

The Church of the Palms

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

10 a.m.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Love.

Our Church Life		Pastor Jim
Welcome		Pastor Paul
Prelude	<i>Hosanna</i>	Jennifer Hoppe
Call to Worship		Dr. Terry Olthoff
*Hymn 192	<i>All Glory, Laud, and Honor</i>	Congregation
Spiritual Readings	<i>MLK Jr., Gilbert K Chesterton, Bette Midler, and Merlin Mann</i>	Dr. Terry Olthoff
Anthem	<i>Drop, Drop, Slow Tears</i>	Sanctuary Choir
Scripture Reading	<i>Luke 19:28-40</i>	Pastor Paul
Special Music	<i>The Holy City</i>	Wendy Whitlock
Message	<i>Choosing the Right Parade</i>	Pastor Paul
*Hymn	<i>Hosanna, Loud Hosanna</i>	Congregation
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Paul
Prayer Response	<i>Were You There/There is a Balm</i>	Dorris Gott and Jennifer Hoppe
Why I Love My Church		Jeannie Brandenberger
Offertory Sentences		Pastor Jim
Offertory Music	<i>In the Name of the Lord</i>	Jennifer Hoppe
Benediction		Pastor Paul
*Hymn	<i>God of Love and Joy and Laughter</i>	Congregation

*Please stand as you are able.

**Communion is available after Worship. Please come forward as you are able; if you are not, please remain seated as we will come to you. The bread for all Communion Services is gluten free.

Our services are video recorded thanks to a gift in memory of Ramona Schenk. They are posted on social media and our website.

CCLI Copyright 2848647-1531950 Streaming 20266739 ONE LICENSE A-734669

Our Open and Affirming Statement

The Church of the Palms, United Church of Christ, welcomes all people into the full life and ministry of our church, regardless of age, race, or gender; personal, mental or physical ability; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; ethnic, cultural or religious background; marital, social, or economic status; or life history. We believe that God loves all People and offers us gifts by our diversity. We affirm families and relationships built on love, respect, responsibility, and trust.

Solidarity for Our Indigenous Siblings

The Church of the Palms, United Church of Christ, acknowledges the communities of Indigenous People who first lived in the land of this valley we call home. The particular land on which this building stands was honored and managed with stewardship by Hohokam, the O-odham Jewed and the Pima-Maricopa as well as the diverse vibrant Native communities who make their home here today.

Church Staff

Pastor Rev. Paul A. Whitlock-*Minister*;
pastorpaul1911@gmail.com

Pastor Rev. Jim E. Alexander-*Minister*;
jim.alexander@thepalms.org

Victoria McWilliams -*Executive Board Chair*;
vmcw@aol.com

Jennifer Hoppe-*Accompanist*;
hoppejen@gmail.com

Nicole Lindsay-*Office Manager*;
manager@thepalms.org

Donna Meadows-*Member at Large*;
axlnx.meadows@gmail.com

Jayne Peak-*Faith Community Nurse*;
jayne.peak@yahoo.com

Website: <https://thepalms.org>;

Phone: 623.977.8359;

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8a-1p;
Fridays-Office Closed;

Address: 14808 North Boswell Blvd,
Sun City, AZ 85351

OUR LIFE TOGETHER THIS WEEK:

PALM SUNDAY, 13

9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR

10:00a Worship Service SA

Worship Theme: *Read Luke 19:28-40.*

Pastor Paul will be preaching.

Be careful to choose the right parade.

11:00a Fellowship Hour KH

Monday, 14

9:00a Bus Reserved OS

10:00a Executive Board Mtg BR

1:00a Advocacy Team Mtg BR/HY

2:00p Board of Trustees Mtg BR/HY

2:00p LGBTQ+ Mtg NA or KH

Tuesday, 15

9:00a CDE Beehive Field Trip to

Japanese Friendship Garden OS

9:00a Men's Fellowship @ George's Café OS

Wednesday, 16

9:00a Needles & Pins Craft Group BR

9:15a Care & Support Ministry Team Mtg MR

10:00a Lifelong Learning Film—19:46

Mistranslation that Shifted Culture/Discussion KH

2:30p Labyrinth Walk Rehearsal KH

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 17

2:30p Choir Rehearsal MR

3:00p Inspirit Bible Study BRC/HY

*5:00p Maundy Thursday Service SA

GOOD FRIDAY, 18—Office Closed

*2:00p Good Friday Service CHP

HOLY SATURDAY, 19

EASTER SUNDAY, 20 (Two Services)

