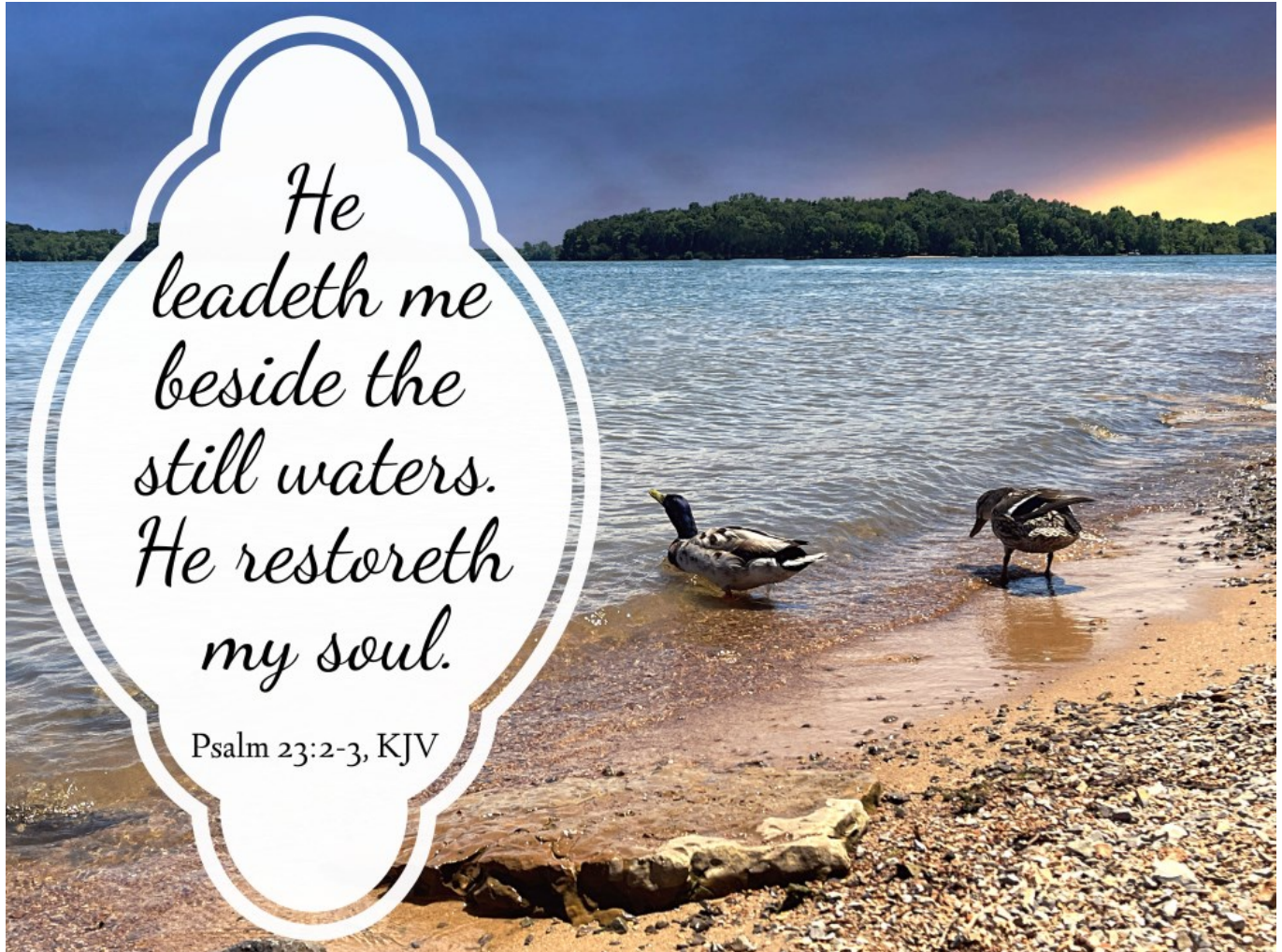


Palm West Alive

June 2023



Turn around and believe that the good news that we are loved is better than we ever dared hope, and that to believe in that good news, to live out of it and toward it, to be in love with that good news, is of all glad things in this world the gladdest thing of all. Amen, and come Lord Jesus.

