

Palm West Alive

April 2025





Pastoral Staff:

Jim Powell, Senior Pastor

pastorjim@palmwestchurch.org

Brian Thomas, Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care

pastorbrian@palmwestchurch.org

Jeff Chariker, Associate Pastor of Music & Media

pastorjeff@palmwestchurch.org

Office Staff:

Joyce Sopilnick, Church Administrator

admin@palmwestchurch.org

Peg Rideout, Connections Coordinator

connections@palmwestchurch.org

Worship With Us In Person

Sundays

Traditional Worship

9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

in the Sanctuary

Saturdays

Modern Worship

4:00 p.m. in Hoover Hall

The Deadline for the May Palm West Alive is

Friday, April 14, 2025.

Please send your article to admin@palmwestchurch.org.

Livestream at 9:00 a.m.

(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

Office Closed

Phone: 623-546-2980

Fax: 623-546-9977

General Church Email:

staff@palmwestchurch.org

Website: www.palmwestchurch.org

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PWCC Leaders

VLT Chair, Bob Leavengood

Treasurer, Joyce Westlund

Education, Shari Goldade

Hospitality, Carol Graf

Media, Jim Burroughs

Missions, Phil Burdick

Property, Terry Brafford

Worship:, Traditional:

9:00 a.m. Kristine Seemiller

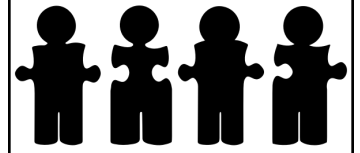
10:30 a.m. Rob Hilkemeier

Connection Coordinator

Peg Rideout



Using Our Hobbies and Interests to Connect with God



Could something you love to do be a blessing to others? In the last couple of months I have had two different people approach me about their hobbies and how these interests may connect to ministry at PWCC. **Susan Griffiths**, who attends our modern worship service, loves to make note cards. In a short conversation we brainstormed several ways to use these. We are keeping her busy creating and using her passion to be a blessing for many.



The second person, **LJ Emerson**, who attends the traditional service met with me recently to share his story of learning to make a wooden cross when he was in Sunday School as a young boy. He still has the cross and loves to create with wood and wondered if we could use these for any purpose. Once again we came up with several ways to use the beautiful crosses. Both Susan and LJ confidently know that they are being used by God to minister to many whom they may never meet. If you have a special hobby or interest that you would like to talk about with me, let's schedule a time to connect!

For we are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works, that God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

Peg Rideout

Connections Coordinator, connections@palmwestchurch.org,

317-460-0576



Praying With Others

Praying with another person is a blessing to both parties. It really is a two way avenue. You get to "listen" to another person. And then you have the opportunity to pray a small prayer with them asking God to intervene on their behalf.

We are privileged to have the freedom to do this at Palm West. Every Sunday after service there are caring believers at the front of the Sanctuary waiting to show God's care for you.

Are you being called to do this and share in this blessings for yourself and others?

Please let the office or one of the Pastors know.

Blessings



Fellowship

Carol Graf, Chair



Our April Fellowship Dinner is
Wednesday, 16, at
NEW TIME: 4:30 p.m.
in Hoover Hall

We will be serving Swedish Meatballs, Noodles, Veggies, and Salad

\$5.00 per person at the door.

If you would like to help prepare the meal, set-up, clean-up, or bring dessert, check the box when you sign up.
Sign up Saturdays and Sundays March 29, 30, April 5, 6 and 12, 13, or contact the church office.

Recipes from Fellowship Ministry

CARROT CAKE

From Carol Graf

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 C Flour | 1 ½ C Oil |
| 2 tsp Baking Powder | 3 Eggs |
| 1½ tsp Baking Soda | 2 C Grated Carrots |
| ½ tsp Salt | 1 C Crushed Pineapple |
| 2 tsp Cinnamon | 1 C Chopped Pecans |
| 2 C Sugar | ¾ C Raisins |

DIRECTIONS:

Mix Oil, Sugar, Eggs then add Flour, Baking Soda & Powder, Salt, Cinnamon. Boil raisins in a little bit of juice from canned pineapple. Add Carrots, Pineapple, Raisins and Nuts.

Bake in 9 x 13 pan for 1 hour at 350.

FROSTING:

½ C Butter, 8 oz Cream Cheese, 1 tsp Vanilla, 1 C Powdered Sugar.

Mix well and put on cooled cake and store cake in the refrigerator.

