

## 137 Miles: Journey with Jesus to Easter

This Lent, Paradise Valley United Methodist Church invites you on a journey. Just as Jesus traveled from Mount Hermon to Jerusalem so long ago, we'll journey together at and around PVUMC, reflecting on the parables Jesus told in the Gospel of Luke, and on what this journey meant as he walked closer to his death on the cross, and resurrection from the dead on Easter.

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 10**, and ends on **Easter Sunday, March 27**. We invite you to attend one of our two Ash Wednesday services: one at 12 noon in the chapel and the other at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. That morning, the pastors will offer ashes to arriving Preschool families.

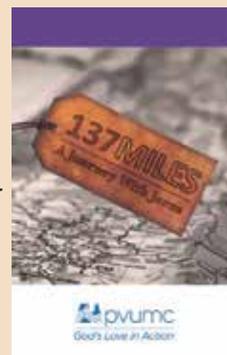
Holy Week begins on Passion or **Palm Sunday, March 20**. We look forward to the children's Sunday School Palm Parade at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary, marking Jesus' triumphant entry into the holy city of Jerusalem. We also invite you to stop by H1 to experience the interactive stations featuring the parables told in the Gospel of Luke. Go to page 3 to read more about this.

Maundy Thursday worship on **March 24** at 7 p.m. is a journey to the Upper Room and Jesus' Last Supper. On **Good Friday, March 25**, join us for a reflective service of scriptures, music and candlelight at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Finally, we invite you to celebrate Easter with us on **Sunday, March 27**. The first service is a 6 a.m. sunrise service in the outdoor amphitheater. The other three are held in our sanctuary, at 8, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

## PVUMC Publishes Own Lenten Study

PVUMC has written and published its first study guide for Lent, called *137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus*. The book has five chapters, like the previous Advent study

written by the clergy, as well as Christopher Wurpts, PVUMC's youth ministries director, and Keith Sobraske, an adult learning leader. This time, Rev. Brenda Smith, David Lex, Stu Selthun and Tawn Watkins join Keith Sobraske as writers, while PVUMC member Cheryl Del Monte and Pam R. Selthun, communications director, were retained as editors.



Each chapter focuses on the steps we are encouraged to take during Lent, and offers conversation starters, questions to consider, commentary on passages of scripture, takeaways, challenges and meditations. Several small groups are meeting on campus to discuss the book, and we invite you to join one during this season. We'll also offer a few scheduled activities such as hikes and labyrinth walks. Check the website for dates and times, and read more on page 3.

The book, *137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus*, will be available for purchase on **Sunday, February 7**. Check [pvumc.org](http://pvumc.org) and the *Looking Ahead* bulletin insert for details.

# Desert Scroll

## Volume 54 Number 1

Published by Paradise Valley United Methodist Church to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the congregation.



## God's Love in Action™

### In This Issue:

Lent and  
Easter..... cover

Caring .....9

Children.....6-7

Church & Society ...8

Finance/Giving .....4

From Paradise .....12

Memorials .....9

Mission Trips.....10

Missions .....5

Music and Arts .....8

On the First  
Tuesday .....4, 7

Our Church .....4

Preschool .....7

PVUMC Career  
Connecting .....8

Serendipities .....9

Social Media .....2

Staff.....2

Transformational  
Living.....11

Worship.....3

Young Adults.....10

Youth.....10

The copy deadline for The Desert Scroll is the 10th of the preceding month.

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**Pastors Emeritus:** Kelly B. Bender and Robert A. Stanley

## Social Media



"Like" Paradise Valley UMC  
on Facebook at [Facebook.com/  
ParadiseValleyUMC](https://www.facebook.com/ParadiseValleyUMC)

Twitter @PVUMC



Instagram @pvumc

Tumblr [http://  
pvumc.tumblr.com/](http://pvumc.tumblr.com/)



"Like" the Paradise Perk at  
[Facebook.com/ParadisePerk](https://www.facebook.com/ParadisePerk)  
Managed by Youth Ministry  
Open Sundays 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



"Like" Youth Ministry  
on Facebook at [Facebook.com/  
PVUMC.Youth.Ministry](https://www.facebook.com/PVUMC.Youth.Ministry)

## Bingo Night



### You're Invited to B-I-N-G-O Night

The Fellowship and Connectional Ministry Team invites everyone to come to the PVUMC Fellowship Center on **Friday, February 12,**

6-8 p.m. for our first church Bingo Night.

This all-ages event is totally FREE, and includes a pizza dinner, childcare, and gift card prizes for all of our round winners and a grand prize for the overall winner of the night! It's going to be a lot of fun and a great way to spend some time together with your church family. And did we mention the chance to win GIFT CARD PRIZES?

