

Palm West Alive

October 2023



Grateful for grace

In this oneness, Jesus Christ is the Mediator, the Reconciler, between God and man. Thus he comes forward to man on behalf of God, calling for and awakening faith, love and hope, and to God on behalf of man, representing man, making satisfaction and interceding. Thus he attests and guarantees to God's free grace and at the same time attests and guarantees to God man's free gratitude.

—Karl Barth, *The Humanity of God*

Pastoral Staff:

Jim Powell, Senior Pastor

pastorjim@palmwestchurch.org

Brian Thomas, Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care

pastorbrian@palmwestchurch.org

Joseph Place, Minister of Music and Media

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Gwendy Joysen, Director of Modern Worship

gwendy@palmwestchurch.org

Office Staff:

Joyce Sopilnick, Church Administrator

admin@palmwestchurch.org

Claudia Burr, Connections Coordinator

connections@palmwestchurch.org

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Worship With Us In Person

Sunday Summer Worship Service

October 1 and 8

10:00 a.m.

Beginning Sunday October 15

Traditional Worship

9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Modern Worship

10:30 a.m. in Hoover Hall

Live Stream at 10:00 am—October 1 and 8

Livestream at 9:00 am—Beginning October 15

(on the website/app)

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday

8:00 am—4:00 pm

Closed for lunch 12:00 pm—1:00 pm

Fridays

8:00 am—2:00 pm

Phone: 623-546-2980

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General Church Email:

staff@palmwestchurch.org

Website: www.palmwestchurch.org

PWCC Leaders

VLT Chair, Gary Lanning

Secretary VLT, Finance, Joyce Westlund

Treasurer, Chuck Crandall

Church Clerk, Joyce Westlund

Education, Dena Martin

Hospitality, Diane Koziol

Media, Jim Burroughs

Missions, Diane Preston, Interim Chair

Property, Terry Brafford

Worship, Kristine Seemiller/Rob Hilkemeier

**Articles for the November newsletter should
be submitted to the office by
October 13. Thank You.
admin@palmwestchurch.org**

Pastor Jim Powell

Senior Pastor



Making Guests Feel Welcome

As we gather each week to worship, learn, and fellowship, let's not forget a crucial part of our calling: to welcome others into our community with open arms. The Bible places great importance on the act of hospitality. Hebrews 13:2 reminds us, "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." Clearly, how we welcome newcomers can have lasting impact.

A Warm Smile

Nothing says "you're welcome here" like a genuine smile. The power of a warm, friendly smile can't be overestimated, it instantly lifts spirits and sets a positive atmosphere. When you see new faces, greet them with a smile that says, "We're glad you're here!"

Eye Contact

Making eye contact with newcomers not only shows attentiveness but also sincerity. This simple yet meaningful gesture says, "I see you, and I'm glad you've joined us." By giving people your full attention, even briefly, you're conveying the message that they matter to you and to our community.

Handshake or Fist Bump

Whether it's a handshake, fist bump, or a friendly wave, physical gestures contribute to making people feel welcome. Don't force this if the other person doesn't appear comfortable, but if appropriate, this polite gesture definitely carries value.

Name Tags

Name tags serve a functional role—they help us remember and use names. This is not for our benefit, but also for the guests. Please wear your name tags if you have them.

Seating Help

We've all been in situations where we walk into a room and have no idea where to sit. Offering to assist newcomers in finding a comfortable seat not only helps ease their nerves but also provides an opportunity for a brief interaction that can make them feel seen and valued.

Brief Introduction

A short introduction can go a long way in breaking the ice. Just sharing your name and asking newcomers how they heard about our church can start a conversation and make them feel more at home. If you are unsure if someone is new, I always suggest introducing yourself by saying, "Have I met you before?" That question is relevant whether someone is a first-time guest or if they have been attending for decades.

Guest Services

Don't forget to encourage newcomers to drop by the Guest Services table. This is where they can pick up a small gift, and learn additional information about our church.

In line with 1 Peter 4:9, let's "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling." Remember, a welcoming atmosphere starts with each one of us. Let's be intentional in our efforts to create a community where everyone feels at home. By extending a warm welcome, we are preparing people's hearts to be more receptive to the Lord and worship. And furthermore, who knows, we might just be entertaining angels unaware.

Pastor Joseph Place
Minister of Music & Media

Three Great Oasis Project Events!



