

Looking Ahead at PVUMC

December 14, 2014

UPCOMING SUNDAY SERMON

Worship at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary

Worship at 8:00 & 11:15 am, Chapel

NEXT SUNDAY – December 21

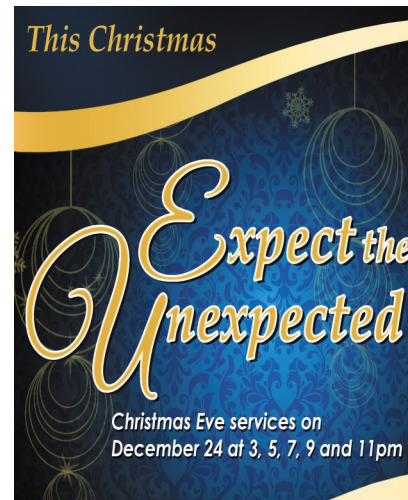
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sermon Series: *Unexpected*

Part 4: "From Bedlam to Bethlehem"

Dave Summers

Scripture: *Matthew 2:1-10*



Advent Books Available

Pick up a copy of James A. Harnish's book, *When God Comes Down*, today. Books are available for \$7 each in the church office, 8 am-5 pm, Mon-Fri.



4455 East Lincoln Drive • Paradise Valley, AZ 85253-4019
(602) 840-8360 • Fax: (602) 840-8767 • pvumc.org

Music Makers Present *Room for Christmas Children's Pageant*

We welcome our afterschool children's music group, the Music Makers, to our 9:30 am worship service TODAY as they perform *Room for Christmas*, a children's Christmas pageant by Mark Burrows. The children, ages 5-12, meet weekly on Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm to sing, ring and make a joyful noise together. If you brought a special toy or baby gift donation for children at UMOM — thank you! Our children's Sunday School classes were invited to come see the performance and we have reserved some pews up front, so they will be close to the action.

Take a Homeless Care Bag Today

We encourage you to take one or more homeless care bags to keep in your car, where they will be ready to give to someone in need. If you can donate \$5 per bag, it will help keep this ministry to the homeless alive.

Invite a Friend to Join You for Christmas Eve Worship at PVUMC

Christmas is coming, and it's a perfect time of year to invite a neighbor or friend to join you at one of our five worship services on Christmas Eve. Take a postcard with you after worship and use it as an invitation. Our 3 pm service offers an opportunity to worship early in the day, and may be ideal for those who have evening plans. This nontraditional service in the Chapel features our Praise Band. At 5 pm, our Children's Choir sings, and at 7 pm, we welcome our Youth Choir and Chancel Choir, as well as the Bells of Paradise. At 9 pm, our Paradise Singers lead us, and at 11 pm, we celebrate with communion at a service of lessons and carols. Candlelight is a part of all the evening services at 5, 7, 9 and 11 pm.

Subscribe to Daily Devotions at PVUMC Advent Blog on Website

Throughout the Advent season, **until Christmas Day, December 25**, we invite you to read, subscribe to and share our daily devotional Advent blog on the church website. Written by PVUMC members, pastors and staff on the theme of "Expecting the Unexpected with Scripture and Song," these devotions include visuals, songs and videos, posted on the PVUMC website under the "News" tab. To sign up to receive the posts every day via email, go to the blog at <http://pvumc.org/news/2014-advent-blog/> and submit your name and email address. Every time there's a new post, it will be in your inbox. If you would like to write a post, please email or call Kim Summers, kimsummers77@gmail.com or 480-213-6960.

Young Adults Invited to Christmas and Reunion Gathering Next Week

The Young Adult Lifegroup (YAL) is having a Christmas party next week, **Sunday, December 21**, 12:30-2 pm in H1 following the Ignite worship service. Invite your friends to join us; lunch provided. Bring a wrapped \$10 gift if you would like to participate in the gift exchange. RSVPs greatly appreciated to help with planning: Brenda Smith, brenda@pvumc.org. If you are home from college, please join us for this reunion. Email Jonathan Havens, pvumcyoungadult@gmail.com, to be added to the YAL communication list.

Assist Arizona's Working Poor and Receive a State Tax Credit

Did you know you can make a contribution to PVUMC-supported charities and receive a dollar-for-dollar Arizona state tax credit in 2014? A single individual can receive a tax credit of up to \$200 and a married couple can receive up to \$400. And you don't need to itemize deductions to claim the tax credit. Just mail your check directly to one of the following charities (not to PVUMC) or go to their websites by **December 31, 2014** and make your contribution online. These are just a few of the charities able to receive donations via the working poor tax credit program. For more information about qualifying charitable organizations, go to <http://www.azdor.gov/About/FAQs/QualifyingCharitableOrganization.aspx> and for a list of organizations, go to <http://www.azdor.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=V6hWbHqzqfw%3d&tabid=242>.