If you can put together a group of six or more, we will reserve a table for all of you. Email Chris LaMont, [thechrislamont@aol.com](mailto:thechrislamont@aol.com), and let him know if you have a group of at least six players who want to join you. See you **Friday, February 12!**

## Sunday Worship in February/March 2016

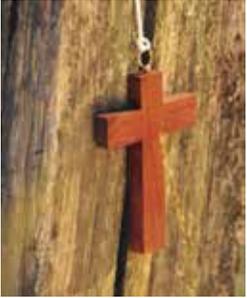
### February 7 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Series: Earn, Save, Give

Part 2: "Save All You Can"

Dave Summers

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21



### Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)

Wednesday,  
February 10

12 noon Chapel Worship

6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Worship

Eve Williams

### February 14 - 1st Sunday in Lent

Worship Series: Earn, Save, Give

Part 3: "Give All You Can"

Dave Summers

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

### February 21 - 2nd Sunday in Lent Commitment Sunday

Worship Series: 137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus

Part 1: "From Fear to Love"

Dave Summers

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

### February 28 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

Worship Series: 137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus

Part 2: "From No to Yes"

Dave Summers (8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.)

Christopher Wurpts (11:15 a.m. Ignite)

Scripture: Luke 14:15-24

### March 6 - 4th Sunday in Lent

Worship Series: 137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus

Part 3: "From Pride to Grace"

Eve Williams

Scripture: Luke 15:11-32

### March 13 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Worship Series: 137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus

Part 4: "From Helplessness to Hopefulness"

Dave Summers

Scripture: Luke 18:1-8

## Holy Week Worship Services

### March 20 - Palm/Passion Sunday

Worship Series: 137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus

Part 5: "From Palms to Passion (and the Cross)"

Dave Summers

Scripture: Luke 19:28-40

### Thursday, March 24 - Maundy Thursday

7 p.m. Worship in the Chapel

### Friday, March 25 - Good Friday

7 p.m. Taizé Worship in the Sanctuary

### March 27 - Easter Sunday

6 a.m. Sunrise Service in Amphitheatre

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in Sanctuary

Worship Series: 137 Miles: A Journey with Jesus

Part 6: "From Death to Life"

Dave Summers

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

## Holy Week Experiences

### February 7 – Prayer Vigil

Join our 12-hour Prayer Vigil in preparation of Lent and Easter. Sign up for 30-minute slots to participate on **Sunday, February 7, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.**

### Lenten Blog

A weekly Lenten blog will be available online

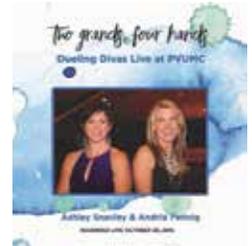
**February 14-March 27.** Visit [pvumc.org](http://pvumc.org) to read the blog posts.

### March 6 – Prayer Walk with the Labyrinth

We invite you to walk the outdoor 7-circuit labyrinth located in the southeast corner of the west parking lot any time. A special prayer walk on **Sunday, March 6, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**, also offers an indoor option, an 11-circuit Chartres Cathedral-style labyrinth on the floor of the Fellowship Center. Guidance and instruction provided.

### Walk with Jesus Through Holy Week

Join us in H1 during Holy Week: **Palm Sunday, March 20-Easter Sunday, March 27.** Six meditation stations follow the Gospel of Luke's Parables of Jesus and enhance the Lenten sermon series and book study.



### Piano Fund

Ashley Snavley, director of music and arts, and Andria Fennig, worship accompanist and director of contemporary worship arts, performed a "Dueling Divas" piano concert in October, the first in the PVUMC Community Concert Series for 2015-2016. Thanks to Earful Recordings, concert coordinator and PVUMC member Monica Stern, and others, a live recording of this concert is now available on CD. The \$20 purchase price goes directly back to the church, in support of the Piano Fund, which pays for the upkeep of our new grand piano in the sanctuary. We also held a concert, Southern Comfort, in support of the fund. We want to thank everyone who purchased a CD, everyone who came to the concerts, and everyone who is a Piano Fund or community concert supporter. You bless PVUMC's music ministry.

# Finance / Giving / Our Church



Mickey Price,  
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Administrator  
[mprice@pvumc.org](mailto:mprice@pvumc.org)  
602-840-8360,  
ext. 113

## Financial Ministry

**Where Are We Now?** Through the first 6 months of Fiscal Year 2016, **December 2015** year-to-date total receipts were lower than budget by \$63,671. Expenditures were lower than budget by \$60,186.

**What Can You Do?** Contact Church Administrator Mickey Price, [mprice@pvumc.org](mailto:mprice@pvumc.org) or 602-840-8360, ext. 113, if you have questions regarding your contributions and/or pledge. We are grateful for all gifts, large and small.

### December 2015

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Receipts	\$1,157,542	\$1,093,871
Disbursements	1,031,217	971,031
Net receipts over disbursements	<u>\$126,325</u>	<u>\$122,840</u>

### PVUMC Book Group

The PVUMC Book Group meets the first non-holiday Monday of every month throughout the year. You are invited to join the group at 12:15 pm in G2 to discuss:

#### February 1

*The Residence*  
by Kate Anderson  
Brower

#### March 7

*The Wright Brothers*  
by David McCullough

For more information about the Book Group, please call Fran Clark, 480-945-6955.



