



The Church of the Palms



God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

What would you do differently in life if you had to do it over again?

| | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------|
| Our Church Life | | Pastor Mark |
| Welcome | | Pastor Paul |
| Prelude | <i>I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing</i> | Jennifer Hoppe |
| Call to Worship | | Kim Pontius |
| *Hymn 284 v. 1, 2, & 4 | <i>Gather Us In</i> | Congregation |
| Spiritual Reading | <i>William J. Barber II, John Shelby Spong, Winona LaDuke, Woody Allen</i> | Kim Pontius |
| Special Music | <i>Holy Spirit</i> | Jennifer Hoppe |
| Scripture Reading | <i>John 14:15-21</i> | Pastor Mark |
| Message | <i>The Art of Abiding</i> | Pastor Paul |
| *Hymn 628 | <i>Precious Lord, Take My Hand</i> | Congregation |
| Pastoral Prayer | | Pastor Paul |
| Offertory Sentences | | Pastor Paul |
| Offertory Music | <i>Sweet, Sweet Spirit</i> | Jennifer Hoppe |
| Benediction | | Pastor Mark |
| *Hymn 614 | <i>I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me</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 W.I. S. E. Covenant

The Church of the Palms is a WISE Congregation for Mental Health Therefore:

- We commit to create a **WELCOMING** environment for people with mental wellness issues, challenges, individuals with disabilities and to their families and support persons.
- We commit to **INCLUDE** people with mental wellness issues, challenges, or individuals with disabilities in their life, in the work and leadership of this congregation.
- We commit to **SUPPORT** people with mental wellness issues, challenges, individuals with disabilities and their families.
- We commit to **ENGAGE** with other organizations that work at the intersection of mental wellness issues, challenges, individuals with disabilities persons. This includes, but is not limited to: Not-for-profits, Natl/ST organizations, faith/spiritual/religious organizations. We also commit to ENGAGE in continued education for our congregation on these topics.

The Church of the Palms commits to train individuals interested in The **Mental Health First Aid**, a course developed and accredited by the **National Council for Behavioral Health**. Individuals successfully completing this training will wear identifying badges when at church or on church sponsored excursions or events.



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.

Church Staff and Leadership

Senior Pastor - Rev. Paul A. Whitlock
pastorpaul1911@gmail.com

Associate Pastor - Rev. Mark Makowski
mmakowski@thepalms.org

Exec Board Chair - Victoria McWilliams
vmcw@aol.com

Director of Music and Worship -
Jennifer Hoppe
jenniferhoppe@thepalms.org

Office Manager - Wendy Whitlock
manager@thepalms.org

Treasurer - Carrie Rowe
finance@thepalms.org

Member at Large – Donna Meadows
axlnx.meadows@gmail.com

Faith Community Nurse – Jayne Peak
jayne.peak@yahoo.com

Website: thepalms.org

Phone: 623.977.8359

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

Address: 14808 North Boswell Blvd
Sun City, AZ 85351

Please pray for our fellow church families:

Marlys Davenport, Doris and Allan Gott
 Lynda Chubbuck, Jim Schulz
 Linette Stenberg, Donna Stenberg
 Nancy Tsuchiya, Bonnie Adrian
 Andy Jordan, Lila Miller, Shari Kanehl
 Herbert Turner, Sue Wilson, Sally Heathcoat
 William Groover (Ellen Merchant's father)
 Tom Packerman (Nancy Mueller's friend)
 Jane (Everett Leff's sister)
 Diane Kluge (Tim Kluge's mother)
 Jennifer Charyk (Ken Barberi's friend)
 Sara Shettlesworth (Georgia Feiste's sister)
 Paul Farris (Kay Klinkenborg's brother)
 Alexia Hale, Don Zoss, Richard Campbell
 Marcia Hollingsworth, Anthony Park
 Bill Olsen and Mike Fuesting
 (Brandenbergers' friends)
 Bob Thompson (John Durbin's brother-in-law)
 Debbie Williams (For Her Family)
 Tyson and Andrea Mustain
 (Linda True's Children)
 Kathy Maloney (Bonnie Adrian's friend)
 Eileen (Patti Sutherland's sister)
 Danette Jenkins, Martin Meadows
 Emily Rowe (Chuck & Carrie's daughter)

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 the National Setting of the United Church of Christ. Pray for the Tent of Nations.



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

**All Saints of the Desert
 Episcopal Church
 9502 W. Hutton Dr.**

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.

We express our sympathies to the family and friends of

Bob Parks

who died May 1, 2026.

Services will be at The Church of the Palms on Saturday, May 23, at 10:00 AM.



We express our sympathies to the family and friends of

Linda McClentic

who died in April.

She was our organist in the early 2000's



Social Justice Prayer

God of grace, watch over all refugees. Embrace them in the pain of their partings. Into their fear and loss, send love. Open our eyes that we might see You in them. Open our hearts that they might see You in us. Open our arms that we might welcome refugees to new homes among us, as You stretched out Your arms and invited everyone home.

Amen

OUR LIFE TOGETHER THIS WEEK:

Sunday, May 10

9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR
 10:00a Worship Service SA
 11:00a Fellowship Hour KH

Monday, May 11

9:00a Blessing Board Meeting BR
 10:00a Executive Board Meeting KH
 2:00p LGBTQ+ Meeting BR

Tuesday, May 12

10:00a Ministry Council Br
 10:00a Shower Trailer at Bicentennial Park OS
 2:00p InSpirit Sacred Reading/Scripture Gathering BR
 5:00p AA Big Book Study (closed meeting) BR

Wednesday, May 13

9:00a Needles and Pins Craft Group BR
 10:00a "Let's Talk" BRC
 3:00p New Member Information Meeting KH

Thursday, May 14

11:00a White Fragility Class BR
 12:00p Criminal Justice Reform/Prison Ministry BRC
 1:00p Choir Rehearsal MR
 1:00p Social Justice Leadership Meeting BRC

Friday, May 15—OFFICE CLOSED

12:30p Shower Trailer at St. Johns OS

Saturday, May 16

9:00a Shower Trailer at Pilgrim Rest OS

Sunday, May 17

9:00a Choir Rehearsal MR
 10:00a Worship Service SA
 11:00a Congregational Meeting SA
 11:15a Fellowship Hour / Bee Hive Gathering KH

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

Mark Your Calendar

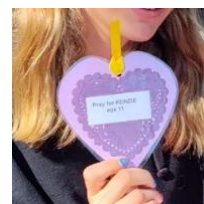
There will be a Special Meeting immediately after the Service on May 17, to vote on a proposed change to the Church's Constitution. Currently, the Constitution has the Executive Board Secretary as a non-voting member. The proposed change makes the Board's Secretary a voting member of the Executive Board. Please see the May Palm Leaf for details. Please plan to attend the meeting or vote online, which is available from May 3 until May 17, 8:00 AM Arizona time.

Piano Replacement Fund



As we celebrate ten years of ministry together, I'm grateful for your welcome, your courage for justice, and your patience with my "dad jokes." To mark this milestone, I invite you to support our Piano Replacement Fund. Every gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$5,000, ensuring our music remains as vibrant as our mission. Thank you for a decade of joy and shared purpose.

Shalom, Pastor Paul



Please remember to return your Prayer Heart with a note for the Camp Genesis child you prayed for this past year by **Sunday, May 17**.

New Member Information Meeting: The Evangelism & Growth Team invites those seeking a church community to a special Information Session on **Wednesday, May 13, at 3:00 PM in King Hall**. To learn more, please sign up in the Narthex.