Sunday, October 1, 3:00 PM
Bach Cantata BWV 51 and More!
\$15 Open Seating
(additional charge for credit cards)

Sunday, November 5, 3:00 PM
Two Flutes and Piano Recital
Free-Will Offering



Sunday, November 12, 3:00 PM
Worship with Jan Kliever and Family
Free-Will Offering

www.palmwestchurch.org
13845 W Stardust Blvd
Sun City West, AZ 85375

Director of Modern Worship

Gwendy Joysen



Hello Church!

I'm overjoyed about the turn out for Modern Worship preparation meetings, auditions, and rehearsals so far. There are so many warm hearted and talented people in this community. It is genuinely an honor to be here among you, serving the Lord alongside you all. We already have a team in place for Modern Worship musicians, singers, ushers, greeters, and the prayer team. We are currently looking for a few more people who can sub when someone is out sick or traveling.

Prayer Team: Praying with strangers requires a strong balance of listening and support without interjecting our own opinions, thoughts, or fears. As newcomers join us, and our attendance grows, so will our need for trained prayer team members. The week prior to our first service, we will be doing a **Prayer Team Training Session** for those interested in becoming part of the Modern Worship Prayer Team. Attendees will learn or strengthen their understanding of how to support those who come forward in need of prayer, particularly some of the more daunting needs in our community. Please reach out to me, Rob Hilkemeier or Claudia Burr if you would like to attend.

NOTE: You do not have to commit to becoming part of the team to take the training.

Auditions for singers and musicians are now closed as we prepare for the first few Sundays. If you missed the window but are interested, email me and I will contact you when I start another round of auditions and training sessions.

In Christ Alone,
~Gwendy



The Pavilion

The pavilion is started!
We are hopeful it will be completed by
October 15.



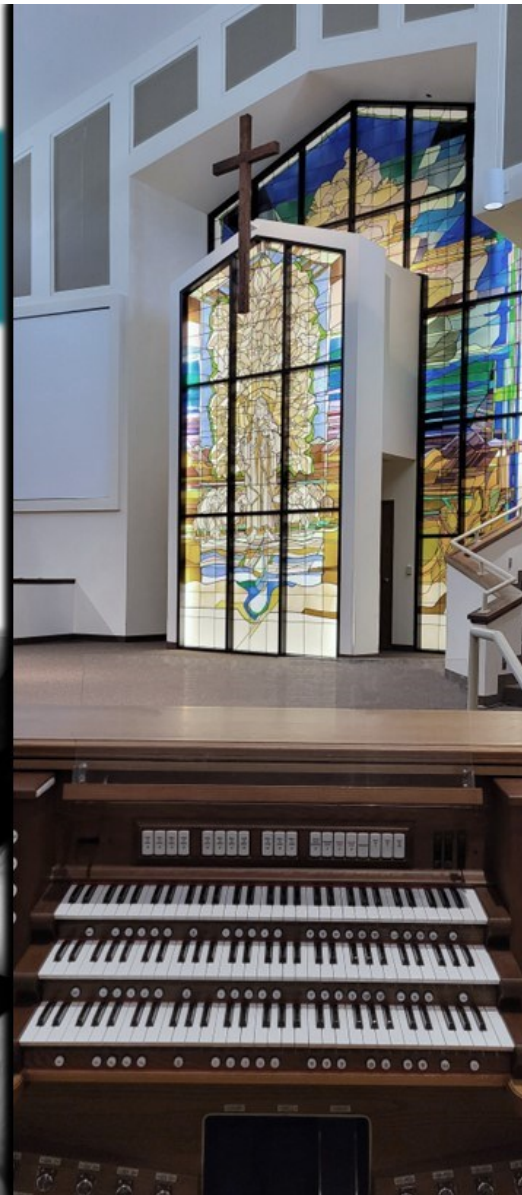
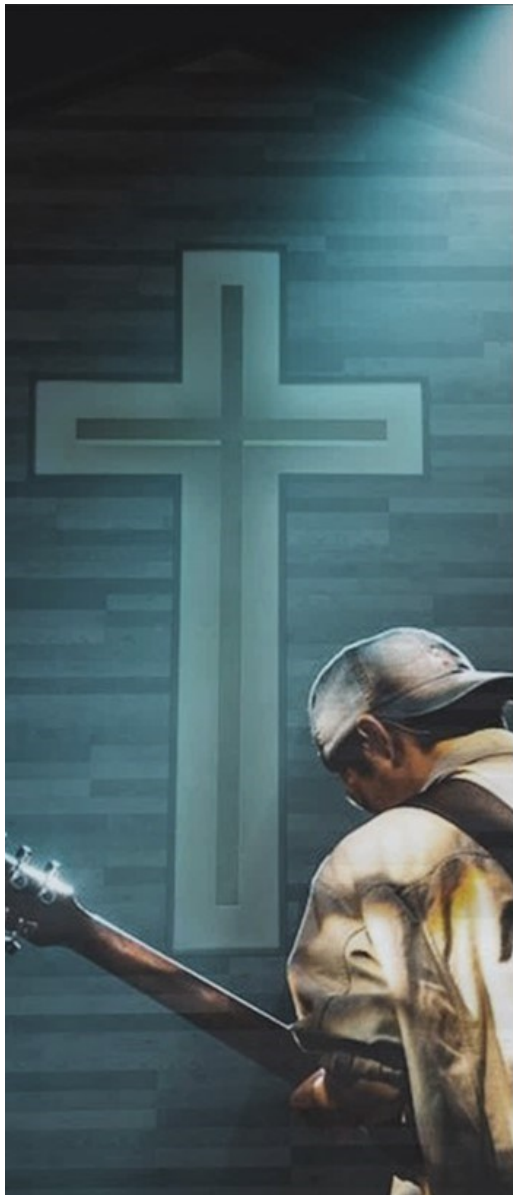
Join us!