### Pledge to Give to PVUMC

This year's giving campaign focuses on John Wesley's simple rules for money. Last year, we used his quote as part of our "Be Rich" campaign: "Earn all you can, save

all you can, give all you can." James Harnish, a UMC pastor, teacher and author, has taken this admonition even further, and published a book that describes Wesley's vision for stewardship, and how we can become better stewards. On **Sunday, February 21**, we ask you to pledge to PVUMC. Pledge cards will be available in the pew pockets in worship, and this year, we'll have a NEW option to fill out an online pledge card at [pvumc.org/pledge](http://pvumc.org/pledge). We can also show you how to set up recurring giving online if you so desire. PVUMC needs your support to continue to minister to those in need, and build God's kingdom. "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." - 1 Peter 4:10. Rev. William Sloane Coffin of Riverside Church in New York City preached, "Stewardship...is a full-time calling for the whole human species."

## On the 1st Tuesday



PVUMC Members Keith Sobraske and Stu Selthun stand next to Azra Hussain on the left; Rev. Andrea and Robin Address are in the middle, and Pastor Dave Summers and Pastor Emeritus Kelly Bender are on the right, outside the Islamic Center of the Northeast Valley in Scottsdale, AZ.

### On the First Tuesday Welcomes Islamic Speaker to Promote Interfaith Ministry

PVUMC welcomes Azra Hussain as our guest speaker **On the First Tuesday, February 2**. She will share her experiences working with the interfaith community and we'll have a Q&A following. Read about one of her recent experiences below that showed how we can be better neighbors to one another.

On **December 18, 2015**, Azra Hussain wrote on her Facebook page:

"Today God Blessed the Muslim community in Scottsdale and showed us what love, friendship and good neighbors look like.

Yesterday I was informed by the Scottsdale Police Department that a group who call themselves the Bible Believers will be protesting at the Islamic Center of the Northeast Valley aka Scottsdale Mosque. I let my friends of all faiths know what I had been told. Some friends wrote messages of support and love and regret that due to travel or poor health they could not be with us but would be with us in spirit. Some came to stand with us in prayer at our Jumaa service. Above all of the ugly words that the demonstrators were shouting over the megaphone, your quiet and serene presence and your sincere and deep desire to be present was felt and heard loud and clear.

I want to be a friend like you, I want to be a neighbor like you and I want to be able to show all mankind the love that you all so generously shared with us today."

## PVUMC Helps Feed Hungry Children

Join us on **Saturday, January 16**, 4:30-6:30 p.m.; **Monday, February 15** (President's Day), 3:30-5:30 p.m.; **Monday, March 21**, 6-8 p.m.; **Saturday, April 16**, 7-9 p.m., and **Saturday, May 14**, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Register to participate by emailing Jim Bateman, [jnbateman@aol.com](mailto:jnbateman@aol.com). Include your name, the number of adults and children, a contact phone number and an email address. Feed My Starving Children asks for a donation at the event, but there is no obligation to give and no fee to serve. Donate as you are able. Each meal costs 22 cents to produce, and several hundred are packed during each two-hour packing session. FMSC's warehouse is at 1345 S Alma School Rd, Mesa, 85210.



## Join Habitat for Humanity Work Days Three Saturdays: March, April and May

Work with the "Mighty Methodist Coalition" on one or all three Saturdays: **March 19** (with Tempe First UMC and Spirit of Hope — roof shingling); **April 23** (with Dove of the Desert and Journey — doors, trim and prep for painting); **May 14** (with Dayspring and Tempe First UMC — landscaping, accessories and finishing). The Wall Raising ceremony is **February 6**; Dedication, **June 4**. Contact Don Wall to sign up for the work days or for more information: 602-321-0253 or [donald.wall@squirepb.com](mailto:donald.wall@squirepb.com).

## Faithworks: Medical Mission to Mexico

Faithworks, Christians in Mission, of which PVUMC is a member, is sponsoring a medical mission to Agua Prieta, Mexico, over the weekend of **February 18-21**. The group will operate a clinic across the border from Douglas, in conjunction with the Fuente de Vida Church and clinic there. The cost is \$295 per person, including transportation, food, lodging, and a contribution to the cost of the medicines. Faithworks is also sponsoring one-day trips in northern Arizona on

**March 12** (The Olive Branch in Rimrock) and **April 9** (Camp Civitan in Williams) for painting and general fix-up and clean-up work. Contact Glen or Jan Allen at [glenallen@faithworks4us.org](mailto:glenallen@faithworks4us.org) or 928-774-0504 if interested in any of these opportunities.

## Build Homes in Rocky Point

Volunteers from Desert Southwest Conference congregations are invited to participate in a weekend Mission1 home build in Puerto Peñasco (Rocky Point), Mexico, **February 26-28, 2016**. Mission1 has built 400 homes in Rocky Point since 2008, and volunteers can complete a home in a 3-day weekend. The cost is \$250 per person, which includes building supplies, housing in the Mission1 dormitories in its walled complex there (it is a former RV park with a pool), and meals in the dining hall at the complex. This is a great mission opportunity just four hours from Phoenix. Contact Mike Eyer, Spirit of Hope UMC in Peoria, at [clnmwe@gmail.com](mailto:clnmwe@gmail.com) or 623-810-5600 to sign up or for more information.