—Frederick Buechner, *The Clown in the Belfry*

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

pastorjoe@palmwestchurch.org

Marcus Johnson, Modern Worship Leader

pastormarcus@palmwestchurch.org

Office Staff:

Joyce Sopilnick, Church Administrator

admin@palmwestchurch.org

Claudia Burr, Connections Coordinator

connections@palmwestchurch.org



Worship With Us In Person
Sunday Summer Worship Service
10:00 a.m.

Live Stream at 9:00 am
(on the website/app)

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday

8:00 am—4:00 pm

Closed for lunch 12:00 pm—12:30 pm

Fridays

8:00 am—2:00 pm

Phone: 623-546-2980

Fax: 623-546-9977

General Church Email:

staff@palmwestchurch.org

Website: www.palmwestchurch.org

July & August will have electronic newsletters.

If you will have an article for either of these months, please submit it to the office by June 15 for July & July 15 for August..

Thank You.

admin@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, Mary Ann Lind

Property, Terry Brafford

Worship, Kristine Seemiller/Rob Hilkemeier

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Pastor Jim Powell

Senior Pastor



Understanding our Vision Initiatives – Part 3

Over the past couple of months, I have been writing about our new Vision Statement, along with why having a vision is important. This new vision statement that our Leadership Team has put together is, “To share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, ANEW!”

Along with this general vision statement, we have put together a number of initiatives that we hope to accomplish as a part of this. ***The first initiative that we have is offering and expanding multi access worship.*** This simply means that we want to expand the number of ways in which we are sharing the gospel and giving people opportunity to worship beyond what we are already doing. In the previous two months, I emphasized the growth and importance of our online ministry and the reasoning behind a modern worship service in Hoover Hall. Today, I want to write on venue services at Life Care Facilities.

Throughout the Northwest Valley there are a number of Life Care Facilities. Some of these facilities have a chaplain and offer a weekend worship experience. But others have neither a Chaplin or any kind of weekend worship opportunity. For example, recently, I was visiting one of our church members in a newer Life Care Facility that I had never been to before. I noticed on the wall a list of monthly activities and on Sunday there was one option for worship. Residents needed to be in the lobby by 8:00 a.m., and then take a shuttle bus to a nearby church if they wanted to worship. So, at this facility, which houses several hundred residents, the only option for Sunday worship was to take a bus to a local congregation. Yet, as you know, a good number of the resident have physical limitations, which meant taking a bus, especially at 8:00 a.m. in the morning, an unrealistic scenario.

There are many other examples I could share where people living in Life Care Facilities are wanting and looking for worship opportunities. But they have limited or in some cases no options other than to try and find a ride to church.

In the New Testament we read where people were told to “come and see,” if they wanted to meet Jesus. But on other occasions, Jesus told the disciples to “go and tell.” Proactively going to where people needed God, and then sharing the good news with them.

After months of discussion and prayer, the Vision Leadership Team feels that Palm West needs to “go and tell” by offering worship experiences at some Life Care Facilities in the NW Valley. We see this as both a need and an opportunity. And with a current pilot test that we have been doing, we know that there is potential impact here, and with minimal financial investment.

Many people who transition to Life Care Facilities do so at a time and season of life where they can still drive and carry on as usual. Yet, at some point residents find their world getting smaller and smaller with limited options. Furthermore, most Life Care Facilities have amazing amenities and services. But, too often there is a void when it comes to spiritually enriching services.

Therefore, as a part of our vision to “Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, ANEW,” we hope to take the good news to where there is need and opportunity, such as Life Care Facilities. We hope that you will join us in prayer, asking God to open doors, and to use this for His glory in reaching more people for Christ.