TWO SERVICES Starting on October 15th

Join us Sunday, Oct 15th as we return to having two services each Sunday morning. We will hold both our unchanged traditional service as well as our new modern worship service each week.

Traditional Worship: 9am
Worship Center

Modern Worship: 10:30am
Hoover Hall



Concert of Prayer **Sunday, October 8** **4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

A Concert of Prayer will be held on Sunday, October 8 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. This will include times of worship, as well as individual and corporate prayer. Consider joining us in the time of seeking God for our church and community.

Connection Coordinator

Claudia Burr

Gearing Up and Getting Going!



Psalm 16:9 *"The mind of man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."*

We have experienced a hot summer but the days are beginning to cool down. I suppose many felt it was too hot to do too much but as we enter Fall in beautiful Arizona, we are making plans. plans for winter travel, plans to host family and friends living in far away places who long for a perfect winter, plans for activities in our community, plans for involvement in church, and plans to experience at church.



Last season we had an exercise class a few times and those who participated wanted more. We now have, with the leadership of Sara Dunn, scheduled monthly exercise and strengthening classes. Please join in for the kick-off class at 7:45 a.m. in Hoover Hall the 2nd Thursday of the month beginning October 12 – sign ups are under way so stop by the Members' Services desk. Please wear stable shoes and comfortable clothes. Class will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m., you need to sign a waiver beforehand. **When the Lord directs your steps, you will be blessed!**

Pastor Appreciation Month is October. We will celebrate our pastors at the beginning of the month. If you would like to give a note of appreciation and/or encouragement and gift, please do so. We will dedicate the month to praying for our pastors and showing our appreciation! *1 Timothy 5:17 "Elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching."* **When the Lord directs your steps, you will be blessed!**

As you plan your Sundays, please pray for our pastors and give God honor and glory as we launch the Modern Worship Service. The best plan is to seek out a new person, welcome them and let them know how delightful it is for them to come and share in a service of worship with you. Invite them out to eat, or to join the welcome teams to greet and serve them. *Psalm 1:2... "delight in the law of the Lord, ...meditate day and night....be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever you do, you prosper."* **When the Lord directs your steps, you will be blessed!**

The missions ministry is gearing up for the generosity of you who have compassion for the less fortunate. The Angel Tree in October will be available to collect toys for inner-city children. Samaritan's Purse will have the Christmas Child Project shoeboxes collected and filled by Nov 12 and the Turkey drive for Valley View Community Food Bank follows on Nov 20, but something that homeless treasure is a pair of socks. *Matthew 7:7 "ask and it shall be given to you, seek, and you shall find, knock, and it shall be opened to you..."* **When the Lord directs your steps, you will be blessed!**

If you want to get involved but are not sure how, please let me know and I will help you get connected! Let's gear up for the Lord and let Him direct our steps!

