Palm (Nest Alive

May 2022



A Mother's Day hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God "mothers" each new child into
This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God's comfort, grace and love!

Sing praise to our Creator God, Who "mothers" us from birth! Providing what we truly need Throughout our lives on earth.

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

Office Staff:

Joyce Sopilnick, Church Administrator admin@palmwestchurch.org

Joyce Davis, Accounting Clerk accounting@palmwestchurch.org

Butch Wilcox, Facility Maintenance Technician fmt@palmwestchurch.org

The Deadline for the June Palm West *Alive* April 15



PWCC Leaders

VLT Chair, John Sproule

Connections Director, Claudia Burr, Email:connections@palmwestchurch.org

Treasurer, Chuck Crandall

Financial Secretary, Joyce Westlund

Clerk, Jan Cooper

Education, Dena Martin

Hospitality, Diane Koziol, Helen Pollock

Media, Jim Burroughs

Missions, Barb Barborak, Diane Preston

Worship, Kristine Seemiller



Worship With Us In Person Sundays

9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Through May 22, OR

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

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm Closed for lunch 12:00 pm—12:30 pm Fridays

8:00 am—1:00 pm

Phone: 623-546-2980 Fax: 623-546-9977

General Church Email: staff@palmwestchurch.org Website: www.palmwestchurch.org

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Pastor Jim Powell

Senior Pastor

To Clap or Not to Clap



Recently an issue has been brought up to Pastor Joe and myself by a few different people. The concern that some have asked about is whether it is appropriate to clap after special music, a choir song, etc. An overwhelming majority of people do it spontaneously and as an act of worship and/or of appreciation for someone using their talents to glorify God. Yet, there are some people who question this, or do not feel comfortable with it. While there is a lot that could be said about this, let me give you a few points of emphasis on why we allow this and why we are not going to prohibit it.

- 1. As Christians we have freedom in Christ. There is no singular approach to worship when it comes to modes and expressions. Some people prefer quiet and reverent environments. Other people prefer a more expressive and vibrant one. Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still and know that I am God." Two verses later in Psalm 47:1 we read, "Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy." That's right, one verse speaks about the importance of reverence and silence. Two verses later it speaks about the value of clapping and shouting. There is no singular mode or expression, even though everyone has their preferred methods.
- 2. When I came here three years ago people clapped after special music. There were even a couple of Sundays when some people clapped after the sermon. So, having people clap after special music, moving hymns, or choir numbers, is nothing new to our congregation. It's been part of our church culture for over two decades. This is not a new phenomenon.
- 3. I understand that there is a legitimate concern in modern Christendom regarding a performance mentality in worship. Yet, ultimately, a performance mentality is an issue of the heart (1 Sam 16:7). King David danced before the Lord so passionately, his linen came up. His wife judged his behavior as being inappropriate and embarrassing. But David knew his heart and motivation was sincere, and that God was pleased even though his wife was appalled (2 Sam 14:23). If at any point, the Pastors and Leaders of PWCC sense a fleshly performing spirit is at work, we will address that. At this point though, there are no such concerns. People in the congregation have been moved by powerful songs and music that have been humbly and genuinely done. People in the sanctuary are choosing to respond to with an "Amen", a raised hand, or by clapping. There is no arrogance, performance mentality, or fleshly reactions at work in our mind.

This question is nothing new to our pastoral staff, and we are unified and comfortable in our position of allowing people the freedom to express their worship and gratitude by raising their hands, saying "Amen", or by clapping. And we are not going to prohibit it unless it becomes extreme, or we feel it is feeding a fleshly spirit of performing for self-glory rather than worshipping for God's glory.

Ultimately, we can't make everyone happy. Being a community church, we draw people from a variety of backgrounds with different preferences and expectations for worship. Yet this has been a part of our church culture for a couple of decades and we are going to continue to allow it as long as it is a sincere expression of thanksgiving and worship. If you don't feel comfortable clapping, then please refrain, and do not feel pressured or guilty for not doing so. If you are moved to respond, then continue to do so with humility, gratitude, and moderation.

Sincerely,

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. Those that leave to get out of the heat include both members of our Pastoral Assistance Team (the group of 30 or so people that help our pastors provide a caring visit, call, word, or touch to our church) AND those that the PAT serves. Yet, the reality is this: pastoral care does not take a break over the summer. In the months of May-October, we still have folks who experience health challenges, end up in the hospital, experience fraying relationships, grow lonely, and more.



Please know that as we come into these summer months, care is always available to you, even if you are thousands of miles away from Sun City West. Care over the phone: a listening ear, a kind/encouraging word, a prayer. 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.