Jim

Pastor Brian Thomas
Assoc. Pastor of Pastoral Care



As we enter into the summer months, a good number of us will retreat to cooler climates. Yet, the reality is this: pastoral care does not take a break over the summer. In these summer months, our church family still experiences health challenges, ends up in the hospital, experiences fraying relationships, grows lonely, and more.

Please know that care is always available to you:

In-person care if you remain in Arizona AND care over the phone (a listening ear, a kind/encouraging word, a prayer) even if you are thousands of miles away from SCW.

If you need us, our pastors and our PAT are just a phone call away. To access this care, you can call the church office at 623-546-2980 or call me at 717-682-4566.

Serving with you,

Brian

Women's Fellowship Ministry
Pat Seaberg, Chair

Here's what's coming in Women's Fellowship:

Wednesday, June 7 – A Salad lunch, (bring a salad or dessert to share)

July – a special trip, (date and location to be determined)

Wednesday, August 9 – Lunch

September – TBD

Friday, October 27 – Craft Day

Wednesday, November 8 – TBD

Friday, December 1 – Christmas Lunch



Do you have ideas about field trips, shopping, or other activities that we might enjoy doing together?

Or are you interested in assisting with Women's Fellowship?

If so, please contact Pat Seaberg with any comments or questions. 714-323-6833



Shopping Day in Cave Creek!

Connection Coordinator

Claudia Burr

Paul writes in Philippians 2:2-4, “make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests but also for the interests of others.”



What a concept! This summer we are moving into a season of change. The one-service began on May 28 and it is a great opportunity for you to offer YOUR help with greeting, ushering and communion serving. Kristine Seemiller and Rob Hilkemeier are always looking for willing workers to help make our church atmosphere friendly, inviting and joyful. Once we return to two services, they will be meeting in different buildings at different times so now is the time to let Kristine and/or Rob know how you might help with the service, help advance His Kingdom through service. Linda Haley is looking for friendly faces at the Guest Services Desk as well.



My mother, Mary Ann Wilson, could command a room, delight and entertain people and could also give straight talk to those who might need it! “Things don't happen on their own,” or “let's work on that together,” or “what have you done for someone else today?” Yes, she had a way of making my siblings and me think that personal interests could get in the way of service, righteousness and kindness. My dad, Claude Glenn Wilson aka “Cautious Claude”, was a public servant and made it known that he valued your opinion, encouraged godly living, and believed integrity was integral to all actions. He

would use the Four-Way Test of things we think, say and do that was developed by a service organization.



1. Is that the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

I can't tell you how many times I have used this test to resolve a conflict or address an issue. It has helped me help others. These questions drive home the idea of humility and service to others. I was blessed by these two loving souls and their examples! So, as we face changes and transition to two services in the Fall, let's make His joy complete by being of the same mind (growing the church family, reaching out to the unchurched), united in spirit (love one another as Jesus has taught us), intent on one purpose (worshiping God with all our hearts and sharing the Gospel anew). Doing this will Honor Him, bring us together and provide many hands to help and serve. If you are looking for a way to get involved, please give me a call or send me an email and I will reach out to help you make connections with our church family and its ministries.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FIND JOYOUS WAYS TO SERVE TODAY!

Claudia Burr, Connections Coordinator

connections@palmwestchurch.org 480-371-7409

Upcoming Event



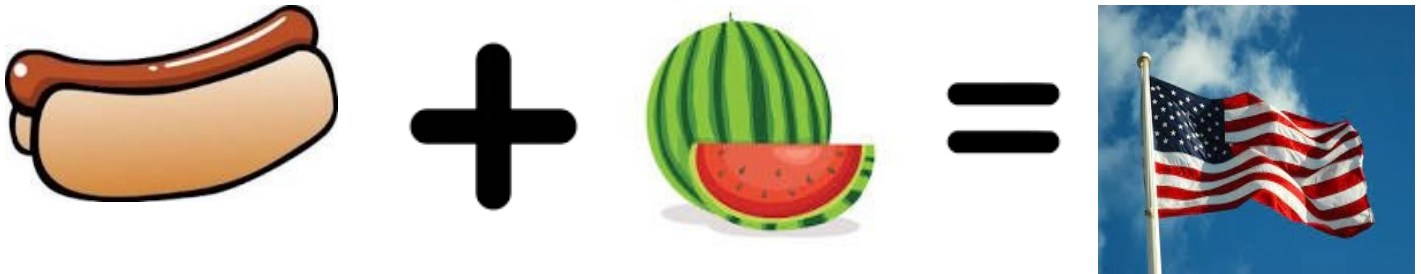
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Sunday, July 2, 5:00 p.m.