From Joyce Westlund, Financial Secretary

If you wish to have a portion of your offering go into another fund, please mark it on your envelope, not in the memo of your check. We'd hate to miss it.

Thank you.

Women's Fellowship Ministry

Pat Seaberg, Chair



A group of ladies from PWCC were blessed to attend the Lifeway Women Live Conference in mid-September. Can you imagine a more beautiful image than being part of nearly a thousand women raising their hands and voices in worship? We were blessed with the teachings from six different Lifeway Bible Study teachers speaking on faith. Here are just a few of the nuggets that we heard from the speakers:

- ◆ Faith is when we release our control of life and circumstances to God.
- ◆ Faith is a journey and a bridge between us and God.
- ◆ Faith grows from reading and hearing the word and knowing the character of God.
- ◆ Faith takes us through the hard places in life and molds us into the likeness of Jesus.
- ◆ We often put our hope in people and circumstances—but hope is only found in God.
- ◆ The Beatitudes are written in a way that they are expectant of what is to come, but in the future as stated in the book of Revelation, we will say them as done. They are ours—real and received.
- ◆ What seems like a big thing here is so small in heaven, and what is a big thing in heaven is a small thing here.
- ◆ God develops our character to match our calling.
- ◆ Life is not fair, but do we really want to get what we deserve?
God is not fair, but He is Just.



I hope that more of our Palm West women will join us the next time we have another opportunity to attend a Christian women's conference, so that they will be as blessed as we were.

Hey Ladies,

Here's an update on Craft Day which will be on Friday, October 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each and this includes five different crafts plus lunch.

Tickets will go on sale Sunday, October 1 and must be purchased in advance. We will sell tickets each Sunday through October 22, but seating is limited, so please get your tickets ASAP.

You are welcome to bring a friend, and if you do, you will get a gift!

Thank you to all the ladies who came out for the planning meeting. We are looking forward to working together to make this a successful and fun event.



Future Women's Fellowship Events:

Wednesday, November 8 – Shopping and lunch

Friday, December 1 – Christmas brunch

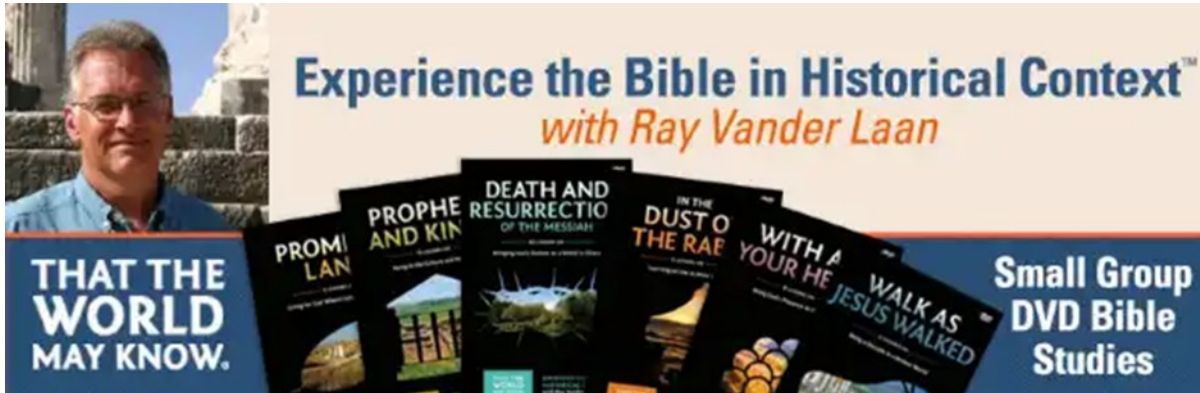
If you are interested in helping with Craft Day, or if you have any ideas for field trips, shopping, or other activities, please contact Pat Seaberg.

Education

Dena Martin, Chair

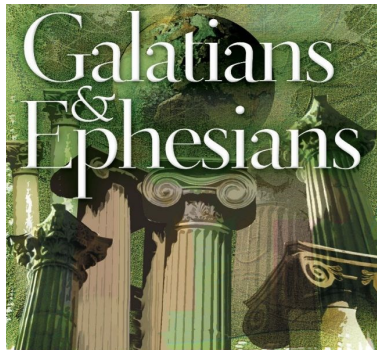
Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin November 15. Leader Bob Wilber will begin where he closed in the spring with Ray Vander Laan's "That The World May Know". Time and place TBD. For more information call Bob 859-621-0709.



