

# The Church of the Palms

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



April 27, 2025

Creation Justice Sunday

10 a.m.

*What are the ways in which you celebrate the Earth?*

Our Church Life		Pastor Paul
Welcome		Shari Kanehl
Prelude	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	Jennifer Hoppe
Call to Worship		John Durbin
*Hymn 22 v 1-3	<i>All Creatures of Our God and King</i>	Congregation
Spiritual Readings	<i>Jane Goodall, Robert Charles Swan, Amit Ray, Dante Stewart, Bill Nye, Ashlan Gorce Cousteau</i>	Terry Starr
Anthem	<i>Simple Thanks</i>	Sanctuary Choir
Scripture Reading	<i>Matthew 25:31-46</i>	Rev. Dr. Terry Olthoff
Message	<i>Adam's Tears</i>	Rev. Dr. Terry Olthoff
*Hymn 64	<i>We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God</i>	Congregation
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Paul
Offertory Sentences		Pastor Paul
Offertory Music	<i>When Morning Gilds the Skies</i>	Jennifer Hoppe
Benediction		Pastor Paul
*Hymn 59 v 3	<i>This Is My Father's World</i>	Congregation
Postlude		

\*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.*

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## 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.

[illegible]

## OUR LIFE TOGETHER THIS WEEK: April 27-May 4

**Creation Justice Sunday, April 27**  
9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR  
10:00a Worship Service SA  
11:00a Super Salad Spectacular/  
Fellowship Hour & Beehive Gathering KH

**Monday, April 28**

**Tuesday, April 29**

**Wednesday, April 30**  
9:00a Needles & Pins Craft Group BR  
10:00a LGBTQ+ from a Clinical &  
Theological Perspective Class BRC  
*Led by Phil Ladd.*  
10:00a Labyrinth Practice NA

9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR  
10:00a Worship Service SA  
11:00a Fellowship Hour KH  
11:00a I-HELP Advocacy Team BR

The Church of the Palms

**Please pray for our fellow church families:**

Clay Lyon  
Dalton Parr  
Brent & Tracy  
*(Judy Pinter’s family members)*  
Marlys Davenport  
Allan Gott  
Bruce & Lynda Chubbuck  
Jim Schulz  
Deb Bontadelli  
Herbert & Anneslia Turner  
*(Lynette Turner’s parents)*  
Linette Stenberg  
Donna Stenberg  
Jackie *(a friend of TCOTP)*  
Bob Parks  
Vanessa Stiller  
Addie Bovier’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  
Emily & Remington  
Jankowski  
*(Meadows Family)*  
Jan Eckstein



This week, let’s pray for the members & ministries of:

**Congregational Church of Sun City  
(18401 N 99th Ave)**

**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.

**Social Justice Prayer**

As believers, we have been given the command to take care of God’s creation. Earth Day today provides a great opportunity to pray these Earth Day prayers for our environment and ask God to help us protect, cherish, look after, and enjoy His creation so that those after us might too. May this day be a time of reflection, as we consider Your work, and our temporary home that You have given us. Amen.

**Earth Day Fun Fact:**

Earth Day was first held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally through earthday.org (formerly Earth Day Network) including one billion people in more than 193 countries. *(Google)*



**Solar Facts: How we doin’...??**



Activated February 4, 2022

2018 APS electric bills  
before solar & new chiller:  
**\$ 22,689.72**

2024 APS electric bills  
after 104 solar panels:  
**\$ 13,027.59 \*\***

\*\*Savings amounts vary due to:  
+ Increased building use  
+ Higher APS rates  
+ Longer & hotter summers  
- 7 new small AC units & chiller  
- New LED lights & ceiling fans

Flowers are donated by

**Millie & Bob Carlson**

To celebrate his 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

**Happy Birthday Bob!**



## Don't Forget! TODAY is the SUPER SALAD SPECTACULAR!



Once again the Evangelism & Growth Team is encouraging visitors to join them at the next Information Session to be held on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 3:00p in King Hall! \*New members will then be introduced to our congregation at the following Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 service.

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, a group of approximately 28 members of the congregation watched the film **1946: The Mistranslation that Sifted the Culture**. This film shows how the use of the word "homosexual" came to be used in the Bible, and it explores the problems of translating words from ancient Hebrew and Greek texts. The film displays some aspects of the conflicts that occur between people reading of Biblical passages from differing versions of the Bible.

The Church of the Palms owns a digital copy of this film. Anyone can view it on a church laptop at the church by arranging an appropriate available time with the church office.

Martin Meadows, Life Long Learning

### Can you help with this Important Ministry?

Phil Ladd is looking for volunteers for the future blood drives that take place in out King Hall. If you are interested please reach to Phil Ladd at [drphiladd@icloud.com](mailto:drphiladd@icloud.com).

### 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."

**Bees Meander Today**—The beehives will buzz together today during fellowship. They will forage for special foods with their inviting colors at the salad fixings. Plan ways to support your colony if you are flying off to other places for the summer. Say goodbye to friends in other hives and consider ways to swarm together in the fall. Do the bee happy dance to communicate destinations. Have a honey of a summer.

### Lifelong Learning Team

The Lifelong Learning Team is excited to sponsor a special class: "An Exploration of LGBTQ+ from a Clinical and Theological Perspective," 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. This Class will be conducted at The Church of the Palms on the following three Wednesdays; April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup>, and May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00a in the Behle Resource Center. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex a few weeks before the class.



### IS I-HELP GONE FOREVER?

Are you saddened/upset/disappointed by the cancellation of the I-HELP program? Do you want to do something about it? After the service next Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, we will distribute easy-to-follow instructions for our members to reach out to various elected officials to support restarting I-HELP this Fall. We will also have computers set up in the boardroom to help you quickly send an email or a letter right from there (we'll even address the letter and pay for the stamp).