## Easter Mission Offering

As we celebrate the new life Christ offers us, let us remember those in need in our community, and in the world. This season, you can provide encouragement and hope through our Easter offering to one of the following 501(c)(3) organizations:

### Red Mountain Academy

Founded by PVUMC member Gary Walker, this organization serves Phoenix inner-city youth by providing them with an environment that bolsters self-esteem, spiritual formation, life skills and a foundation in academics and service. Visit their website to read more at: <http://www.redmountainacademy.org/>.

### Audrey's Angels

Audrey's Angels was founded by PVUMC member Audrey Alderson, and its mission is to enrich the lives of the elderly in small group homes through live music. Visit <http://www.audreysangels.org/> to read more.

### Open Table

Born at PVUMC, Open Table addresses poverty through the power of transformative relationships. An Open Table consists of 12 people who enter into a relationship with an impoverished family or individual. Together, they implement a plan to empower the family or to move toward sustainability and stability. Read more at <http://www.theopentable.org/>.



Rev. Eve Williams,  
Associate Pastor  
[pastoreve@pvumc.org](mailto:pastoreve@pvumc.org)  
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ext. 130

## UMOM Food Donation Sundays

Please bring your non-perishable food donations for our regular, first-Sunday-of-the-month food collection for UMOM on **February 7** and **March 6**. Place your donations in the blue bins at the bridges or south parking lot.

## Serve Dinner at UMOM

PVUMC offers opportunities to serve dinner to residents twice a month at the UMOM facility at 3333 E Van Buren. To offer your gift of service on any of the **2nd and 4th Saturdays**, please email Dave Hepburn, [dhepburn@umom.org](mailto:dhepburn@umom.org).

To cook and/or serve dinner at the Watkins Basic Needs Shelter on the second Thursday of the month, please contact Elaine Heredia, [emhere@cox.net](mailto:emhere@cox.net).

# Children's Ministries



Rev. Brenda Smith,  
Children's Ministry  
Director  
bsmith@pvumc.org  
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ext. 141

## Children and Stewardship

Children learn about being good stewards through hands-on activities and lessons they can understand, at church and at home. At PVUMC, children who attend Sunday School will receive an "Earn, Save, Give" calendar to help them think about how they can be good stewards of all God has given them. They are encouraged to make a pledge, just like their parents, and we'll have pledge cards for them to hand in on **Commitment Sunday, February 21**. Parents, look for an email with great tips and ideas on teaching children about money and read more about the Giving Campaign, "Earn, Save, Give," on page 4.



## Created by God Seminar

Fifth and sixth graders, along with at least one parent, are invited to attend a special "Created by God" sex education seminar on two consecutive Sundays: **February 21 and 28**, 2–5 p.m., in Room H1. This class is offered every other year and is designed to help tweens learn about what makes us unique as males and females, as well as open the door to conversation about sex. God said, "It is good," but sometimes the messages we get are jumbled and confusing. This seminar is geared for fifth and sixth grade students. At least one parent is required to attend with their child(ren). Look for the registration information in your child's classroom, and in your email inbox. The deadline to register is **February 14**. The fee is \$30, which includes special speakers, two resource books, and snacks. Scholarships are available. For more information about the topics we'll cover, who will be speaking, or anything else, please email Rev. Andrea Address, [andrea@pvumc.org](mailto:andrea@pvumc.org), or Rev. Brenda Smith, [brenda@pvumc.org](mailto:brenda@pvumc.org).

## Thank God It's FaithQuakes' Friday

It's time to have some fun and invite friends to join us! The RSVP and release form is due the Sunday before the date. We begin with devotions and pizza, then leave for our activity. We meet and pick-up in F1, the Fellowship Center. Scholarships are available upon request.

- **February 19, 6-9 p.m., \$20, Octane Raceway**
- **April 22-23, Adrenaline Rush Overnight Adventure, 7 p.m., \$50**
- **May 20 (Grade 3-6), Miniature Golf & Ice Cream, 6-9 p.m., \$15**

Payments can be made on the [pvumc.org](http://pvumc.org) website. The orange "GIVE NOW" button is located at the upper-right hand corner of the homepage top navigation menu. If you are paying for TGIFF please choose "Other" and include "TGIFF" and the date/activity.



## Palm Parade

The Children's Palm Parade will be **March 20, Palm Sunday**. Bring your children (preschool through sixth grade) about 10 minutes early and meet your Sunday School teachers outside the Sanctuary to get organized by class. Older

children can be helpers if they wish for the younger children. This is one of PVUMC's annual traditions and great fun for all.



## Family Easter Celebration

Every year, on the Saturday before Easter, PVUMC invites children and their families to our Family Easter Celebration. Join us on **Saturday, March 26, 9:30-11 a.m.**, at the Fellowship Center for age-level egg hunts (bring a dozen stuffed plastic eggs for us to hide), a petting zoo, trains, bounce houses, crafts, and games. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join you.

## Before Easter Comes Lent

The Lenten Season begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 10**. The children at PVUMC will be given a special gift that should benefit the whole family: a prayer chain link. Parents may help their children put the prayer chains together, then each day, you tear off a link and do the activity or say the prayer for that day. It's a great way to count down to Easter and help your children learn about Lent and Holy Week.

