

# Palm West Alive

May 2023

I trusted  
in thee,  
O LORD:  
I said,  
Thou art  
my God.

PSALM 31:14, KJV



## ***All God's children***

***On the basis of the eternal will of God, we have to think of every human being, even the oddest, most villainous or miserable, as one to whom Jesus Christ is Brother and God is Father; and we have to deal with him on this assumption. If the other person knows that already, then we have to strengthen him in the knowledge. If he does not know it yet or no longer knows it, our business is to transmit this knowledge to him. On the basis of the knowledge of the humanity of God, no other attitude to any kind of fellow man is possible. It is identical with the practical acknowledgment of his human rights and his human dignity. To deny it to him would be for us to renounce having Jesus Christ as Brother and God as Father.***

—Karl Barth, *The Humanity of God*

### **Pastoral Staff:**

**Jim Powell**, Senior Pastor

[pastorjim@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:pastorjim@palmwestchurch.org)

**Brian Thomas**, Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care

[pastorbrian@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:pastorbrian@palmwestchurch.org)

**Joseph Place**, Minister of Music and Media

[pastorjoe@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:pastorjoe@palmwestchurch.org)

**Marcus Johnson**, Modern Worship Leader

### **Office Staff:**

**Joyce Sopilnick**, Church Administrator

[admin@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:admin@palmwestchurch.org)

**Joyce Davis**, Accounting Clerk



### **Worship With Us In Person**

#### **Sunday Worship Service**

**9:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Beginning Sunday, May 28**

**One Worship Service 10:00 a.m.**

### **Live Stream at 9:00 am**

**(on the website/app)**

#### **Church Office Hours:**

**Monday through Thursday**

**8:00 am—3:00 pm**

**Closed for lunch 12:00 pm—12:30 pm**

**Fridays**

**8:00 am—2:00 pm**

Phone: 623-546-2980

Fax: 623-546-9977

General Church Email:

[staff@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:staff@palmwestchurch.org)

Website: [www.palmwestchurch.org](http://www.palmwestchurch.org)

**Articles for the June  
Palm West *Alive* should be  
submitted to the office by May 15.  
[admin@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:admin@palmwestchurch.org)**



### **PWCC Leaders**

VLT Chair, Gary Lanning

Secretary VLT, Finance, Joyce Westlund

Connections Director, Claudia Burr,

Email: [connections@palmwestchurch.org](mailto:connections@palmwestchurch.org)

Treasurer, Chuck Crandall

Church Clerk, Joyce Westlund

Education, Dena Martin

Hospitality, Diane Koziol

Media, Jim Burroughs

Missions, Mary Ann Lind

Property, Terry Brafford

Worship, Kristine Seemiller/Rob Hilkemeier

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## Pastor Jim Powell

*Senior Pastor*



### Understanding our Vision Initiatives – Part 2

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

Along with this general vision statement, we have put together a number of initiatives that we hope to accomplish as a part of this. ***The first initiative that we have is offering and expanding multi access worship.*** This simply means that we want to expand the number of ways in which we are sharing the gospel and giving people opportunity to worship beyond what we are already doing. Last month I emphasized the growth and importance of our online ministry. Today, I want to write about another element of this initiative which is offering a modern worship service in Hoover Hall.

When it comes to worship services we all have preferences. Some like an environment that is quiet and contemplative. Others, prefer things livelier and more expressive. Some like the organ and piano as the main or only instruments. Others, like guitars and drums. Some like hymns sung in a familiar way. Others, like newer chorus’s that are fresh and different.

The bottom line is that there is no one way to express our worship. Psalm 42:10 says, “Be still and know that I am God.” Psalm 43:1 says, “Clap your hands all ye people, and shout unto God with a voice of praise.” Both are appropriate and can be God-honoring. Yet, some of us are more Psalm 42 people, while others are Psalm 43. It’s not that one is right and the other is wrong. They are just different.

What is important to understand, is that everyone has preferences. And, while our church has focused on reaching those who prefer traditional worship styles, we much acknowledge that a growing number of the new residents moving into Sun City West prefer a more modern or contemporary style. Therefore, if we want to reach this new and growing demographic we must have something to offer them.

Therefore, we want to offer both worship styles in order to reach more people with the message of the gospel. It’s not a competition, but it’s sharing the good news through different but complimentary modes. We realize that this is a step of faith. Yet, it’s one the leadership is united on.

So, as we consider how to “Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, ANEW,” we hope that you will join us in prayer for this element of our vision statement. Even if you have no desire to participate in this new worship experience, I hope that you will still cover it in prayer, asking God to bless it, and to use it for His glory in reaching more people.