- **Wesley Community Center**, www.wesleycenterphx.org, 1300 S 10th St, Phoenix, AZ 85034, operates a medical clinic & more for impoverished south Phoenix residents.
- **Justa Center**, www.justacenter.org, 1001 W Jefferson St, Phoenix, AZ 85007 is a respite day center for homeless people who are age 50 & up.
- **UMOM/Next Step Housing**, www.UMOM.org, 3320 E Van Buren, Phoenix, AZ 85008, offers shelter and other services for homeless families and adults.

Each individual's tax situation is unique. Please consult your tax advisor before making any tax-related decisions. Both the Wesley Community Center and UMOM's Next Step Housing Program (along with the PVUMC Emergency Relief Fund) are recipients of our annual Christmas missions offering. We support all three, and others on the list, through volunteer hours and our missions ministry.

Practice Yoga Free on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Connect to our Lord through an all-levels Vinyasa Flow class, led by local instructor, Kristen Heriaud with Adele Swan and Kim Kent assisting. Classes are offered every Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:10 am-10 am in H1, except for **December 23/24, 30/31**. Classes are free to PVUMC members and friends. Bring your own yoga mat and blocks, if desired. All ages and levels welcome.

Businesses Invited to Sponsor PVUMC Preschool Ice Cream Social

Looking for new ways to advertise and market your business while targeting the Paradise Valley, Scottsdale and Phoenix markets? Be a sponsor of PVUMC Preschool's 2015 Ice Cream Social. Last year, our event was attended by hundreds of local families. Tax-deductible sponsorship packages are available with varying levels of exposure at the \$250, \$500 and \$1000 levels. We are also seeking donations for our silent auction. Promote your business through a sponsorship and/or donated item and help the PVUMC Preschool for a win/win! Contact Katy, katymay@me.com or August, august@augustforhomes.com.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study to Study Richard Rohr in January

The Thursday Morning Men's Bible Breakfast is beginning a new study using Richard Rohr's Alternative Orthodoxy DVD as the primary discussion item. This will be a ten-week study and will begin **January 8, 2015**. We will have a methodology to view sessions that may be missed. Craig Prichard, who has studied with Richard Rohr, will attend when possible and give his insights. Please join us for this exciting bible study opportunity. The group meets at 7 am on Thursdays in Rooms F5/6 in the Fellowship Center.

Join the Alpha Course for Discussions about Faith in the New Year

Beginning **January 7, 2015**, we invite you to take the 10-week Alpha Course guided by a leadership team that includes Rev. Eve Williams. Please contact Pastor Eve at pastoreve@pvumc.org if you're interested in this class that begins with sharing a meal at the Community Feast, and moves into taking a look at different aspects of the Christian faith each week. The course includes a DVD and discussion time that encourages participants to share their thoughts and ask questions in a non-judgmental and relaxed setting. If you have questions about Jesus, the Bible, prayer, the Holy Spirit, God's guidance and how to have a sustaining faith, come to Alpha. Start the new year with a renewed commitment to faith. All are welcome, whether you are a member or not. The class meets in the Fireside Room, F8, on **Wednesdays, January 7-February 11, 2015**.

The Magi Visit on Epiphany Sunday

Every year, our children look forward to Epiphany, when the three kings or Magi bring gifts and explain how they followed the star and visited the Christ child so long ago. It's a tale we never tire of hearing. Come on **January 4, Epiphany Sunday**, and let your children have an opportunity to meet and greet them for the first time, or again, and receive a small gift.

Inviting Prayers of Intercession

Joys:

The hope and joy in the Children's Christmas Pageant and toy donations to UMOM

Hospitalized:

Sandy Cook

Hospice Care:

Nan Range, PVUMC's oldest member, at age 102, and mother of Kay Pickerill

Deaths:

All those who grieve during the Christmas season

Our Church:

Our church's budget situation
UMOM gift cards (available on the patio)
Special Christmas Missions Offering to:

- PVUMC Emergency Fund
- The Wesley Community/Health Center
- The Next Step Housing Program at UMOM New Day Centers

Continuing Concerns:

Phyllis Averill; Michelle Bray, sister-in-law of Dave Summers; Norm Henry; Jami Godshall; Carolyn Lasley, mother of Teri Lasley; Evelyn Parker, sister of Frieda Bateman; Dwight Peters; Helen Price, mother of Mickey Price; Bill Sejen; Loreta Snyder; Randy Stauth, son of Mike and Helen Stauth; Ed Sucato, father-in-law of Courtney Sucato; Bradley Sullins, nephew of Liliana Sullins; Diane Taylor; Rev. Dan Turner; Carolyn Woods, mother of Deborah Esquer

Our Community, Nation, and World:

Peace on Earth
For those struggling with basic needs
Friends and family serving in the military



To make a prayer request, go to our [website](http://pvumc.org) at <http://pvumc.org/contact/prayer-requests/> or fill out a prayer request card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate.