# Children's Ministries



## Save the Dates for Summer Camp June 27-July 1 "Camp Mingus"

Students entering grades 3-8 are invited to register for summer camp at Camp Mingus, **June 27-July 1**. Come and enjoy exciting outdoor fun with God and your friends in the mountains of Mingus outside Prescott, Arizona. PVUMC Rev. Brenda Smith and Rev. Sherry Brady will be Deans of this camp.

More at <http://www.mingusmountaincamp.org/2016-summer-camps.html>.



## On the First Tuesday March Speaker Highlights Camping Ministries

On **Tuesday, March 1**, we welcome Mike Crevelt, site director of Mingus Mountain UMC Camp at **On the First Tuesday**. This event is mainly for adults who want to know more about camping ministries and the life-changing experiences children have when they go to church camp. Many of you grew up going to summer camp and probably still have fond memories. Join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m. Mike speaks at 6 p.m. and we'll have a Q&A moderated by Jon Hearn. Read more about the program on the PVUMC website.



## Experiencing Communion

Rev. Brenda and Rev. Andrea will lead an age-appropriate "love feast" experience on February 1 during the Sunday School time. First through fourth graders will be invited to come to H1 to learn about and experience communion. The United Methodist Church welcomes children to the Lord's Table, just like Jesus.

## Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) July 18-22, 2016

Vacation Bible Camp's theme this July is "Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love!" Look for registration information starting in March. What's new this year? Payments can be made on the [pvumc.org/](http://pvumc.org/) website. Click on the "Give Now" button, choose "Other" and type "VBC" and the child's name in the comment section.

## PVUMC Preschool



## Annual Ice Cream Social April 28, 2016

The PVUMC Preschool presents its **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Cream Social Fundraiser** on **Thursday, April 28**.

## Sponsors and Donations Needed

Sponsorships and donations are needed to help make this event a success. We welcome your support. If you would like to be a sponsor or you have an item you would like to donate (gift cards, spa items, products, experiences, etc.), please email:

**Monica Lindstrom** at [mklindstrom@gmail.com](mailto:mklindstrom@gmail.com) or  
**Elizabeth Vernellis** at [evernellis@gmail.com](mailto:evernellis@gmail.com).

*Any and all support is greatly appreciated!*



**PVUMC  
Preschool**  
*Learn, Play, Grow*

**Register for Fall**  
In-school registration for the 2016-17 preschool year begins **Monday, February 1** and ends **February 12**. Classes are put together in February for next year, which begins in August, 2016. To register, or to take a tour of the preschool, please contact the school office or Preschool Director Mindy Sobraske, [msobraske@pvumc.org](mailto:msobraske@pvumc.org), or 602-840-8265. [pvumcpreschool.org](http://pvumcpreschool.org)

# Music and Arts Ministries



Ashley Snavley,  
Music and Arts  
Ministries Director  
and Organist  
asnavley@pvumc.org  
602-840-8360, ext. 116

## Community Concerts @ 7 pm

**February 19**  
Sahnas Quintet

**Friday, March 11**  
Théodore Dubois'  
*The Seven Last Words  
of Christ*

**Sunday, March 13**  
Second performance  
of *The Seven Last  
Words of Christ*  
Victory Lutheran  
Church, TBA

Register for PVUMC  
Community Concerts  
at Eventbrite:  
[https://pvumc-  
community-concerts-  
2015-  
2016.eventbrite.com/](https://pvumc-community-concerts-2015-2016.eventbrite.com/)

## Community Concert Series Continues with Sahnas Quintet — February 19



Back by popular demand — Sahnas! Beautifully blending the sounds and rhythms of their native Greek culture with the warm, inviting romance of the classical Spanish guitar, Demetri and Thano Sahnas have enthralled audiences throughout the Southwest. The concert will feature a quintet that includes fiddle, harp and percussion, making this an extra special concert. No tickets needed; free childcare available with 48-hour reservation: 602-840-8360, ext 134.

On **Friday, March 11** at 7 p.m., the adult choirs of PVUMC and Victory Lutheran Church will join forces to perform Théodore Dubois' *The Seven Last Words of Christ* under the direction of Dr. Ashley Snavley and Dr. Kristin Holton Prouty. This choral work features Christ's powerful words set to beautiful music, perfect for the Lenten season. The choirs will be accompanied by instrumentalists from Arizona ProArte, who will perform several chamber works as well.

A second performance of this concert will take place on **Sunday, March 13**, at Victory Lutheran Church in Mesa, AZ.

Register for the community concerts at Eventbrite to let us know you're coming. The Eventbrite site is updated the week following each concert, so you can register for Sahnas now and for the choir concert on **February 23, 2016**. Eventbrite sends you helpful event reminders, and we can send you invitations to upcoming PVUMC concerts and events. It's also a great way to share on social media and invite a friend: <https://pvumc-community-concerts-2015-2016.eventbrite.com/>.