Jim

**Pastor Joseph Place**  
*Minister of Music & Media*

**Summer Choir**

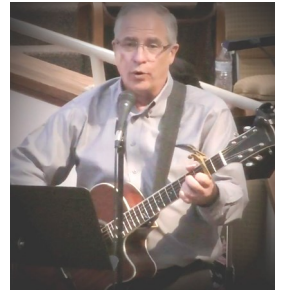
The summer months are a great opportunity to get started as a member of our Chancel Choir! We will continue to rehearse each Thursday at 3:00 PM and each Sunday at 8:15 AM until Memorial Day weekend.

The choir will take a brief break for the month of June. During this time, we will enjoy some additional special music in our services.

In July and August, we will rehearse each Sunday at 9:00 AM and sing for the 10:00 AM service.

In the fall we will continue in one traditional service, so your Sunday commitment won't change.

If you love to sing, please consider joining our choir! Singing is great for your physical, emotional, and spiritual health. You will be glad that you joined us!



**Women's Fellowship Ministry**  
*Pat Seaberg, Chair*



**Women's Fellowship is planning a shopping trip to  
Cave Creek on Wednesday, May 3.**

We will meet at PWCC parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and carpool together. Be sure to sign up so that we know how many will be coming and also indicate if you are able to drive.

A list of the shops at Cave Creek is in the link: <https://cavecreekvisitorsguide.com/cave-creek-links>

After shopping, we will have lunch at Harold's Corral. <https://haroldscorral.com/main-menu/>

Please contact Pat Seaberg with any questions. 714-323-6833



## Upcoming Events



### Leadership Meeting

Our next leadership will take place on **Tuesday, May 9, 9:00 a.m. in Hoover Hall.**

This 60ish minute gathering is a time of prayer, celebration, vision casting, communication and coaching.

All are welcome to attend!

Contact the church office for more information.



### Discovering PWCC!

Our next class will be on Thursday, May 18, at 1:00 p.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom. This is a newcomer's class taught by Pastor Jim, designed to help you meet other people and learn more about our church.

You can contact the church office to sign up or for more information.

### Baptism Class

Pastor Jim will have two classes on Sunday, May 21, at 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in the Worship Center classroom for those who are interested in learning more about being baptized..



### Travel in the Footsteps of Paul

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



For more information, you can pick up fliers at the church. Also, Pastor Jim will have a couple of informational meetings. One will be held in Hoover Hall on Tuesday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m. There will also be an online Zoom meeting on Sunday, May 21 at 5:00 p.m.

## Connection Coordinator

Claudia Burr

*I John 1:3-4 "what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us;  
and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.  
Ant these things we write, so that our joy may be made complete."*



### Thanking Our Talented People!!

Sharing your talents has been a blessing.

To all of you that participated, we are most appreciative!



### Strengthening and Stretching

With Sara Dunn

Sara Dunn has conducted this class for us and this time she will provide a bit more challenge so wear your supportive shoes, no sandals, please, loose and comfortable clothing, bring a weight (5 lbs is perfect) and a smile to learn more about how to remain strong and balanced!

**New Time**, Saturday, May 13, 9:30 a.m. Hoover Hall

Invite a friend and let's get moving!



In all things, give thanks to the Lord! I am so thankful for you and this church family. What a joy and privilege it is to know Him, to love one another, and to share the Gospel anew! If you are looking for a way to get involved, please give me a call or send me an email and I will reach out to help you make connections with our church family and its ministries.

## Fellowship Dinner

Diane Koziol



The May Fellowship Dinner is Wednesday, May 17 at 5:00 p.m.  
in Hoover Hall.

\$5.00 per person, at the door.

We will be serving Pulled Pork and Cole Slaw.



If you would like to bring a dessert or help serve or clean up,  
check it off on the sign-up sheet.

You can sign up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings or call the church office.

**There will be presentation of the Israel trip by Pastor Jim .**

## Vision Leadership Team

Gary Lanning, Chair

### Accounting For Your Donations

#### Part 1

#### 2 Corinthians 8:20 & 21

*“We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.”*

#### Introduction

God is opening doors. It is very exciting to see PWCC's new vision starting to become a reality so quickly after being shared with the congregation. With the announcement that Marcus Johnson will soon be on campus, there is now a lot in motion to have a start-up of a modern worship service in just a few short months.

Also in motion are actions tied to church accounting. Since a prior outside audit recommended that most mid-size churches outsource their accounting, it was decided to plan for alternatives for PWCC's future accounting needs. Leadership did not set a timetable but within a few weeks after the start of seeking alternatives, a door was opened to an accounting firm that services seven churches in the Sun Cities area, and has been in business since 2005 and used a bookkeeping system like ours. After due diligence, PWCC stepped through the open door and will be outsourcing PWCC's accounting with JDP Accounting Firm effective May 15.