Men's Bible Study, 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. As the Men's Bible Study approaches the completion of the study of Hebrews, we have decided to begin a study of the Epistles of John and the Epistles of Peter for our next study which will begin in October. Need more Information call Dave, 602-741-4640

Women's Bible Study, Thursday's 9:30 a.m. in Hoover Hall Classroom. Refreshments will be available. Leaders Dorcus Van Horn and Sara Dunn are leading a book study "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" until October 12. Beginning October 19 Mary Ann Lind will begin teaching "Galatians and Ephesians".



New Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor Jim will be starting a new seven-week Bible Study, starting on Wednesday, October 4 at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The study is based on Carl Trueman's book, *Strange New World*, which addresses the drastic cultural shifts in beliefs and expectations regarding sexuality and identity. It traces the philosophical and practical path that has led us to where we are at, as well as, a biblical response to the changes that are taking place around us.

Education

Dena Martin, Chair

(continued)

Fiction/Non-fiction Books & DVD's New to Palm West Library

Fiction

My Heart Belongs to Glenwood Springs Colorado by Rebecca Jepson

My Heart Belongs to Castle Gate Utah – by Angie Dicken

My Heart Belongs to Tombson Arizona – by Samantha Bayarr

Non-Fiction

Turning Hurts Into Halos - by Robert H. Schuller

Surprised by Joy, The Shape of Early Life – by C.S.Lewis

Experiencing the Heart of Jesus – by Max Lucado

DVD's

The Book of Daniel

Stars in My Crown

Home Run

Share Their Voice

Christianity and World Religions Revised

Return to Hauna with Marilyn Laszlo

If you would like to help us expand the Palm West Community Church Library, please. email us at

library@palmwestchurch.org with suggestions of Christian authors, and DVDs for us to include in the Palm West Church library or donations.

We are happy to accept donations of books and DVDs if you plan to downsize your home library. The donated books become the property of Palm West Community Church. If we have the book already on our shelf, we will donate it to another organization accepting books at the present time.

Christian Readers Book Club

1st Thursday's in the Worship Center Classroom

October 5, at 1:00 p.m.

Christian Readers Book Club has selected *Redemption* by Karen Kingsbury and Gary Smalley for October. This is a good way to set off your fall reading as you see how the protagonist attempts to solve a problem on her own without first consulting God. A good reminder for so many of us!

Vision Leadership Team

Gary Lanning, Chair

Accounting For Your Donations

Part 6

“Legacy Giving” by John Sproule, Legacy Ministry Chair

2 Corinthians 8:20 & 21

“We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.”

Another element of PWCC’s three-year vision plan is to facilitate legacy giving *ANEW!* In 2017, our Church established the “Palm West Community Church Endowment Fund” and earlier this year the Vision Leadership Team accepted all responsibilities linked to the Fund. After review, it was determined that the endowment, as currently structured, lacked understanding, participation, promotion, and shared purpose for the future Kingdom work at PWCC. The VLT deemed it prudent to use the Endowment Agreement as a foundation to build on and to focus “ANEW” on the importance of planned giving. A key step in this re-focus, is the forming of a new ministry called the PWCC Legacy Ministry.

What is the PWCC Legacy Ministry? A legacy ministry’s purpose is to facilitate a dynamic planned giving program that allows church members to designate a part of their estate to the church after they die. Planned legacy giving is significant because even though church members often give cash assets regularly throughout their life, only five percent of a person’s assets are typically liquid, like cash. The remaining 95 percent is represented in nonliquid assets like real estate, stocks or mutual funds, and retirement accounts. Most of the time, the largest one-time charitable gift a person will make is through their will. By including the church in their estate planning, church members can make gifts through the legacy ministry and those gifts from God shall carry out Kingdom purposes, well beyond our lifetimes.

By prioritizing legacy giving, church leadership shall set in place educational venues that will foster a culture of intentional stewardship and set PWCC for longevity as a ministry.

What is Your Legacy? Whether you are a full-time or seasonal PWCC attendee, we are all ONE in the family of God’s Kingdom, through Jesus, for today and future generations. Our PWCC Legacy Ministry provides us all an opportunity to reflect our gratitude for the financial blessings we have personally accumulated. An updated or new estate plan will also reflect your personal dedication to ensuring the future strength and impact of PWCC, as well as our Missional outreach, for generations to come.