We are happy to announce that Palm West Community Church has been selected as the
Winner for the 2022 Best of Sun City West Awards
in the category of Places of Worship.

Christian Readers Book Club

Bev Crandall

1st Thursday of the Month, Worship Center Classroom Read the book and join us for a great time of discussion and fellowship!!

May 5

Return To Me, Lynn Austin – The first book in a series of three, *Return to Me* brings to life the biblical books of Ezra and Nehemiah. After years of watching Iddo's children and grandchildren wander from their faith, his prayers are answered: King Cyrus is allowing God's chosen people to return to Jerusalem. Jubilant, he joyfully prepares for their departure, only to learn that his family, grown comfortable in the pagan culture of Babylon, wants to remain. The second book, *Keepers of the Covenant*, and the third book, *On This Foundation*, round out the Restoration Chronicles by Lynn Austin.



For more info: Bev Crandall 623-584-9531

Connection Coordinator

Claudia Burr

You have been learning how your spiritual gifts, passionate heartbeat, natural abilities, personality and experience find a purpose over these last weeks. You have also been asked to complete a S.H.A.P.E. Survey. Blank S.H.A.P.E. Survey forms are available at the Members' Services table. Please complete one and turn your survey into the box on the Members' Services table or church office. If you have questions about how to complete it, please let me know. I'm here to help!



As the surveys begin to come in, the church database is being updated to provide your input from the survey to help us target offerings to those whose S.H.A.P.E. is well suited. We all have choices in how, when and what we do in service to the Lord but this will provide better communication for opportunities, should the Holy Spirit nudge you in an area you may not have yet considered. As an example, Carol Nugent knew God was challenging her to find new ways to serve. Based on her background, experience and gifting, she is now working with Servant Keeper our database, and Joyce Sopilnick, the Church Administrator, to modify our database structure and gather the information needed for each member; and loving it! It was a challenge she gladly accepted. The examples are many and it starts with making yourself known and perhaps a bit vulnerable to new possibilities for growth!

Please let me know if you have an idea or you'd like to serve given current opportunities by emailing <u>connections@palmwestchurch.org</u> or calling me at 480-371-7409.

Current Opportunities to Serve Knowing Your S.H.A.P.E:

- Greet people at the door before worship with a smiling face and a hand of friendship; this summer we will begin the single worship service at 10 AM See Kristine Seemiller
- Serve at the members' services table to answer questions, hand out information, promote an activity or sign up for an event; it's a great way to know what is going on and help others get involved See Bonnie Stone
- Volunteer for clean up duty at Fellowship Dinners See Diane Koziol
- Bring food items for the Valley View Community Food Bank food drive on Father's Day (June 19) See Carol Coulter
- Help with and invite a neighbor or friend to the "God, Country, Freedom" celebration event with food and entertainment on July 3 See Linda Haley
- Serve on the prayer team to focus your prayers on the pastors, leaders, church and its members' needs See Pastor Brian Thomas
- Participate in the mission tour to Tonto Rim Christian Camp (May 10) See Diane Preston
- Help members with skilled labor tasks through the 4:10 ministry See Stephen Lee
- Make phone calls to connect with homebound and other members for various reasons See Pastor Brian Thomas
- Volunteer in the church office doing various tasks See Joyce Sopilnick Weekdays 8:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.
- Learn to use the sound system or overhead projection for events and services See Pastor Joe Place
- Sing in the choir or play an instrument or share your voice for solos and small musical/vocal groups See Pastor Joe Place

Serve the Lord with gladness! Find your joy! Celebrate His Love! Love one another!



Beginning on Sunday, May 29 we will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m.



I would like to thank each and every one of our PWCC family for the prayers, cards, calls and genuine concern shown to both Barb and myself prior to and since my hip replacement surgery. We have truly been blessed by the pastors,

members of this church and our bible study small group. Thank you so very much. Blessings and love, Ken & Barb Barborak

GriefShare has finished the 13 week spring session. There were 18 people at our last meeting in April and all agreed the meetings had been very helpful in the recovery journey after a significant loss of a loved one. Friendships were made and will continue long after the last session. Many have enjoyed lunch after class every Tuesday and



will continue to meet for coffee on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. since that has been their routine for the last three months.

The next session of GriefShare will begin on September 13. Registration will begin in late summer.

Bob and Joyce Davis, Facilitators



Save the Date July 3, 4:30 p.m.