Hoover Hall

A PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

Our fellowship dinner will be on a different night. We hope that you will come and invite a friend. We will be limited to 200 people but the plans are formulating for a wonderful night of friendship, food, and realizing the importance of God and Country – in that order!



Bratwurst, Beans, Salad, Chips, Watermelon

All American Food for Independence Day Celebration!

Please sign up for desserts to share

\$5 per person

We have cooked up an informative and patriotic evening of

Singing

Listening

Sharing

Fellowship

“Where two or three are gathered in His Name, He is with them.” Matthew 18:20

Travel in the Footsteps of Paul

Pastor Jim is leading a trip to Greece April 1-10, 2024. The trip will include visits to many cities highlighted in the New Testament including Athens, Corinth, Thessaloniki, and Philippi. Included is a three-day Mediterranean Cruise with stops at Crete, Patmos, and Ephesus. Following the 10-day trip, there is an optional 3-day extension to Rome, Italy.



For more information, you can pick up fliers at the church.

Vision Leadership Team

Gary Lanning, Chair

Accounting For Your Donations

Part 2

“Missions Giving” by Chuck Crandall, PWCC Treasurer

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.”

In a time long long ago, before most of us were here, a small group of believers planted a church here in Sun City West. Their first financial commitment was to tithe 10% of the offering toward a Mission support plan. To implement that plan, a Mission Team was then formed. Today that Team still exists, working faithfully with local, national, and global Missions. The offering of the tithe has been increased to 12% under direction of the church’s leadership.

Every year you are aware of the Budgeting process presented to the congregation for approval. After deciding what our potential income for the year might be, the first expense item is the tithe of 12% for Missions. Many in our congregation give an added gift designated to one or more of our supported Missions or to undesignated Missions. Indeed, we are a Mission Minded church. You also may have noted that your tithe is one of the largest single expense items in our church budget. This year’s Mission support budget is \$102,000 and there are 22 individual Ministries supported. Every month our Financial Team, who counts the offerings, makes sure that the first thing on the agenda is to take 12% of the offering and move it into the Mission Team account. Then the Mission Team reviews the available funds in the account and distributes them accordingly. Any excess monies will be sent where needed.

“UNSUNG HEROES”

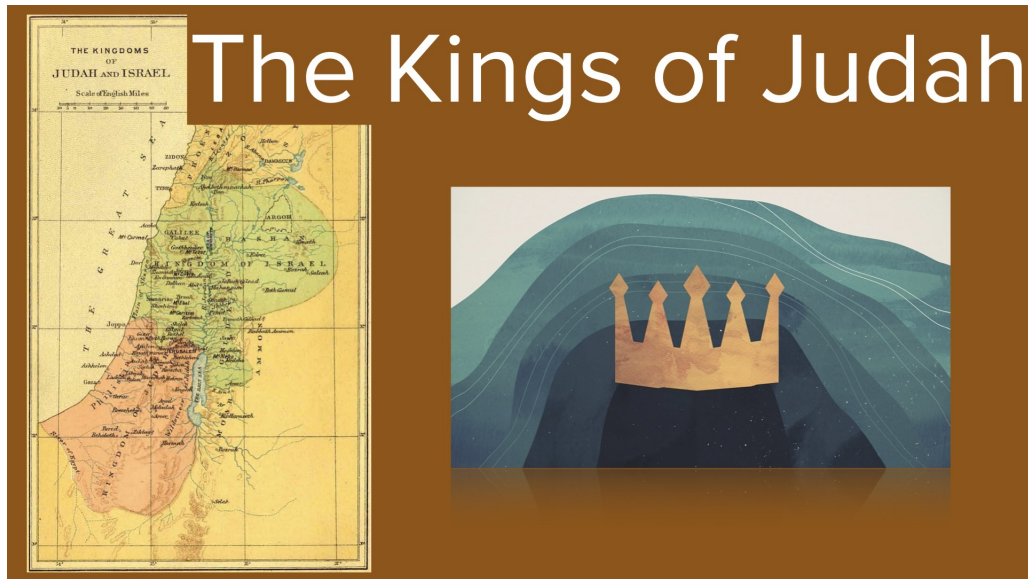
In the Palm West *Alive* there are monthly reports from the various Missions, and occasionally local Mission groups visit our church such as the VVC Foodbank or others who are on furlough. They receive much recognition and encouragement for their dedication to the Mission field in which they work and rightly so.