# Church & Society

## VIP Civic Academy Highlights Education

The Church and Society Ministry Team invites you to join Valley Interfaith Project (VIP) North East Cluster of Churches and Synagogues for a Civic Academy called, "An Education Opportunity for All Children." Join us for this community event on **Thursday, February 11** in the Fellowship Center, 6:30-8 pm.

This Civic Academy is a follow-up to our Civic Academy last August where special guests Andrew Morrill (President Arizona Teachers Association) and Michael Hunter (VP State and Fiscal Affairs at the Goldwater Institute) reacted to the VIP analysis and discussed Arizona's education and possible solutions. The main takeaway from the evening was that our decades-old, policy driven problem of inadequate education opportunities for all our children in Arizona needs a bipartisan approach to fix.

On **Thursday, February 11**, we will dig deeper, with greater levels of analysis on policy drivers and what happens when we don't have full disclosure in the state budget. We will discuss the proposed state budget with special guests from the Scottsdale and Glendale Union School districts, The Morrison Institute, Community Leadership, and Legislative District 28 state legislators. The audience is invited to be part of the dialogue too. Please join us for this important event and invite others who are concerned about the state of education in AZ.

## PVUMC Career Connecting February 24



Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chairman and former CEO of Carlson, one of the largest privately held travel and hospitality companies in the world, will speak at 6 p.m. on **Wednesday, February 24**, in Room H1. As a global business leader, human rights activist, wife, mother and grandmother,

Nelson speaks on the topic of leadership from the board table to the kitchen table. She is the author of *How We Lead Matters: Reflections on a Life of Leadership*, an inspiring collection of wisdom about how to build a meaningful legacy one day at a time. To read more about Nelson, visit <http://pvumc.org/2016/01/15/marilyn-carlson-nelson-speaks-on-february-24-2016/>.

# Caring Ministries

## The Saguaros Invite Everyone to Monthly Lunch Programs and Trips

Saguaros is a fellowship group that meets on campus every month for lunch and entertainment, and occasionally goes off-campus on special trips. Everyone is invited to join them. The monthly lunch and entertainment program begins at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Center. See the schedule below:

### Saguaros Lunch Programs



#### February 18

John and Mary Giger –  
Baritone and soprano  
vocal duo

Menu: A-E Main dish, F-M  
Salad, N-Z Dessert

#### March 17

The Melodaires Band –  
Irish Favorites  
St Patrick's Day Potluck –  
bring a main dish, salad,  
or dessert. Irish food  
encouraged in celebration  
of St Patrick's Day!



If you would like to receive meeting announcements and reminders, please contact Gretchen Holt. See her contact info in the sidebar.

### Saguaros Trips

The group takes trips together, generally once a month. Transportation is provided by the church.

#### Mystery Trip

Thursday, February 11  
Contact Rita Winters, 480-250-4181

#### Hale Theatre

Saturday, March 5  
Contact Carol Vanderslice, 602-867-1580

### Volunteer at Serendipities Gift Shop

We invite you to shop for Valentine's Day gifts — show your love with hearts. Stop by to see our new Easter gifts and spring décor on **Sunday, February 21**. All proceeds benefit missions. The gift shop is open 9-11:30 a.m. most Sundays and open most Wednesday mornings, but we could use more volunteer help. If you're interested, please email Meg Wolfe or Barbara Bush: [megw10@cox.net](mailto:megw10@cox.net) or [bbush958@yahoo.com](mailto:bbush958@yahoo.com).

## Joys & Concerns

### Joys...

The November 28 marriage of Austin Holt and Kailey Hart; proud parents are Dave and Gretchen Holt  
The January 30 marriage of Ted Cook to Patricia Parker

### Our Christian Sympathies to...

Fran Clark and family on the December 9 death of her niece, Cindy McGuire  
Ken Curry and family on the November 30 death of his mother and PVUMC member, Colleen Hatfield  
Dave Eaton and family on the November 22 death of his father, Wesley Eaton  
Family and friends on the January 5 death of Lois Jost  
David Lex and family on the December 6 death of his sister-in-law, Lois Lex  
Mike McCann and family on the January 10 death of his mother, Jean McCann  
Kay Pickerill and Scot Pickerill and families on the December 27 death of mother/grandmother and PVUMC member, Nan Range



Gretchen Holt,  
Caring Ministries  
[gholt@pvumc.org](mailto:gholt@pvumc.org)  
602-840-8360,  
ext. 132

### PVUMC Women's Retreat May 20-22, 2016

Save the date to join us at Spirit in the Desert, Carefree, AZ.  
Retreat Leader:  
Rev. Eve Williams

More information and registration will be available soon.  
Read more on page 11.

## Memorials

### February-March 2016 Memorials and Honorariums

#### Memorial in memory of Colleen Hatfield

Designated to: Undesignated  
Given By: Marjorie Wuelzer

#### Memorial in memory of Brent Watkins

Designated to: 2015 Christmas Mission Offering  
Given By: Pan Western Corporation

#### Honorarium in honor of Rev. Sharon MacVean

Given in honor of her service to VBC and the children  
Designated to: Children's Ministries – VBC  
Given by: Rev. Brenda Smith

# Youth Ministries / Young Adults



Christopher Wurpts,  
Youth Ministries  
Director  
Christopher@pvumc.org  
602-840-8360, ext. 147

Contact Christopher about youth ministry activities. The youth meet on Sundays for classes in the morning at 9:30 am and for VIBE in the evening, 5-6:30 pm.