Legacy giving can make a significant difference in the lives of those who will follow in our footsteps by ensuring the spread of the message of God’s love through PWCC’s past, present, and future attendees.

“The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it (Psalm 24:1).”

Simply, call or send an email to either me or Pastor Jim and let us know that you would like to learn more about the many financial ways to start or update your estate plan.

Bountiful Blessings to You,

John Sproule

October Sermons

Setting the Stage



Sermon Series

Pastor Jim Powell

Setting the Stage

October 1 – Sharing with Others

Scriptures: Various

October 8 – Maintaining Unity

Scriptures: Various

Sermon Series

Pastor Jim Powell

Finding Your Way Back to God



October 15 – Awakening to Longing

Scriptures: Luke 15:13; Dt 28:65-67

October 22 – Awakening to Regret

Scriptures: Luke 15:11-24

October 29 – Awakening to Help

Scriptures: Luke 15:20; Luke 5:17

Balance and Strengthening Exercise Class

Led by Sara Dunn



Mark Your Calendar !

Monthly Exercise

Second Thursday of each month

8:00 a.m.

Hoover Hall

Upcoming Dates:

Thursday, October 12, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, November 9, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 14, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 11, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, February 8, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, March 14, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, April 11, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 13, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Fellowship Dinner

Diane Koziol



Our next Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will be

October 18,

5:00 p.m.

Hoover Hall



We will be serving Brats and German Potato Salad!

If you would like to bring a dessert, help set-up or clean-up, check the boxes
when you sign up to come to the dinner.

\$5.00 per person at the door!

Join us for Fun & Games!



Palm West Community Church

Annual Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 20,

4:00 p.m.

Palm Ridge Rec Center

Women's Connection
Ladies, join us for great conversation!

Note Change of Time



Beginning on October 2, we will meet Monday afternoons from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom for an informal time of fellowship. Each week someone will present a topic about a life experience to which everyone is invited to share their story. At times we groan for each other but mostly we laugh together. We look forward to welcoming new ladies into our fellowship! Small snacks and water provided. For questions call the church office.



Quilt and Sew Meeting

The Quilt and Sew Ladies of Palm West Community Church make quilts and sew blankets in baby, toddler, children and youth sizes to be given, with the Hope Bags, dedicated in love and prayer, to community groups for encouragement and glorification of our Savior Jesus Christ.

These community groups are The Phoenix Rescue Mission, Changing Lives Center, The Neighborhood Ministries of Phoenix, Thrive Arizona, The Phoenix Dream Center and Short Creek.

Our next meeting will be Friday, October 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom.

Do you like to sew? Then join us for fun and fellowship in making quilts and blankets.

Fabric and instructions are provided!

Courtneys Creations

We meet on the first Friday of each month.

Join us at our next meeting on October 6 at 11:00 a.m. in the Worship Center classroom

Many beautiful crocheted and knitted items have been donated to moms at this very critical time in their lives.

Thank you all for your sharing your time and talents with us.

Please call Diane Preston for more info 651-278-5868.



Coloring Fellowship

Come join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

For the month of October we will be meeting on
October 10 and 24, 10:00—11:30 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom.

Lots of fellowship and a little coloring.

Bring family and friends. We have supplies to share.

Questions??? Contact Deborah Phillips Dodson or Mary Beth Tyson

Fellowship Games

Join us in the Hoover Hall classroom

Monday's,

October 2 and 16.



October Meetings

AA/Alanon

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom
Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom

Balance & Exercise Class

Thursday, October 12	8:00 am—9:00 am	Hoover Hall
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CBS

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25	9:30 am—11:30 am	Whole Campus
Leaders Lunch , Wednesday, October 4	11:30 am—1:30 p.m	Hoover Hall

Christian Readers Book Club

Thursday, October 5	1:00 pm—2:30 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Choir Practice

Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19, 26	3:00 pm—4:30 pm	Choir Room
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Coloring Fellowship

Tuesdays, October 10, 24	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Courtneys Creations

Friday, October 6	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Education

Monday, October 2	9:00 am—10:00 am	Worship Center classroom
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Fellowship Dinner

Wednesday, October 18	5:00 pm—7:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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Fellowship Games