But the ‘unsung heroes’ behind the scenes who keep in constant contact with their assigned Missionary or organization make all this happen. Who are these folks? Do you know them? They are sitting right next to you in church. They don’t wear a badge or say, “Hello, I’m your Mission Team member.” These are the folks praying for the needs of those to which we give your financial aid. They also stay connected with the missionaries, encouraging them, and inquiring about their families and their needs.

Here are Your Missions Team Liaison members:

Marge Arnold: Northwest Valley Fellowship of Christian Athletes. , **Dave Balzar:** Jon and Marie Skiotis (Operation Mobilization), **Barb Barborak:** Matt & Lori Mann, Valley View Food Bank, **Sherry Burdick:** United Indian Missions Aviation, **Phil Burdick:** Reach Beyond, **Linda Hall:** Alongside Ministry, Village Missions, **Linda Leavengood:** Cadence International, **Mary Ann Lind:** Voice of the Martyrs, **Peggy McAlpine:** Mission Aviation Fellowship, **Connie Mutton:** Tonto Rim Christian Camp, **Diane Preston:** CPC of Greater Phoenix, Aaron and Amy Trout, **Shirley Pluess:** Samaritan’s Purse, **Jan Schomber:** Transformation Ministries, Rainbow Acres, **Nancy Skiotis:** Gayle Lin Kliever Student Fund, **Claudia Smith:** Hope Bags, Neighborhood Ministries, Phx Dream Center, Phx Rescue Mission, Thrive.

June Sermons



Summer Sermon Series

Pastor Jim Powell

The Kings of Judah from 2 Chronicles Continues

June 4—Abijah: A Stabilizing Force (6/4)

Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 13; 13:18-14:1

June 11—Asa: It's How You Finish that Counts

Scriptures: Chapters 15-16; 2 Chronicles 16:7-12

June 18—Jehoshaphat: Leading with Practicality & Faith

Scriptures: Chapters 17-20; 2 Chronicles 20:2-4

June 25—Jehoram: Sometimes the Nut DOES Fall Far from the Tree

Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 21

Property Ministry

Terry Brafford, Chair

The Property Ministry has been reinstituted at Palm West Community Church. The ministry's purpose is the following:

Purpose: The Property Ministry is responsible for the care, maintenance, and security of all church facilities, property, buildings, grounds, and inventory.

As such, there is a need for a recruited team of specialized PWCC members and friends, volunteers who partner with the Property Chair in the care and maintenance of PWCC's buildings and grounds.

If anyone has an interest in being part of the Property team, please notify the Church office.

Blessings,

Terry

Volunteers "Consider Joining" the PROPERTY Ministry



**Maintain
PWCC Facilities**



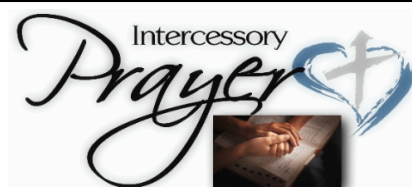
Do you have a prayer request?

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.

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.



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



We meet Monday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.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.