To join our prayer team and receive prayer requests via email, contact gholt@pvumc.org.

Pastors on Call 24/7

We have a pastor on call 24/7. When you call the office, 602-840-8360, after hours, follow the instructions or press "2" and leave a message to have a pastor return your call.

Chancel Flowers

Flowers are given by Colleen Hatfield in loving memory of her husband, Dean.

To donate flowers in memory or in honor of someone, please call Ginny Andrews, 602-996-4494. You may check for open dates on the 2015 flower chart posted in the sanctuary.

Plan Your Year-End Contributions to PVUMC

With the stock market at an all-time high, now is the time to consider a special gift to PVUMC. Your gift of appreciated stock will be used to fund the ministries of PVUMC. If you own appreciated stock that you have held for at least a year, you may donate the stock to PVUMC and receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of the stock. Your gain on the stock will not be taxed and you receive a tax deduction! Each individual's tax situation is unique. Please consult your tax advisor before making any tax-related decisions. For information on how to make a contribution of stock, contact Mickey Price in the church office, 602-840-8360, ext 113.



UMOM Holiday Cards Make Great Gifts

PVUMC supports UMOM through the sale of holiday cards that pay for a night of shelter (\$15); a day of shelter, food, and childcare for a child (\$50); a week of shelter (\$100); or a month of shelter (\$360) for a homeless child or an adult at UMOM New Day Centers. Stop by the patio table after worship to buy a card or two to give to family and friends as we

remember the birth of a child needing shelter so long ago.

Home Improvement Sponsors Blanket Drive for UMOM Watkins Shelter

One thing sure to warm your heart is to give the gift of NEW or gently used twin-size blankets, sheets and pillowcases, as well as NEW pillows to residents at UMOM's Watkins Homeless Shelter. The need is great because of the constant transition of families and single women. Home Improvement will be sponsoring the blanket collection, and has asked that blankets be dropped off at G2 before the class meets at 9:30 am this Sunday and next. OR, you can turn them into the church office. Home Improvement will deliver them before Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

Serendipities Has Dolls, Games and Stocking Stuffers

Molly, Megan and Maisie belong under your tree this Christmas! They're a trio of soft and cuddly dolls from the UK that any little girl would treasure. We also have new jewelry, award-winning games, handmade candles, bubbles and marker sets. Find it all at Serendipities, where profits always fund missions. The shop is open Sundays, 9 am-12:30 pm, and Wednesdays, 9 am-12 noon.

Saguaros Meet Thursday for Christmas Potluck and Program

Saguaros is a social group of interesting, happy and friendly people, age 55 and older, who meet on the third Thursday of the month for lunch and entertainment. Join us **Thursday, December 18**, when the Singing TV Guy — Mike Chamberlain — returns for our Christmas program. Potluck menu: A-I Salad; J-Q Dessert; R-Z Main Dish. The group is also going on a holiday lights bus tour tomorrow, December 15. To be added to the mailing list for announcements, email gholt@pvumc.org.

Website / Social Media



Scan the code to the right to go directly to our website at pvumc.org. Our bulletins are online at the "News" tab. Click on this web address: <http://pvumc.org/news/newsletter-e-news-and-bulletins/> to access them online. The *Desert Scroll*, our bimonthly newsletter, and the weekly *Looking Ahead* are available there too, as is the weekly *From Paradise E-news*, which is emailed every Friday.

Subscribe to our email list via the subscription form on our website.



Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/ParadiseValleyUMC or follow us on Twitter @PVUMC

Events this Week at PVUMC

Sunday, December 14, 2014

Adult Bible Study	8:00AM	A2
Worship Service	8:00AM	C1
Worship Service, featuring <i>Room for Christmas</i> Children's Pageant	9:30AM	A1
Children's Sunday School Classes join worship (reserved seating for Children's Pageant)	9:30AM	A1
Home Improvement	9:30AM	G2
Senior High Small Groups	9:30AM	C1
SPIRIT Sunday School	9:30AM	F8
Children's Elementary Choir	10:30AM	H1
MiniSingers	10:30AM	E9
Covenant Group	11:00AM	F8
Wesley SS Group	11:00AM	G2
Ignite Worship Service	11:15AM	C1
Youth Choir	4:00PM	A4
Combined VIBE: Hide & Seek	5:00PM	F1
Boy Scouts Troop #30 Adult Committee Meeting	6:00PM	H1