Stop by the Paradise Perk on Sundays, 9 am - 1 pm. All proceeds support Youth Ministry and missions.



Rev. Brenda Smith,  
Young Adult Ministry  
Coordinator  
bsmith@pvumc.org  
602-840-8360,  
ext. 141  
Contact Brenda for  
more information  
about YAL, Young  
Adult Lifegroup.

## Youth Prepare for Peru Mission Trip

The PVUMC youth group is looking forward to the summer of 2016. We have a long tradition of providing mission and service opportunities to our young people for an affordable price, and this year is no different.



At the end of June, nearly 50 people (mostly students and parents) will travel to Piura, Peru. We'll build homes in the poorest areas of the city and work with local charities.

At the end of July, we'll bring a smaller group on a domestic mission trip to the Native American reservations of Arizona to do service work for the churches and families in the area.

We invite you to our annual Mission Dinner and Auction — our biggest fundraiser — on **February 28**. Tickets will be available soon, but right now we need auction donations — the bigger the better! Vacation packages, donations from area businesses, tickets to the theater, concerts or sporting events, and even gift certificates go a long way to making our event a success. Please consider supporting our ministry efforts. Your generosity enables us to send our youth on trips that can change their lives as they change the lives of others. Thank you!

## Young Adults

### Young Adult Lifegroup Meets Weekly

YAL is for young adults who are twenty-ish, plus or minus a few years, interested in exploring their faith in a supportive and friendly community. We like to mix up our plans to keep it interesting. We go on retreats, have discussions about faith, do service projects together and are planning a mission trip to Los Angeles, CA, **July 24-30**.

Join us any time! Our usual meeting time is on Sundays around 12:30 p.m.

Contact Rev. Brenda Smith with questions or to be added to the YAL communication list.



Pictured above are students and chaperones who went on the 2012 Youth Mission Trip to Piura, Peru.

## Mission Trips

### 2016 International Mission Teams to Latin America Need Stakeholders

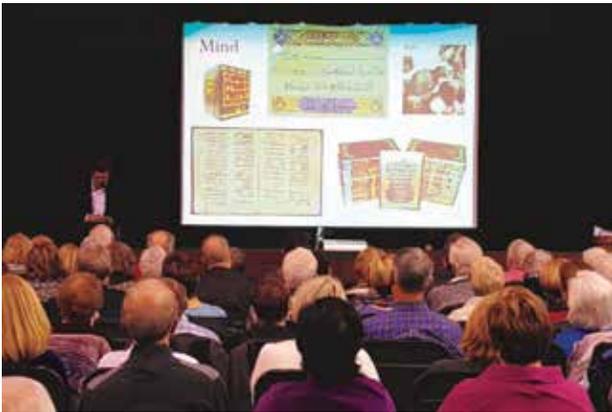
This spring, PVUMC has two international and overlapping mission trips to Latin America. For the fifth year in a row, one mission team will be going to Costa Rica, **March 5-14**. The other team will be in Guatemala **March 6-13**, for the 10th year in a row. We invite you to become a 2016 Stakeholder by praying for our teams and by making a financial investment. **See the Looking Ahead bulletin insert for a registration form.**

A gift of \$25 or more qualifies you to be a PVUMC Mission Team Stakeholder. You will receive updates from the mission team(s) during and after the trip(s), a postcard from a team member, and an invitation to our post-trip reception where we will recap highlights of the trip(s). Your investment helps underwrite team expenses such as medical supplies and construction materials. In Guatemala, the medical team will work with several clinics, providing medical services to poor people in rural areas. The Costa Rica team will build housing for homeless children via Methodist Orphanage Ministries and will lead a Vacation Bible School program for children in the poorest barrios. All stakeholder donations go toward purchasing supplies.

The team to Guatemala is collecting prescription eyeglasses. If you have any you can donate, please drop them off in the church office or in the sanctuary lobby.

# Transformational Living

## Adult Learning



### Interfaith Speaker Series Asks: *Who Is My Neighbor?*

Keith Sobraske, with the support of Sally Hecht, Adult Learning chair, and several others, launched a tri-faith speaker series in January to enhance our understanding of other faiths. The three-session series, "*Who Is My Neighbor? An Exploration of Compassion*," began with Dr. Scott Lucas, professor at the University of Arizona's School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies. The lecture attracted 200 guests, and exceeded all expectations! Many thanks to the planning committee — ministry team representatives, clergy and staff — who had the vision and the drive to create this opportunity. The Salaam-Chai-Paradise Interfaith Forum has joined PVUMC in its efforts to invite and spread the word. Jake Bennett, director of the Anti-Defamation League, Arizona Region, was the invited speaker for January 27.