Women's Connection

Ladies, join us for great conversation!

Join us on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom for an informal time of fellowship. Each week someone will present a topic and 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! Water provided. For questions call the church office.



Creative Arts Fellowship

Tuesday's, April 8 & 22

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

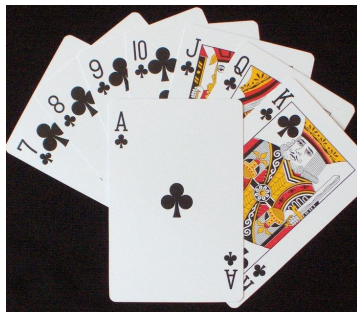
Hoover Hall

Open to all, invite your friends.

We start with a short Devotion.

This is a good way to connect with others who enjoy doodling on their iPad or in a coloring book!

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the New Year.



Cards With Friends

We meet on the second and fourth Fridays 1:30—4:30 p.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom. Men, women, couples, singles and all your friends and neighbors are welcome.

We play a variety of card games and are happy to teach the rules. For more information call Bonnie 623-516-8778, or the church office.

*This group has fun working our brains and sharing our love
for Christ.*

Fellowship Games

Come and join us at Fellowship Games for a couple of hours of fun, finger snacks,
and good fellowship.

We have a committed “Mexican Train” group and also welcome other games.

We will meet on Mondays, April 7 & 21, in Hoover Hall Classroom

2:00 p. m.— 4:30 p.m.



Treasurer

Joyce Westlund

Don't Hold Back Campaign



Several people have talked to me stating that they want to give to this campaign through their IRA or Investment Account, but don't know if the investment firm will note that it is for this campaign. You can inform me in a couple of ways:

Email: finance@palmwestchurch.org - Phone: (623) 523-4407

If you need to leave a message, give me your name and the Financial Institution that is sending the check. Also mention when the check should be coming.

Griefshare is approaching the end of the spring session, but there is still time to join if you or anyone you know is struggling with the loss of a loved one. Many have found comfort and direction by attending the group which is Christ-centered. Only through Him do we find meaning and purpose to our life events and the will to trust Him for the future. The group provides friendship in a community of like-minded people who understand what you are going through. Hugs included.



The next 13 week session will begin in September.

Bob and Joyce Davis, Facilitators
510-421-0220

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 Fellowship Ministry

Pat Seaberg, Chair



Women's Fellowship Retreat

March 7 and 8 was the Women's Fellowship Retreat. Vicki Totel made the introduction of her lifelong friend, Carolyn Larsen, a best-selling author, actress and experienced speaker who spoke to us both Friday and Saturday. The theme was "This Isn't What I Signed Up For...Trusting God's Plan" She gave us inspiration through God's word with humor and drama. Her talk was excellent and captivated all of us.

Friday, acclaimed pianist Jan Kliever and cellist Jane French blessed us by playing "It is well, Salut d'amour and Bourree." The music was beautiful. Enjoyed by all.

Saturday, The Grace Notes Barbershop Group under the direction of Virginia King sang a cappella harmony in the barbershop style. These ladies love to sing and love to praise the Lord. They received a standing ovation!

Thank You Carol Nugent and the praise team for leading us in singing to lift our voices in praise to the Lord.

Carol Graf and her team provided us with hors d'oeuvres, continental breakfast and lunch. The food was good, and the fellowship was great. Thank You Carol and your team.

Thank you to everyone who did the planning, setting up, serving, greeting and cleaning up afterwards.

We also want to thank our media people who did an amazing job..



Women's Fellowship Ministry

Pat Seaberg, Chair

save THE date

It's Tea Time

The Women's Fellowship invites all ladies for an
afternoon of Tea, Pastry,
Finger Sandwiches and Conversation.

The Ladies' Spring Tea will be held on Saturday April 26
from 11:00 am—1:00 pm.

Tickets will be on sale April 12/13 & April 19 & 20
before and after all church services.

The cost is \$25.00.

Mark your calendars, you won't want to miss this event!



Paul Fortune
1977



**At our March Leadership Meeting
we honored**

**Jim Burroughs, Media Ministry Chair,
and Paul Fortune, Media Assistant.**



Jim Burroughs

They are responsible for making our worship services go smoothly each week. They are a huge asset to our church, we are very grateful for all their work.

Thank you both for your dedication to our church.