Quilter and Sew Meeting

Our next meeting will be Friday, June 2 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 for children.

Fabric and instructions are provided!

Courtneys Creations

We meet on the first Friday of each month.

Join us at our next meeting on June 2 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 June we will be meeting on
June 13 and 27, 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
Mondays
June 5 and 19 at 2:00 p.m.



May Leadership Meeting

At our May 9 Leadership Meeting, Pastor Jim recognized Chuck Crandall, our Treasurer with the Extra Mile Award for all of his dedication to Palm West Community Church.

Chuck has been a member of PWCC since October 2007 and has been our Church Treasurer for over eight years.

At each Leadership Meeting in 2023 we are recognizing a member of our church who has gone above and beyond in serving.



Education

Dena Martin, Chair

Bible Study Opportunities

- ⇒ David Witt's Men's Monday Bible Study will continue in Deuteronomy, 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room.
- ⇒ Women's Thursday Bible Study. 9:30 a.m., Hoover Hall Classroom, Anne Graham-Lotz (Into the Word)

Christian Readers Book Club

1st Thursday of each month,

June 1 at 1:00 p.m.

Worship Center Classroom

June 1 — *Being Ethel in a World That Loves Lucy*, Michelle Olson

July 7— *Petticoat Detective* by Margaret Brownley

August 4 – *Stealing the Preacher* by Karen Witemeyer

If you love to read, come join us the First Thursday of the month!

June Meetings

AA/Alanon

Wednesdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom
Saturdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom

Christian Readers Book Club

Thursday, June 1	1:00 pm—2:30 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Coloring Fellowship

Tuesdays, June 13, 27	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Courtneys Creations

Friday, June 2	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Fellowship Games

Mondays, June 5, 19	2:00 pm—4:30 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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Hope Bags

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

Tuesdays, June 6, 13, 20, 27	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Men's Bible Study

Mondays, June 5, 12, 19, 26	10:00 am—11:00 am	Choir Room
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Quilters & Sewers

Friday, June 2	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	9:30 am—11:00 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Women's Connection

Mondays, June 5, 12, 19, 26	10:00 am—11:00 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Women's Fellowship Salad Lunch

Wednesday, June 7	11:30 am—1:30 pm	Hoover Hall
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Fellowship Dinner

Diane Koziol

Our next Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will be August 16.

We will be taking off the months of June and July.

There will be a dinner on Sunday July 2 at 5:00 p.m. God Country and Freedom.



New Members

On Sunday, May 21 Pastor Jim announced our newest members,
Sandy April and Lonnie Moore.
Welcome to PWCC!

Missions Moments

Mary Ann Lind, Chair

A big Thank You to all the PWC Volunteers that helped at Valley View Food Bank in Sun City on Saturday, April 29. There were 28 eager volunteers who worked to pack up bars of soap, eggs, variety of snack bags, helped unload food donations and organized dairy products in large refrigerators. The volunteers did almost a weeks work in a couple of hours.

What a fun day.

To God be the Glory!



For Father's Day, Sunday, June 18 the Mission Team will hold a Food Drive for Valley View Community Food Bank.

Let's help families where dad's are unable to. Please donate your food items on that designated Sunday.

There will be large bins in front of Hoover Hall for you to just pull up and drop off your food items.

When you shop please pick up extra canned goods, canned meat, soup, rice, cereal etc.

Thank you for supporting!

Article from the Independent

Sun City West church finishes annual ministry



A Sun City West church is celebrating a year's worth of work to help the homeless, abused women and children, and those fleeing from human trafficking.

Each year, toward the end of March, the congregation of Palm West Community Church, 13845 W. Stardust Blvd. in Sun City West, gathers together in their Fellowship Hall to culminate one year's worth of work done by the dozens of volunteers who processed more than 40,000 items into 1,550 "Hope Bags."

Those bags are distributed to three local mission centers: The Phoenix Dream Center, Neighborhood Ministries and Phoenix Rescue Mission's Changing Lives Center. Most of these individuals who come to the centers come with nothing.

That's where the Hope Bags come in.