Monday, October 2, 16	2:00 pm—4:30 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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Finance Meeting

Thursday, October 19	9:00 am—10:00 am	Worship Center classroom
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Formation Group

Mondays, October 2, 9, 15, 23, 30	9:00 am—10:00 am	Worship Center classroom
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Handbells

Fridays, October 6, 13, 20	9:00 am—10:00 am	Sanctuary
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Hope Bags

Friday, October 13	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom
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Intercessory Prayer Gathering

Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Men's Bible Study

Mondays, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	10:00 am—11:00 am	Choir Room
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Missions

Monday, October 9	1:00 pm—3:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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Modern Worship Rehearsal

Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19, 26	4:30 pm—5:30 pm	Choir Room
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(continued)

October Meetings

(continued)

PAT

Tuesday, October 17 1:00 pm—2:00 pm Choir Room

Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19, 26 9:30 am—11:00 am Hoover Hall classroom

Women's Connection—**NewTime**

Mondays, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 12:30 pm—1:30 pm Hoover Hall classroom

Women's Fellowship –Craft Day

Friday, October 27 9:00 am—3:00 pm Hoover Hall

Quilter & Sew

Friday, October 6 9:00 am—12:00 pm Hoover Hall classroom

VLT

Tuesday, October 17 9:00 am—12:00 pm Hoover Hall classroom

New Members



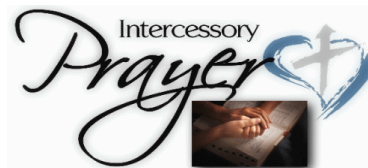
Jim & Pam Vermeer

**On Sunday, September 3
Pastor Jim introduced
Our newest members.
Welcome to Palm West
Community Church!**



Michael, Shari & Travis Goldade

The Intercessory Prayer Group meets every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. We will be using the Worship Center classroom in the back of the sanctuary.



Do you have a prayer request?

If so, email prayer@palmwestchurch.org

We'll get your request to our prayer team and include it on our daily email update. Prayer is our most forceful weapon and we need to continue to rely on this privilege.

Mission Moments

Diane Preston, Interim Chair

Mission of the Month

Cadence International

Linda Leavengood, Liaison



Cadence is a ministry we support at the Luke Air Force Base. Bill and Dianne Sperry are the directors of the "Well Hospitality House" serving Airmen (and women) stationed at Luke. Every Tuesday evening Bill and Dianne welcome military personnel and their families to their home for a home-cooked meal and fellowship. As with many bible study groups, Bill and Dianne have become involved in the lives of these soldiers and care for them like family. They are studying from John McArthur's book, "Twelve Ordinary Men", which is a study of Jesus' disciples. On Thursday afternoons Bill holds a bible study for two to four airmen on the book of Exodus. They are also planning a sunrise hike in the White Tank Mountain park for the first week of October. Bill and Dianne's prayer needs are:

- Please continue to keep our Christian Service members in prayer. Pray that God will strengthen them in their faith in Jesus Christ and grant them boldness to share the gospel when opportunities arise.
- Pray for wisdom for believers as they navigate the deceitfulness being pressed upon them from the unbelieving military leadership.
- Pray God's protective hand over each one of them as they serve to protect our nation.
- Pray for our married couples and families in the military. That their marriages would stay strong against the temptations to be led astray from their union in Christ.
- Pray for Bill and Dianne to be wise and discerning how best to meet the needs of these precious young people.
- Praise God for the faithful prayers lifted up over this ministry, as your faithful prayers "availeth much".

Samaritans Purse

Shirley Pleuss & Judi Dillard, Liaisons

Reminder of Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Launch

As strange as it is to be thinking of Christmas in September, the Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Project is just around the corner. This project is held annually by Samaritan's Purse to provide children in over 170 nations the joy of Christmas, and to experience the love of Jesus in a special way, catered to the child's age and interests.

The actual preferred method of giving is online, where you are able to fill the virtual boxes that are filled by Samaritan's Purse volunteers according to your order, giving Palm West credit for each online order. The linked address is: <https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/my-goal/e288a399-7898-4a2a-a815-0c41abb2b69f/8bbc3d6c-0a80-4c45-a465-b4991dd6ec53>

For those who may be without computer access, an easy way to donate participate is to write a \$25 check per box to PWCC, and our team will fill your boxes order online. However, if you love to shop, empty shoeboxes will be available for you to pickup and fill with a list of suggested items starting Sunday October 22nd through Nov 5th in the Worship Center foyer. There is a \$10 charge for each box to cover shipping costs. The filled boxes will be collected October 29th thru November 12th.