Quilt and Sew

Wilma Plett

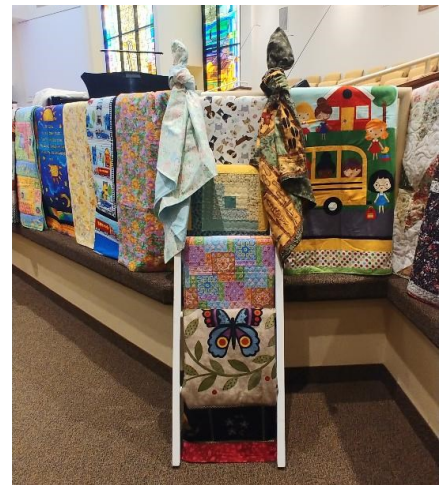
The Palm West Quilt & Sew ladies made 510 quilts and blankets from April-March of this year. Our group donated 35-50 reaching a total of 165 of the quilts and blankets to Thrive, Neighborhood Ministries and Where Hope Lives to each group when they spoke at our fellowship dinners.

The remainder of the quilts and blankets were donated with the hope bags to The Phoenix Dream Center, Short Creek, Neighborhood Ministries and Thrive.

Our ladies work throughout the year to create something beautiful and special for each child to receive as they are needed. We donate these quilts and blankets to soothe, comfort and show God's Love.

We love what we do and welcome anyone interested to come and meet our team.

We meet the first Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in Hoover Hall Classroom.



April Sermons

Series
Living the Lord's Prayer
Pastor Jim Powell



April 5/6 – Recognizing God as our Savior

Scriptures: Matthew 6:12 – “forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors”

Saturday, April 12 – Recognizing God as our Guide

Scriptures: Matthew 6:13 – “lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil”

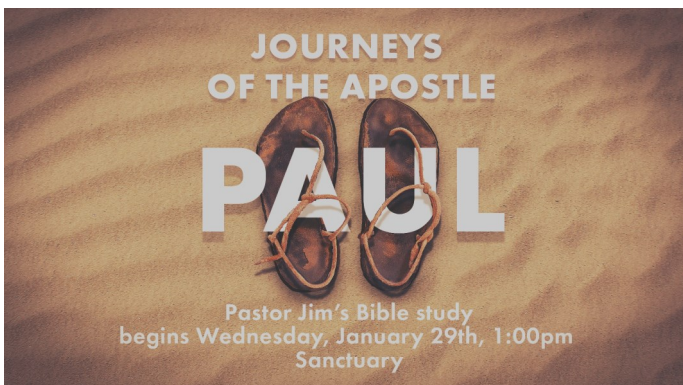
Palm Sunday, April 13 – Easter Cantata

**Easter Weekend
April 19/20
Pastor Jim**



**Pastor Jim's Wednesday Bible Study Continues
1:00 p.m.**

Sanctuary



April 2 – Ephesus
Acts 19

April 9 – Macedonia
Acts 20

April 16 – Jerusalem
Acts 21-23

April 23 – Caesarea
Acts 23-26

April 30 – Rome
Acts 27-28

April Meetings

AA/Alanon

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall & HH classroom
Saturdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall & HH classroom

Beginning Bible Study

Mondays, April 7, 14, 21	1:00 pm—2:30 pm	TBA Each Week
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Wednesdays, April 2, 9	9:30 am—11:30 am	Whole Campus
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Cards With Friends

Fridays, April 11, 25	1:30 pm—4:30 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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Celebration Bells

Mondays, April 7, 14, 21, 28	10:30 am—12:00 pm	Sanctuary
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Choir Rehearsals

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	3:00 pm—4:30 pm	Choir Room
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Christian Readers Book Club

Thursday, April 3	1:00 pm—2:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Creative Arts Fellowship

Tuesdays, April 8, 22	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Education Meeting

Monday, April 7	9:00 am—10:00 am	Worship Center classroom
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Fellowship Dinner

Wednesday, April 16	4:30 pm—7:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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Fellowship Games

Mondays, April 7, 21	2:00 pm—4:30 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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GriefShare

Tuesdays, April 1, 8	10:00 am—11:30 am	Choir Room
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Intercessory Prayer Gathering

Tuesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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Men's Bible Study

Mondays, April 7, 14, 21, 28	10:00 am—11:00 am	Choir Room
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Missions

Monday, April 14	1:00pm—2:30 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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PAT

Meeting—Tuesday, April 15	1:00 pm—2:30 pm	Choir
Training—Thursday, April 17	1:00 pm—3:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom

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April Meetings

(continued)

Wednesday Bible Study—Pastor Jim

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	1:00 pm—2:00 pm	Sanctuary
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Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24	9:30 am—11:00 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Women's Connection

Mondays, April 7, 14, 21, 28	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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Women's Fellowship

Tea Set-up	Friday, April 25	9:00 am—3:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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Tea	Saturday, April 26	11:00 am—1:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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Quilt & Sew

Friday, April 4	10:00 am—12:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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Missions

Phil Burdick, Chair

Operation Mobilization

Dave Balzer, Liaison



PWCC currently supports a couple* working in Lebanon and Jordan with Operation Mobilization (OM). OM currently has about 6800 people working in 118 countries. OM is involved in church planting, evangelism, relief and development, mentoring and discipleship.

Our missionary couple has been with OM for 29 years and is currently living in Lebanon but will be reassigned to Jordan by the end of March. They recently had to evacuate from Lebanon to England for about 5 months due to the conflict in southern Lebanon.

Operation Mobilization trains local believers who are reaching out to about 60,000 displaced Lebanese and Syrians. Local Christians have the opportunity to reach out to these refugees in ways that western workers do not have. Training is given to Lebanese Christians who then provide first aid, disaster relief and discipleship to those who have been displaced.

The couple that we support will also be providing training in Jordan for newer missionaries that will be serving in the Middle East.

Please pray for new believers to come to Christ as these Middle East Christians minister to the displaced Lebanese and Syrians.

*The name of the couple cannot be identified for security reasons.

Small Groups

Gini Baker-Bradley



While PWCC has several small groups meeting regularly at the present time, most will end early April and reconvene in the fall. This means they will meet approximately 4 more times before summer break. Typically, there is no small group activity or meetings in the summer months. In October of 2025, as each of you return from a summer of relaxation and coolness, PWCC will host a Connections Event to connect folks wanting to join a small group. If you have requested participation in a small group or would be interested in small groups at this time and have not been contacted by PWCC please reach out to Gini Baker-Bradley (PWCC Small Group Volunteer Coordinator) at 619-253-4854 or Bakerswim@aol.com.)

Education

Shari Goldade, Chair

Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning Bible Study—New Location—Hoover Hall classroom

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom.. Bob Wilber continues the topic of Case for Christ and the Churches in Revelation.

Men's Bible Study— Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. We have fellowship time with coffee and treats at 9:30 a.m. and begin our study at 10:00 a.m. in the Choir Room.

The Men's Bible Study group is studying Genesis with Dave Witt, Jimmy Smith and Rick Vance providing leadership. Interested parties should contact Dave Witt for a study guide.

Women's Bible Study—Thursdays, at 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Hoover Hall. Dorcas Van Horn and Sara Dunn will continue with the study of The Women of the New Testament. We will look at a different woman each week. Find out the role each played in the early church. In May Peg Rideout will teach lessons from "SHAPE" finding and fulfilling your unique purpose for life. All are welcome!.

The January, February & March Daily Bread is available at both services.

Christian Readers Book Club

1st Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Worship Center Classroom

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 3 at 1:00 p.m.

Please join us and invite your friends. Our group is open to all who love to read and enjoy good wholesome fellowship.

Here are our monthly books:

April book is The Unlikely Yarn of the Dragon Lady by Sharon Mondragon

May book is Pearl in the Sand by Tessa Afshar

This is a biblical fiction about Rahab's journey centered in the City of Jericho

June Book is The Sweetest Thing by Elizabeth Musser

Education

Shari Goldade, Chair

(continued)

Library

Nancy Wright, Librarian

New Books in Our Library

Toward The Dawn by Mary Connealy. Book 2 of the series 'A Western Light'. A historical (1870) romantic comedy with cowboys. Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Into the Sunset by Mary Connealy. Book 3 of the series 'A Western Light'. Wyoming. Historical romance with a little history. "all things work together for good for those who love the Lord"

Heirlooms: A Novel by Sandra Byrd. Two mid-century widows in a story of triumph and heartbreak. The granddaughters overcome the odds and face the truth of the past. Spoiler: Downs Syndrome in the early days and a baby dies.

No Ocean Too Wide by Carrie Turansky. 1908, The British Home Children's program, children sent to Canada, issues involved in their immigration from England to Canada. A family separated through circumstances and bureaucracy.