Celebrate Independence Day God, Country, Freedom Event

Treasurer

Chuck Crandall

Finance Report Thru March 2022

Revenue	Actual	Budget	
General Fund			
Offering	\$ 229,529	\$ 213,495	
Interest & Oth-			
er Income	\$ (580)	\$ 3,250	
12% Missions			
Allocation	\$ (27,543)	\$ (25,619)	
Total In-			
come	\$ 201,406	\$ 191,126	

Expenses

(penses				
Salaries &				
Compensation	\$ 109,716	\$ 112,085		
Benefits	\$ 29,633	\$ 25,079		
Administration	\$ 8,896	\$ 8,575		
Ministries	\$ 36,483	\$ 44,073		
Provision for Capital R&R Total Ex- penses	\$ 12,500 197,228	\$ 12,500 202,312		

Net Ordinary Income

<u>\$ 4,178</u> | \$ (11,186)

If you are interested in the Financial Reports or the Vision Leadership Team minutes contact the church office.

If you would like to sign-up for Online giving, go to our website and follow the links to sign on to Subsplash giving.

If you need assistance contact the church office.



Fellowship Dinner

Diane Koziol

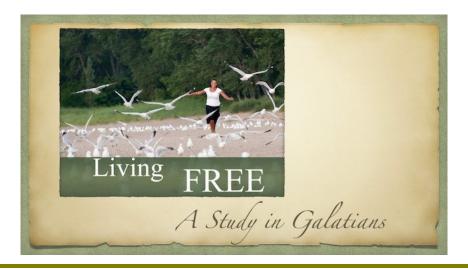


Join us for our Fellowship Dinner on Wednesday, May 18 at 5:00 p.m. in Hoover Hall.

We will be catering Chicken Enchiladas, rice and beans from Pascual Signature Caterers. If you would like to bring a dessert, help set up or help clean up, check the box on the sign up sheet! \$5.00 at the Door! We have a fun program, Name That Hymn!

Sign up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or call the church office.

May Sermons



Living Free

Pastor Jim will continue his series
A Study of Galatians

May I—The Power of Personal Testimony

Verses: Galatians 1:11-2:10

May 8—Freedom Comes at a Cost

Verses: Galatians 2:11-21

May 15—Walking by Faith

Verses: Galatians 3:1-14

May 22—The Purpose of the Law

Verses: Galatians 3:15-25

May 29—Being a Child of God

Verses: Galatians 3:26-4:7

Holy Land Tour 2023

Pastor Jim will be leading another tour of the Holy Land in February 2023. This will be an 11-day trip covering multiple locations where Jesus walked, talked, and taught

He will be hosting an informational Zoom meeting on Sunday, May 1 at 4:00 p.m. Anyone interested can use the link below to join in the meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82539902787?pwd=RmFGTFhDMCszbGtSOXVTVmVyRGM1UT09

Meeting ID: 825 3990 2787 Passcode: 829260

For more information, brochures and registration forms are available in the office. If you register use the code: Powell23. You can also find more information online at:

https://ittworld.com/tours/11-day-holy-land-tour-package/



Quilters Meeting

May 6, Friday, 9:00 a.m. Quilt & Sew Meeting

Calling on all Quilters and Sewers to come and join us in Hoover Hall Classroom for supplies and instructions on making a child size quilt or blanket.

Fabric is proved along with fun and fellowship!!



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

Monday mornings 10:00—11:00 a.m. in Hoover Hall classroom for an informal time of fellowship.

We discuss a different topic each week and have fun sharing and getting to know each other. Bring your own drink. For questions call the church office

Courtney's Creations

We will meet on Friday, 13 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.





Fellowship Games

Join us in the Hoover Hall classroom the first and third Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

Dates: May 2 and 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Coloring Fellowship

We will be meeting on Tuesday, May 23.

Join us from 10:00—11:30 a.m. in Hoover Hall.

All are welcome. We truly fellowship more than color.

We provide coloring supplies for all who need them.



Education

Dena Martin, Chair

Bob Wilber's Sunday Morning Bible Study is currently going through a video class series using Ray Vander Laan material. Next he is introducing "The Early Church". His classes will end for the summer on Sunday May 15th, resuming in the fall.

David Witt leads Men's Monday Morning Bible Study. Currently his class is doing a study of Galatians.

Women's Thursday Bible Study Alice Paluch will lead a class study "Jesus in me" a 7-week study by Ann Graham Lotz on the Holy Spirit.

Why a Christian Readers Book Club?

To have a forum where Faith and/or Christian-based books and authors can be read and discussed by attendees in an inclusive, diverse, and welcoming format.

We meet on the 1st Thursday at 1:00pm in the Worship Center Classroom.

