



The Church of the Palms



God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 31, 2026

Trinity Sunday

10:00 AM

God created and said that it was good.

Our Church Life		Pastor Mark
Welcome		Pastor Paul
Prelude	<i>As the Deer with Fairest Lord Jesus</i>	Jennifer Hoppe
Call to Worship		Anthony Park
*Hymn 56, v 1, 2, & 4	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	Congregation
Spiritual Reading	<i>Matthew Fox, Desmond Tutu, Rebecca Ann Parker, Will Rogers</i>	Anthony Park
Special Music	<i>This Is My Father's World</i>	Ann Plaziak
Bahá'í Faith Skit		Pastors Mark & Paul Nancy Nonini
Scripture Reading	<i>Genesis 1:1, 25b-26a</i>	Pastor Mark
Message	<i>Words That Matter</i>	Pastor Paul
*Hymn 683	<i>O For a World</i>	Congregation
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Paul
Response	<i>Thy Word</i>	Congregation
Offertory Sentences		Pastor Paul
Offertory Music	<i>Morning Has Broken</i>	Jennifer Hoppe
Benediction		Pastor Mark
*Hymn 677	<i>Let There Be Peace on Earth</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.

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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
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Associate Pastor - Rev. Mark Makowski
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Exec Board Chair - Victoria McWilliams
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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8a-1p;
Fridays-Office Closed

Address: 14808 North Boswell Blvd
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**Please pray for our
fellow church families:**

Marlys Davenport, Doris and Allan Gott
Lynda Chubbuck, 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 (Brandenbergers' friend)
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)
Donna Harrison (Pam Caron's niece)
Mark Miskell, Bob Carlson, Judd Rinsema

*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:

**Grace Bible Church
19280 N 99th Ave**

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.

Social Justice Prayer

God of the journey, God of the traveler, we pray for those who leave their homes in search of safety and new beginnings, may they know your presence with them. We pray that those who seek to make a home in this country may find us welcoming and of help to them in their search for citizenship. We pray that our legislators, as they craft new legislation, may find the wisdom and courage to enact policies that do justice for those who would immigrate here. We pray for those who fan the flames of fear and discrimination against the undocumented may be touched with your divine compassion. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen



We express our sympathy to Eona Schulz on the death of her husband, **Jim Schulz**. Jim was a vital member of the trustees of The Church of the Palms for many years. His problem-solving skills are evident all over the property.



Summer Special Music

As our choir takes a well-earned summer break, we're looking for individuals or small groups who would like to offer **special music** during worship in June, July, or August. Whether you sing, play an instrument, or have a musical piece you'd love to share, we'd be delighted to include you.

If you're interested, please look for the signup sheet on the music room door or talk to **Jennifer Hoppe**.

PACK THE SACKS

We will be packing 50 sack lunches again today during the coffee hour. Your help has been wonderful, and we hope you can help us again. These lunches are then taken to the Surprise Resource Center where they distribute them to individuals and families in need. Also, if anyone can help transport these lunches to the Surprise Resource Center on Monday, please let Sandy Weis or Linda True know. The Center is located just off Bell Rd. near Sun City West. Thank you all for your help!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER THIS WEEK:

Sunday, May 31

10:00a Worship Service SA
11:00a Fellowship Hour KH

Monday, June 1

Tuesday, June 2

9:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast @George's Café OS
10:00a Othering and Belonging Meeting BR
2:00p InSpirit Sacred Reading/Scripture Gathering
Psalm 33 BR
5:00p AA Big Book Study (closed meeting) BR

Wednesday, June 3

9:00a Needles and Pins Craft Group BR

Thursday, June 4

10:00a Worship Meeting BR

Friday, June 5—OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, June 6

Sunday, June 7 Celebration-10 Years with Pastor Paul

10:00a Worship Service SA
11:00a Fellowship Hour KH

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; LB Labyrinth
BRC=Behle Resource Center; MG Memorial Garden

Come join the celebration! The Fellowship Team will host a special reception on **Sunday, June 7** to honor **Pastor Paul's 10-year anniversary** at The Church of the Palms. Stay after the Service for fellowship, refreshments, and heartfelt gratitude for a decade of faithful leadership.



Mark your Calendar-

June 21 – Celebration of Juneteenth – Rev., Dr. Toni Hawkins, UCC Southwest Conference Minister to speak.

June 28 – Pride Sunday – Celebrating that we are Open and Affirming.

Bahá'í Faith



Our Othering and Belonging Team has planned this year to include in our Sunday worship various aspects of other faiths to act as bridges of understanding between us. We have already raised awareness of Black Americans, the Jewish faith, and today we introduce the Baha'í faith. As a progressive Christian community, we seek understanding and acceptance of the human family that is richly diverse. We believe that our treatment of one another must be based on the principle of equity. This is more than equality as it seeks to challenge and change unjust social structures and laws. More importantly, being inclusive is more than being tolerant, it's demonstrating God's universal, unconditional love over rigid doctrines. We hope that this skit opens our hearts and minds to see God active in all the people of the world.

Today we are learning about the Bahá'í Faith, established in Persia/Iran in 1844. Traditionally every 19 days they gather for fellowship, often with Persian food. So today in the Fellowship Hall, we'll have Maamoul Date. Enjoy!



Celebrating Pride Month at The Church of the Palms

June invites us to celebrate Pride Month and to reaffirm our commitment as an Open and Affirming congregation. At The Church of the Palms, United Church of Christ, we welcome all people into the full life and ministry of our church—embracing every age, race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ability, background, and life story. We believe that God loves all people and that our diversity is a gift to be cherished.

We join the wider Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ, which advocates for and supports lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, nonbinary, and queer individuals. Through education, advocacy, and community-building, the Coalition equips congregations like ours to embody Christ's extravagant affirmation and to be bold witnesses for LGBTQ+ justice and inclusion.

This month, we honor LGBTQIA+ siblings, families, and relationships grounded in love, respect, responsibility, and trust. May our welcome continue to shine as a beacon of hope, affirmation, and belonging—celebrating every person as a beloved child of God.



A place for Notes...