Monday, December 15, 2014

Mustard Seed Bible Study	9:00AM	F8
Men's Emmaus Covenant Group	5:00PM	F8
Open Table #9/Veteran's	6:00PM	H3
Saguaros Event: Christmas Lights Tour	6:00PM	Off campus
Advent Study Led by Pastor Dave	6:30PM	A2
Boy Scouts Troop #30	7:00PM	F1
Boy Scouts Troop #30 Venturing Crew	7:00PM	G2

Tuesday, December 16, 2014

Vinyasa Flow Yoga	9:10AM	H1
Open Table/St. Patrick's	10:00AM	H4
Caring Bible Study	10:30AM	A2
Staff Birthday Lunch	12:00PM	F5/6
Missions Ministry Team Mtg	6:00PM	H4
Board of Trustees	6:00PM	G2
Christian Group of Young Men (CGYM)	7:00PM	E14

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

Preschool Christmas Program	8:15AM	A1
Children's Ministry Team	9:00AM	H4
Vinyasa Flow Yoga	9:10AM	H1
Susanna Circle	10:00AM	A2
Pastor's Bible Study	10:30AM	F8
Paradise Singers	11:30AM	A4
Prayer Ministry Team	11:30AM	F5/6
Sojourners	4:00PM	G2
AEA Special Events Team	5:00PM	H4
Community Feast	5:30PM	F1
Bells of Paradise Rehearsal	6:00PM	A3
Advent Study Led by Pastor Eve	6:30PM	H5
Women's AA	7:00PM	F5/6
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30PM	A4

Thursday, December 18, 2014

Men's Breakfast Bible Study	6:30AM	F5/6
Preschool Christmas Program	8:15AM	A1
Saguaros Program and Potluck Lunch	10:30AM	F1
Lunch Conversations on Transformational Living	12:00PM	H1
Finance Ministry Team Mtg	6:00PM	G2
Advent Study Led by Pastor Andrea	6:30PM	H3

Friday, December 19, 2014

Brown Baggers Bible Study	12:00PM	G2
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A1=Sanctuary C1=Chapel
G2=Library E14=Youth Lounge
F1=Fellowship Center F8= Fireside Room

Final Community Feast for 2014

This Wednesday is the last feast of the year. Join us again in the new year on **Wednesday, January 7**, when the feast will restart. Suggested donations for the dinner buffet: \$7.50/adults; \$3/children under 12.

**Scan this code →
to go to our website,
pvumc.org, and
events calendar.**



Living the Questions Class Begins January 7, Following the Feast

Our Community Feast on **Wednesday, December 17** will be the last of 2014, but the dinner returns in the new year on Wednesday, January 7. Dinner is served from 5:30-6:15 pm. Suggested donations: \$7.50/adult, \$3/child (12 and under). Catered by UMOM's Helpings Café, Market and Catering. Following the feast, we invite you to join us for a new seven-week class offered by Keith Sobraske and Martha Rinne. This Living the Questions class is called *Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith*, and will meet in H5 from 6:30-8 pm. All materials will be provided at no cost.

Matthew Bible Study Begins Sundays, January 11 — Register Now

Garry Lozier will be leading an ongoing study on a series of books by J. Ellsworth Kalas called *Immersion Bible Studies*. The January class will begin with the first book in the series, *Matthew*. The series includes studies on all the books of the New Testament. If you would like the church office to order you a book, please register for the class no later than **December 22** by emailing mfought@pvumc.org or calling her at 602-840-8360. The book costs \$8. The class will meet weekly on Sundays in H7 at 10:45 am.

Centering Prayer Workshops and Classes Offered in January

Join us **Saturday, January 10**, 9 am-1 pm, for an Introduction to Centering Prayer. It will be followed by five weeks of practical experience every Sunday, **January 11-February 8**, 9:45-11 am. This simple contemporary expression of an ancient Christian practice of consent to God's presence and action within us allows us to take time every day to rest in God's presence and refill our "well of living water" so we can be more effective out in the world.

Disciple III Bible Study Continues with Letters of Paul in January

New participants are welcome to join Disciple III as the class continues to study the Letters of Paul in the New Testament in this semester's eight-week class beginning **January 13, 2015** and meeting until March 3 (every Tuesday), 6:30-8 pm in H5. The class starts with the book of Romans. If you are new to the class, we invite you to register with the church office no later than **December 22**, so that we may order a book for you. Continuing participants don't need to order a book; just bring the one we've been using in previous classes. We will dive right into the study on day one, with no administrative session, so come on **January 13, 2015** prepared to begin with the letters of Paul. If you have questions or would like the complete schedule, email Robin Kreutzberg, rhkrobin@cox.net.

Save Food Labels and Other UPCs for Wesley Community Center

As you are cooking this holiday season, please clip and drop off your Labels for Education from brands like Campbell's and Post, at the church office. For more information on what to clip and save, please call Kay Jones, 480-348-5710.

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