*8:00a First Worship Service PT

9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR

10:00a Regular Worship Service SA

Worship Themes:

8a—*Easter Worship Service outside around the Fountain Patio. Pastor Jim will be preaching from Isaiah 65:17-25. Because Jesus is risen, there is a glorious new creation!*

10a—*Easter worship. Pastor Paul will be preaching. Read John 20:1-18. Easter is the proclamation to us and to the whole world that God is present and still cares. And God still moves the boulders, the rocks, the stones block our path and view.*

SA=Sanctuary; B2L=Bridges to Learning; HY=Hybrid; KH=King Hall; BR=Boardroom; OS=Offsite; A=Narthex;
CHP=Chapel; PP=Pastor Paul's Office; MR=Music Room; BRC=Behle Resource Center; PT=Narthex Patio

Social Justice Prayer

Lord, we ask for your blessing as we begin this holy week. Guide us as we reflect on your life and work. Help us to remember that your death was for our salvation, and that your resurrection conquered death itself. Amen.

Pray for churches working with migrants and asylum seekers. Pray for our homeless. Pray for our pastors and their families. Pray for the leaders and staff of the Southwest Conference and National Setting of the United Church of Christ. Pray for the Tent of Nations.

Please pray for our fellow church families:

Clay Lyon, Dalton Parr, Brent & Tracy, (Judy Pinter’s family members), Marlys Davenport, Rhonda Krinsky, Allan Gott Bruce & Lynda Chubbuck, Jim Schulz, Deb Bontadelli Herbert & Anneslia Turner, (Lynette Turner’s parents) Linette Stenberg, Donna Stenberg, Melissa Collins Jackie (a friend of TCOTP), Bob Parks, Vanessa Stiller Addie Bovier’s family & friends in California fires, Addie’s husband Greg & friend Lauren, Chris D. Goshorn Linda Place, Linda Allwelt, Richard Campbell Judy Savage, LiHua Kehl (Ron Kehl’s sister-in-law), Larry Savage, Nancy Tsuchiya

THE LENTEN SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday
Thursday, April 17th—5:00p SA

Good Friday
Friday, April 18th—2:00p
(CHP) The Chapel at the Palms

Easter Sunday (Two Services)
Sunday, April 20th—8:00a PT
& 10:00a SA

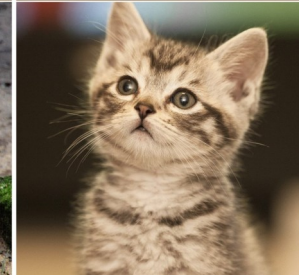


This week, let’s pray for the members & ministries of:
St Joachim & St Anne Catholic Church (11625 N 111th Ave)

BEFORE COFFEE



AFTER COFFEE



“LET’S TALK SUICIDE: IT IS NOT A TABOO TOPIC, IT IS A NEEDED DIALOGUE”

April 26th and May 3rd (both Saturdays) there will be Part I & II (two) classes on suicide; 1:00p to 2:30p (or 3:00p) in the boardroom. Class size is limited to 20 participants; pre-registration is required. Sign up in the Narthex of the church. Kay Klinkenborg will be the lead facilitator. All professional research validates that openly talking about suicide saves lives! This will be a safe (unrecorded) environment to talk about one of the most difficult subjects in our lives. A sacred circle of safety will be the environment for learning (personal sharing is not expected or mandatory). Words hard to say suicide and suicide prevention. This is an opportunity to learn tools, resources and creative ways to have a real conversation with the people in your life. You don’t need special training to have an open, authentic conversation about mental health. Bringing up the subject of suicide DOES NOT increase the chances that a person will become suicidal or be more apt to act on such thoughts or impulses. In fact, it is just the opposite. See April’s Palm Leaf for a complete description of the class and topics. Klinkenborg currently is a spiritual Director/Companion; a retired RN, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and Clinical Member of AAMFT (American Assoc of Marriage & Family Therapists). The facilitators are members of The Church of the Palms. Cold water provided; break time; bring a snack to eat at your discretion.

Lifelong Learning Team

The Lifelong Learning Team is excited to sponsor a special class: "An Exploration of LGBTQ+ from Clinical and Theological Perspectives," taught by Dr. Phil Ladd, an ordained minister and licensed psychotherapist. With a compassionate and well-informed approach, this class will delve into the clinical aspects of LGBTQ+ identity, sexual orientation, and well-being. Participants will also explore how Christian faith affirms and celebrates LGBTQ+ individuals as beloved children of God.