Made of colorful material by volunteers at PWCC, the bags contain necessities such as personal items, writing supplies and a Bible for each woman. Children receive story books, literature about Jesus, school supplies, toys, a doll for girls and a dinosaur for boys and a handmade quilt. Sewers produced 409 quilts for the children this year.

The Hope Bag Ministry began at PWCC in 2004. Over the years, the congregation has filled 14,930 bags with about 397,500 items, 9,660 Bibles and almost 97,600 pieces of children's literature.

Other churches in the Valley have helped as well. This year, Bellevue Heights assisted by producing wooden toys for the children's bags and 300 bags for the men at Phoenix Rescue Mission.

The chairmen of the Hope Bag project, Jimmy and Claudia Smith, welcome other churches to join in this mission.

In February and March, an army of men and women finish the inventory, complete the bags, prepare to fill them on Friday, fill the bags on Saturday (it took 85 volunteers to do this in 2023) and arrange them for the dedication service, which takes place the following Sunday. After appropriate prayer, the back door to the church is opened and men from the participating missions take it all away.

The number of people needing the hope that the missions can supply continues to increase and the church is seeking two other churches to join alongside and fill 200 to 300 bags for the coming year.

Visit palmwestchurch.org.

Hope Bags Claudia Smith



Results of Working for the Lord

Ever wonder what actually happens to the items and financial support we donate to the Hope Bag Ministry?

The following report is on just one of the missions and some of the results of your efforts. This month we are focusing on the **PHOENIX RESCUE MISSION**. The PRM was founded in 1952 as the Phoenix Gospel Mission by LeRoy and Grace Davidson, a 28 year-old house painter living in Phoenix.

First let's begin with their mission: "Our mission is to provide Christ-centered, life-transforming solutions to people facing hunger, homelessness, addiction and trauma."

The centerpiece of PRM ministry is a residential recovery program for men, women and women with children who need help overcoming one or more life-controlling crises. By addressing our guests' physical, emotional, financial and spiritual needs, they are well-prepared to lead positive, productive lives once they leave the Mission and become a contributor to our community.



A can of soup can bring a big smile.



pedicure for homeless



Free Haircut



Receiving food for baby



Woman receiving hope bag from hope coach

There are 9,000 homeless in Maricopa County each night; 300 men & women die from drug overdose each year; **12,000** families & children face hunger each day. PRM has 14 Hope Coaches that go out to the homeless every day. As summer approaches, and temperatures rise, the need for water continue to grow. You can help by donating to **PRM CODE:RED**. Right now there is a \$150,000 matching challenge your lifesaving gift will **double** the impact. Each day the Hope Coaches deliver emergency water and Hope Bags to people on the streets.

PRM states in their website: "Our friends at Palm West Community Church made all of these bags and quilts by hand, and donated them to the Mission! They will be handed out by our street outreach teams to those living on the streets, and some will be given to the ladies at the Changing Lives Center. We're thankful for such thoughtful donations, lovingly made by our friends."

The women's and men's centers programs provide shelter, counseling, spiritual guidance, life skills learning, recovery from addictions, job training skills, and help in securing jobs and housing. There are rules and restrictions and classes they have to participate in to stay in the programs.

From January 2022 to December 2022, 647 people were rescued from the streets; 302 were in a residential program each day, 78,870 food boxes were distributed and **361 decisions to follow Christ were made.**

How can you help our Homeless Neighbors this Summer?

1. Be prepared with water; 2. Be friendly; 3. Point them to the Phoenix Rescue Mission (cards are available at the Mission Table in Sanctuary narthex; 4. Pray for our neighbors.

PHOENIX RESCUE MISSION is a Christian nonprofit that exists to share hope, healing and God's love with all who are hurting in the Valley.

The above is a very brief amount of information to the many programs PRM provides, and you are a part of making this happen.

If you have any questions about the Hope Bag Ministry, please contact: Claudia Smith 623-692-7911.



13845 W. Stardust Blvd.
Sun City West, AZ 85375