June: "Keeping the Covenant" by Lynn Austin July: "On this Foundation" by Lynn Austin August: "Sensible Shoes" by Sharon G. Brown

Library



The Education Committee and the library staff have been diligently working to provide Christian based Fiction books as well as our Biography, and Non-fiction library in the room next door to the main library in the worship center. We have folks looking for books that are not currently on our shelves. With some research we find folks are keeping books out for a much longer time than needed. We do not fine our members and friends for overdue books. Therefore, we are asking that you please limit yourselves to checking out books for not more than 30 days.

The Library will continue to have our Daily Bread displayed for you throughout the summer. The Education Committee is now on our summer break. We will resume monthly meetings on August 29, 2022.

Thank you to all folks that stopped by the Library encouraging us with saying "What a great library to offer to members and friends of this church".

The library will continue to be open every Sunday morning through the summer and daily when the office has regular business hours.

Book Review

Bev Crandall

BOOK OF THE MONTH



In This Moment, Karen Kingsbury

Hamilton High School in Southern Indiana has turned into a hot bed of chaos and crime with its students routinely being killed by gang violence, dealing and doing drugs, fighting, indulging in sexual promiscuity and unwanted pregnancy. The suicide rates have been climbing and the number of student dropouts has soared.

Principal Wendell Quinn has tried practically everything to combat the situation and the survival of the school itself is now at stake. As a Christian himself, he decides to introduce a voluntary after school Bible Study to be held in the school gymnasium.

When the word gets out, several parents are in an uproar citing division of church and state. Afraid her position as friend to Principal Quinn will be jeopardized, she ends their relationship and asks for a transfer to another school. Quinn's son, who is the star football quarterback, is distanced from some of the other players. In spite of all this, there is a remnant of students who have seen the benefits of the after-school study and are voicing their support of their principal who is now being sued.

Enter lawyer Luke Baxter who takes on the fight of his life by defending Principal Quinn against the public-school board.

This is an inspiring and relevant story about the nuances of religious freedom, the cost of the fight and how a group of determined people just might restore the meaning of faith in today's culture.

Karen Kingsbury can be depended upon for writing books that have meaning and relevance.

Available in our church library.

Balance & Exercise! Mark Your Calendars!

On Saturday March 12, 52 brave souls attended the balance and exercise class designed to strengthen your core, educate

you on fall prevention and provide good information on what you can do in the comfort of your home to be stronger and less likely to fall. It is a terrific way to overcome or address the fear of falling! Deuteronomy 31:6 says "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble for the Lord your God is the One who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you."

Please join us as we plan our next event and to learn more in June 2022. It was a great time and we learned a lot! The handouts were terrific. Colleen Burke, the instructor, was impressed by the participants who wanted to be active and get serious about fall prevention! Take advantage of this in June! Conquer or at least diminish your fear of falling!



May Meetings

Christian Readers Book Club							
Thursday, May 5	1:00 pm—2:30 pm	Worship Center classroom					
Choir	1.00 pm 2.50 pm	Worship Center classroom					
Thursdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26	3:00 pm—4:30 pm	Choir Room					
Coloring Fellowship	1 1						
Tuesday, April 26	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom					
Courtney's Creations							
Friday, May 13	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom					
Fellowship Dinner							
Wednesday, May 18	5:00 pm—7:00 pm	Hoover Hall					
Fellowship Games							
Mondays May 2, 16	2:00 pm—5:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom					
Finance Meeting							
Tuesday, May 5	9:00 am—10:30 am	Worship Center classroom					
Handbells							
Fridays, May 6, 13, 20, 27`	9:00 am—10:00 am	Worship Center					
Handbell Discovery							
Fridays, May 6, 13, 20, 27	10:30 am—11:30 am	Worship Center					
Intercessory Prayer Gathering							
Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom					
Men's Bible Study							
Mondays, May 2, 9, 16, 23	8:30 am—9:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom					
Missions							
Monday, May 9	1:00 pm—2:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom					
Outreach/Worship Events	Outreach/Worship Events						
Friday, May 20	1:00 pm—3:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom					
Prayer Gathering							
Thursdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Choir Room					
Quilters Meeting							
Friday, May 6	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom					
VLT							
Tuesdays, May 3, 17	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom					
Women's Bible Study							
Thursdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26	9:30 am—11:00 am	Hoover Hall clasroom					
Women's Connection							
Mondays, May 2, 9, 16, 23	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom					



Office Closed Monday, May 30, In Observance of Memorial Day

Hope Bags Claudia Smith

PWCC Dedicates Hope Bags and Quilts



All the praise and glory belong to the Lord, as 1,550 Hope Bags and 289 Quilts were displayed on our altar Sunday, March 27. Every person who donated items or gave financially to this ministry played an important role in this successful operation. In case you missed the April Fellowship Dinner, here are some of the highlight pictures:



