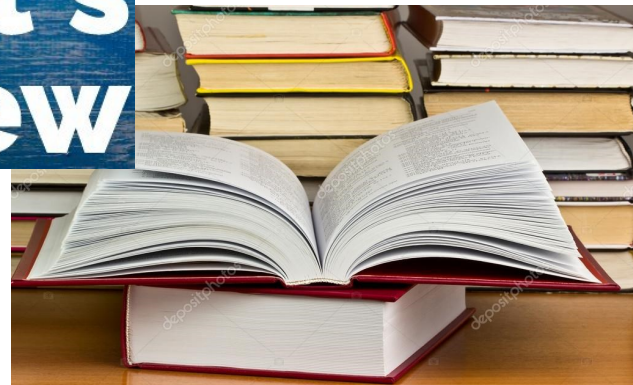
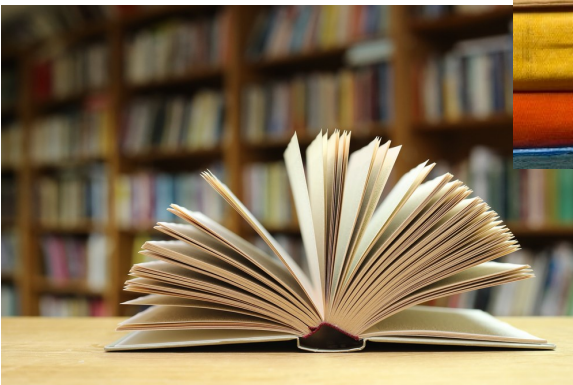
All the Tea in China by Jane Orcutt. A tale that is both adventurous and romantic. A woman searching for her destiny and following what she thinks is God's will for her life. Tea trade, China, piracy, sea travel and so much more.

Hidden Places by Lynn Austin. A Great Depression -era historical romance "I loved Aunt Batty and all her teachings about life, death and the goodness of God."

With All My Heart by Heidi Gray McGill. The Shumard Oak Bend story continues in book 2 western & frontier romance, historical 1860's. Pete longs to make his house a home. Discerning God's best. The interwoven stories of the characters offer a rare glimpse of true Christianity played out on the frontier.

All My Belongings by Cynthia Ruchti (**Large Print**). An interesting read with a subject matter to ponder – euthanasia.

248.85 As My Parents Age by Cynthia Ruchti. A practical guide offering and help, hope with a dash of humor to those who are caring for aged parents or are you the aged parent? Truly honor our Mother and Father while being fully honest about the struggles and "An invaluable resource for anyone navigating life with an aging parent."





Hope Bags Claudia Smith

Planting Seeds of Hope

The people of PWCC continue to plant “seeds of hope” for 21 years. The Hope Bag Teams work year ‘round sewing bags, crocheting cords, making quilts, ordering items, collecting items, counting and sorting items and recording the inventory, and then warehousing it correctly for our big Hope Bag weekend. What a privilege and joy to work together in this ministry. Come, take a peek behind the scenes on our big weekend:

Thursday and Friday Set Up Days

Folks working together on setup day arranging items on tables. ready for fill day tomorrow. Many came in early to prepare coffee, etc. so we all had the energy to work hard. Everyone pitched in, either loading the items on the tables, arranging the items, breaking down boxes, setting up the altar display and doing whatever was necessary to insure success for the Saturday fill day.



energy for work



altar setup



beyond the sound board



helping each other



tearing down boxes



table setup



greeting folks on Saturday



securing item needs



final count of items



warehouse decisions

Saturday Fill Day

Sixty nine + people came at 8:30 a.m. to enjoy fellowship over coffee, doughnuts and fruit for the 9:00 a.m. meeting. Our “General” Jimmy shared instructions on how to fill the bags and started the clock for all of us to go to work.

Sunday Dedication Day

What a beautiful example of God’s people working together to bring Jesus to our neighbors in the Valley. Each person is a blessing, whether through their prayers, financial giving, donation of items or working with the Hope Bag team each month doing inventory. Pastor Jim prayed a dedication prayer over the quilts and bags and the missions representative were introduced and gave thanks to PWCC for years of giving.



If you are interested in observing or becoming a member of the Hope Bag Team please come to any of our meetings all are welcome. If you have any questions about this ministry, contact Jimmy or Claudia Smith jimmyr1937@gmail.com, (C) 928-899-8230, or mspuff42@gmail.com 623-933-3054. If you have any donations, please contact Gary Graf txfarg@hotmail.com, or 206-369-8659.



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