This is a wonderful opportunity to open our hearts and to spread the love of Jesus around the world.



Hope Bags

Claudia Smith



Giving Gifts of Love

Our PWCC Quilters, (part of the Hope Bag Ministry), presented 60 beautiful quilts and blankets to Neighborhood Ministries at our Fellowship Dinner in September. NM is so very grateful for all the folks at PWCC who donate to their mission, and thanked everyone. They also presented the program for the Angel Tree. We had a wonderful response in 2022, and I know this year we will be only to happy to participate in providing gifts for the children NM serves.



Wilma Plett presenting Quilts



Luis Enriquez & NM Leaders

You won't want to miss an opportunity to pick one of the wooden angels off the tree in the Sanctuary Narthex, purchase a gift from the selections suggested and bring the **UNWRAPPED** gift back and place it in the Christmas cart **ALONG** with the envelope attached to the gift. The best part is you get a gift too, you get to keep the angel and pray for the child. Jesus loved the little children, and what a privilege it is to be able to bring a little happiness to an underprivileged child and show His love and pray for them. Our PWCC Quilters, (part of the Hope Bag Ministry), presented 60 beautiful quilts and blankets to Neighborhood Ministries at our Fellowship Dinner in September. NM is so very grateful for all the folks at PWCC who donate to their mission, and thanked everyone. They also presented the program for the Angel Tree. We had a wonderful response in 2022, and I know this year we will be only to happy to participate in providing gifts for the children NM serves.

Items Used for the Hope Bags

Perhaps you are wondering what the items are that go into each Hope Bag for the local missions. We meet each year with the representatives from each of the missions: Phoenix Rescue Mission (serving Changing Lives Center and Hope Coach), THRIVE AZ, Phoenix Dream Center, Short Creek (off shoot from PDC), and Neighborhood Ministries. At these meetings we review each of the items in the bags. Do they still use the item or if not, is there something that might be more useful? We also go over the number of bags they will need for the coming year. This year our goal is 1,550 Hope Bags which we plan to fill by March 17, 2024.

This is the 20th year PWCC will be serving these local mission through the Hope Bag Ministry. Each year God has continued to bless us, and in turn we have been able to bless the recipients. These bags and quilts express Jesus' love to those in great need.

(continued)

Hope Bags

Claudia Smith

(continued)

We realize the price of each item is increasing dramatically, and many are not able to shop for the “**ITEM OF THE MONTH**”. However there are many ways we each can participate in this blessing of giving. Perhaps you would like to come to a meeting and then join us in counting items for the inventory; or you might be able to sew bags to specifications, or crochet the colorful cords: (see Lucy Peek). Another possibility would be to help in some manner with the quilters, (see Wilma Plett). I understand you don’t have to be a quilter to be able to help in this ministry. If you are able to give financially you can make your check payable to Palm West Community Church and in the memo section write HOPE BAGS. The \$\$ will go directly to that account and help pay for the bulk items we order, i.e. Bibles and children’s literature, etc.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW!!! You may wonder why these women and children have very little in life, and when they come into one of the missions they usually only have the clothes on their back, period. The **NEW** items speak to them that they are a valuable person and Jesus loves them and so do we.

PWCC has been so faithful in the desire to help these people out of poverty. When they complete the programs designed to give them help in all areas of life, they go out into the world and many, many desire to give back to those just coming into the mission. You make that possible with your heart of generous giving.

I have a saying I read each day and want to share the thought with you.

“God gave you a fingerprint that no one else has, so you can leave an imprint that no one else can.”

If you have any questions about the Hope Bag Ministry, please contact Claudia Smith 623-692-7911 or email her at mspuff42@gmail.com.

May God richly bless you as you continue to bless others through your giving hearts.

thank you

Deer Church Family,

I am so grateful and thankful for all of your prayers during my medical “adventure”.

Please continue praying because prayer really does render change.

God is good all the time!

Love and blessings,

Stephanie Munyon

*Thank you 410 Ministry!
Steve and Dave were
wonderful!!!*

*Appreciate your ministry
and am very grateful for it.
Rena Papadopoulos*



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