The beautiful quilts represent hundreds of hours of labor given in love. Think about the time in choosing the right colors and patterns for both the quilts and the Hope Bags. We are thankful that each of these women are using the gift and talent the Lord has given them to spread the love of Jesus to the people in the missions right here in our Valley. Many hours are given by the faithful folks who come to the meetings and then are willing to sort and count the 40,000+ items that will go into the bags. The Team Leaders, Rebecca Oaks, Inventory; Lucy Peek, Hope Bags and cords; Wilma Plett, Quilts; and George Shoop, Stock Coordination, work tirelessly to direct and help their teams succeed in their mission.

We are already working toward our goal for 2023, as materials and yarn are being cut and selected. You play an important role in this ministry to the abused, homeless and human trafficked women and children that we serve through Phoenix Rescue Mission, Phoenix Dream Center, THRIVEAZ, Neighborhood Ministries, Changing Lives Center and Short Creek Dream Center.

God bless you for your generous donations. Luke 6:38 .may all you give return to you multiplied. If you have any questions regarding the Hope Bag Ministry, please contact Claudia Smith: 623-933-3054

Missions Moments

Diane Preston-Communications

United Indian Mission Aviation - by Sherry Burdick, Liaison

God has worked in some amazing ways through the ministry of UIMA (United Indian Mission Aviation) this past year. A faithful Christ follower for many years, Jose Lopez of the Huichol people in Mexico, desired to take the gospel message into un-evangelized villages in mountainous regions. For years he hiked into remote areas by himself to preach the Good News. Eventually UIM Aviation stepped in to fly this elderly man into these areas. A small community of believers began to form and this last fall eighteen Huichol new believers were baptized by Jose.

Medical and dental needs among indigenous peoples are often difficult to meet. Recently, UIMA flew seven plane trips from the Cora village to a center where a team of medical and dental volunteers provided forty people with medical help and many others got fillings or had decayed teeth pulled. Transportation by small plane made these treatments possible. Not only were physical needs being met, but the message of Jesus Christ and the Good News was shared with these people.

About 45 miles from the nearest airstrip is a village with no gospel witness. People in the village are reticent to towards outsiders. A group of missionary kids attending missionary school in Chihuahua decided to show kindness to these people. They created gift bags with coloring books, pencils, toothbrushes, socks, candy and other items for children. A pilot flew six of the students into the mountains where they were then trucked to the village. More than 150 village children gathered at a local school where they received the gift bags and joined in playing games with the teens. We pray that a relationship has been established and that now the villagers will be more receptive to the gospel.

Finally, we praise God for the safe return to Mexico of a plane known as 52Q that was successfully repaired after damage from a serious accident 8 years ago. Countless hours of dedicated repair work in Tucson prepared the plane for its safe return to carry on its mission back in Mexico.

Prayer Requests:

- 1. Funding for upgrades to 3 Garmin navigation systems to keep pilots safer.
- 2. Literacy classes for children attending Bible clubs
- 3. Short-term volunteers to provide medical care and opportunities to share Christ



Dental check



Medicine Delivery



Medical check up



Youth church



Tinto and his sisters awaiting Bible Study



Translations in native languages

Missions Moments

Diane Preston-Communications



Choices Pregnancy Center invites you to "Walk and Worship" a pro life weekend of May 6-7 at Dream Center Church, Glendale. Friday, May 6. Dr. William Lile, a pro-life expert and physician will share an encouraging message with a wonderful time of worship. The Walk, on Saturday, is a 1-2 mile route that begins at 9:00 a.m. to raise awareness for the unborn. Support sponsorships are

encouraged at any level. More information is available at the Members' Services table in the Worship Center Foyer.



Neighborhood Ministries Tour Friday, May 13, 2022

Join us for this tour! A bus will pick us up at 9:30 a.m. from the Palm West Community Church parking lot and return us when the tour is over. (Approximately 2 1/2 - 3 hours)

They will accommodate 10 to 20 people and bring two busses if necessary. Sign up in the Narthex, or call the church office.



Spring into Action

Valley View Community Food Bank needs our help this summer. Father's Day Food Drive June 19, 2022

We will collect non-perishable foods in Hoover Hall and Celebrate Fathers Day after the 10:00 a.m. AM Service Coffee and Donuts for Dads of all Ages!





The Intercessory Prayer Group meets every Tuesday at 11:00 am. 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.





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



