pm (KH) I-Help

SA=Sanctuary, KH=King Hall, BR= Bridges (online), B2L= Bridges to Learning (online), B2B=Bridges to Boards (online), NA=Narthex

Here's a reminder that there is an additional way to support your church: shopping through Amazon Smile. Many of you probably shop through Amazon, and you can continue shopping as normal while raising money for The Palms via Amazon Smile. Nothing changes for you and your account; it works exactly the same. Through [Amazon Smile](#), however, when you purchase an item(s), a percent of the purchase price goes to the church. How awesome is that? To get started, click on [this link](#), type "Church of The Palms United Church of Christ" in the search tab and start shopping! —The Board of Stewards