Progressive Christians often face challenges from some Evangelicals who assert that LGBTQ+ individuals should not be affirmed or accepted. This class will equip you with tools to refute these beliefs and demonstrate that God accepts and affirms everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation or identity. This Class will be conducted at The Church of the Palms on Wednesdays, April 30th, May 7th, and May 14th at 10:00a in the Behle Resource Center. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex a few weeks before the class.

Greetings again and a Reminder to the C—D—E Beehivers!

OK! We have finalized our plans as follows:

- Tuesday, April 15th (are your taxes done?) 😊

Japanese Friendship Gardens

Address: 1125 N 3rd Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85003

- Meet at church at 9:00a for the bus leaves at 9:10a.
- Return trip will include stop at Good China for lunch (approximately 11:15a).
- They will do separate checks not including gratuity.
- Return to church around 12:30p.

PLEASE R.S.V.P. FOR YOUR SEAT ON BUS.

We are looking forward to this fun vent.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Hugs ~ Pat & John Durbin

1946

THE MISTRANSLATION
THAT SHIFTED CULTURE

LIFELONG LEARNING Upcoming Film:

The Holy Bible serves as one of our primary sources for shaping our faith and the structure of our beliefs. However, we often forget that our English translations and paraphrases of the Bible are based upon documents written in a language that no one has spoke in a millennium. What happens when that integrity is not maintained? What effect can that have on our beliefs? To give one perspective of this problem, Lifelong Learning will present the film *1946: The Mistranslation that shifted Culture* on April 16th at 10:00a in King Hall with a discussion following led by Mark Makowski. Please sign up in the Narthex the next two Sundays so that we can estimate the number of people willing to attend.

ONE MORE WEEK! — SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY

***PLEASE SUBMIT BY APRIL 20th**

*IF you are unable to use a computer, hard copies of are available on the table in the Narthex. Please place completed hard copy surveys in the plastic barrel marked "Survey Barrel."

Click [HERE](#) for survey!



Jennifer Hoppe's Studio FREE concert of mixed genres Pianists and Vocalists of all ages will be Saturday, April 26th at 1:00p in the Sanctuary.
 Hope to see you there!

Water Bottle Donation Drive for Children First Academy

The church has provided bottled water for kids attending Children First Academy (a school for homeless kids near downtown Phoenix). The water is provided to kids as they ride the bus to and from school. This year we will be providing reusable water bottles. Inexpensive eight and twelve ounce reusable bottles can be purchased at Walmart or Target stores. We are still collecting these reusable bottles during the month of April. Please consider picking up a package and bringing them to the Donations Area near the Narthex. Or, if you wish to make a donation to support this effort, place cash or check in a church envelope and mark it. **HELP HOMELESS KIDS & SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT.**

News from the Pews Summer Newsletter Sign-Up

"If you are leaving Arizona during the summer, please make sure we have your current e-mail and mailing address so that we might keep in touch with you during your time away. We will be creating special communications for you to let you know what is going on at The Church of the Palms while you are away. You can provide your summer contact information by completing the form on the Narthex Table."

SUPER SALAD SPECTACULAR!

The Church of the Palms Super Salad Spectacular will be returning April 27th during Fellowship Hour in King Hall. The best part of the feast is that everyone brings their favorite "fixins" to the table. It might be olives, garbanzo beans, onions, mushrooms, raisins, etc.... You name it, you bring it, and we will put it on your salad plate. It is a wonderful way to enjoy a great meal with you're The Church of the Palms family and friends, enjoy some good fellowship and perhaps win some trivia prizes.



TEAR HERE

EASTER BLESSING

Please return this form to the church office along with your donation through Easter Sunday, April 20th, 2025.



This Easter you have the opportunity to give to the Easter Blessing fund which will be placed in the general operating budget to further the ministries of The Church of the Palms. You may give your donation in memory or in honor of your friend (s) or loved one (s). Please use your Easter offering envelope or a regular envelope along with this completed form to include your memorial or honoree information for our Easter Blessing dedication page in our Order of Worship Bulletins to come. Thank you!

[] In Memory of _____

[] In Honor of _____

Donated by: _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount Submitted \$ _____