The final session on **February 17** features Stephanie Varnon-Hughes, PhD, director of Cross-Cultural and Interfaith Programs at Claremont Lincoln University, who will discuss "The Golden Rule: Ethical Commonalities Among Religious Faiths," 6:30-8 p.m. in the Fellowship Center. An optional buffet dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. Suggested donations: \$7.50/adult; \$3/child.

The speaker series is open to all, and complements the Interfaith Understanding certificate program offered by Claremont Lincoln University and facilitated by Stu Selthun and Keith Sobraske at PVUMC. Visit [CLU-passport.org/pvumc](http://CLU-passport.org/pvumc) to register for the online program. Special pricing is available for PVUMC participants: just \$50 for the 15-hour program. This program and the speaker series help us get closer to our vision: "love that crosses all barriers and embraces all people."

### Modern Family

**Sundays, 10:45-11:30 a.m., H5**

Modern Family continues with studies to help young parents deal with issues surrounding faith, parenting, relationships and ways of service. If you have young children preschool through elementary, join us each Sunday for study and discussion. Elementary children are in H1 for children's choir and guided play while younger children attend MiniSingers and then go to the Childcare Center.

### Lunch Conversations on Thursdays

Lunch Conversations for Transformational Living meet every Thursday in the church library, G2, 12-1:15 p.m. Bring a lunch and join us for lecture and discussion on living our lives intentionally. We discuss spiritual and individual growth, and the Enneagram. We have been using *Nine Lenses on the World: The Enneagram Perspective* by Jerome Wagner to help guide our discussions. A weekly class schedule, with specific topics outlined, is available from Rev. Andrea Address.



### PVUMC's Women's Retreat: *The Roles of a Christian Woman*

**May 20-22, Spirit in the Desert, Carefree**

Join other women from our church in Carefree, AZ for this year's Women's Retreat: *The Roles of a Christian Woman*. Rev. Eve Williams shares her story and invites us to share our own with each other in this beautiful setting that's just far enough away for you to relax and reflect. We'll focus on the biblical story of the woman at the well (John 4), and Judy Taylor, our Emmaus song leader, joins us again.

**Who:** Women, age 18 and older. Invite a friend!

**Cost:** \$180-200 (double/single occupancy).

**Deadline to register:** April 20.

*Brochures available soon in the church office.*



Rev. Andrea Address,  
Associate, Spiritual  
Formation of Children  
and Families,  
602-840-8360,  
ext. 142

### AEA Registration

PVUMC is host to several Arizona Enneagram Association (AEA) programs. To register for any of these, please contact Diane Shevlin at 480-367-1998 or register online: [arizonaenneagram.org](http://arizonaenneagram.org). Full class descriptions, costs and more details can be found on the AEA website. For scholarship assistance, contact Rev. Andrea Address. A Foundations class is offered in February and small group classes in March and April.

*Foundations of the  
Enneagram Subtypes*

**Saturday, Feb. 20  
9 am-4 pm, H1**

Led by Rev. Andrea Address, this class is an introduction to the 27 subtypes describing the instinctual energies of self-preservation, social grouping and one-on-one intimacy. Fee: \$70



**Paradise Valley United Methodist Church**

4455 East Lincoln Drive • Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

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*Alive with the Spirit, we bring God's love into action by igniting faith, transforming lives, and creating community. Please share our good news with each member of your family.*



### FROM PARADISE

By Dr. Dave Summers, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

The church is often uncomfortable talking about money. We talk from time to time about giving, but rarely do we have conversation about earning money or saving money.

John Wesley had some interesting things to say here about the importance and use of money in our lives. In one sermon, called "The Use of Money," he said that the important thing isn't money itself but how we use it. Wesley's pointed advice still rings true today: "Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can."

Many of us struggle with earning enough money, learning how to save money, and being able to give as much as we want. As we begin our Giving Campaign this year, we will talk frankly about how you might earn all you can, save all can and give all you can. Wesley wanted to equip faithful people like us to be able to earn, save and give in ways that help us experience the fullness of life in Christ. He wanted us to participate fully in God's purposes for this world and not see our financial life as separate from our spiritual life. The Bible actually has a lot to say about how we earn and save. We'll talk about these timely matters around money so that we can more fully live as God intended.

We'll also be moving into our Lenten season early in February. I invite you to join us for a 137-mile journey with Jesus as he leaves the Mount of Transfiguration (Mt. Hermon) and travels to Jerusalem, his city of destiny. In Luke's gospel, nine chapters are devoted to this travelogue filled with significant encounters and teaching by Jesus. Luke reminds us how Jesus deliberately set his face towards Jerusalem, a commitment that affects both the journey and its culmination at the cross. We join this revealing pilgrimage with Christ. We recognize that our life of faith is always a journey, one that is taking us to God, and one that ultimately moves from earth to heaven. On this 137-mile journey during Lent, we will talk about the parables Jesus shared as he traveled towards Holy Week. Each parable is a journey itself, and describes a distinctive movement of faith (from fear to love or from helplessness to hopefulness). Finally, on Easter Sunday, we will make the most significant move of our Lenten time, as we witness Jesus move from death to life. You can share in this journey with us in a variety of important ways that will help you to move closer to God. Come travel with us and Jesus in this meaningful time.

— Pastor Dave Summers