This outsourcing step will result in some personnel changes to include Chuck Crandall, our faithful accounting servant, and Treasurer for almost a decade, becoming the Chair of the Finance Committee. Terry Brafford, after several years as the Finance Chair, will become the Chair of the reinstituted Property Ministry and Joy Hoover, a highly qualified accounting person, who recently joined the Finance Committee, will become Assistant Treasurer. Joy will lead the outsourcing transition to JDP.

This article is Part 1 in a series of Palm West Alive articles that will share information, in some detail, of how your church goes about Accounting For Your Donations.

<b>June PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 2</a></u>	“Missions Giving” by Chuck Crandall, PWCC Treasurer
<b>July PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 3</a></u>	“Restricted Donations” by Joy Hoover, PWCC Assistant Treasurer
<b>August PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 4</a></u>	“Counting Donations” by Joyce Westlund, PWCC Financial Secretary
<b>September PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 5</a></u>	“Budgeting” by Gary Lanning, VLT Chair
<b>October PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 6</a></u>	“Legacy Giving” by John Sproule, Legacy Lead
<b>November PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 7</a></u>	“Capital R&R” by Terry Brafford, Property Ministry Chair
<b>December PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 8</a></u>	“PWCC Reserves” by Joy Hoover, PWCC Assistant Treasurer
<b>January PWA</b>	<u><a href="#">Part 9</a></u>	“Ways to Give to PWCC” by Gary Lanning, VLT Chair

Blessings,

Gary Lanning, VLT Chair

**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.**

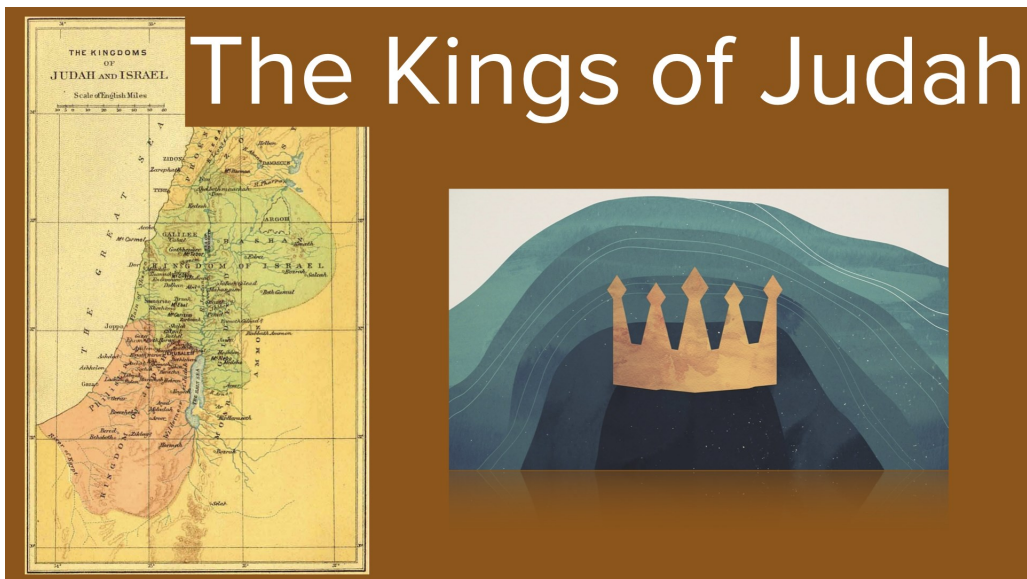
Online Giving



# May Sermons

**Sunday May 7**  
**Pastor Brian Thomas**

**Sunday May 14**  
**Mother's Day Special**



**Summer Sermon Series**  
**Pastor Jim Powell**

**The Kings of Judah from 2 Chronicles**  
**Begins Sunday, May 21**

**May 21 - Solomon: The Good Ole' Days**

**May 28 - Rehoboam: A Kingdom Divided.**



## Education

*Dena Martin, Chair*

### Bible Study Opportunities

- ⇒ Bob Wilber will continue the Sunday Morning study by Ray Vanderlaan through May 14. Then a summer break. When you return in the fall, he will continue teaching from Ray Vanderlaan videos.
- ⇒ David Witt's Men's Monday Bible Study will continue in Deuteronomy, 10:00a.m. in the Choir Room.
- ⇒ Women's Thursday Bible Study. 9:30a.m., Hoover Hall Classroom, Anne Graham-Lotz (Into the Word)

### Christian Readers Book Club

**1st Thursday of each month, 1:00 p.m.**

**Worship Center Classroom**

May 4 — *The Crooked Path*, Irma Joubert

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

July 7 — *Petticoat Detective* by Margaret Brownley

August 4 — *Stealing the Preacher* by Karen Witemeyer

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

### Library

The Library will continue "Our Daily Bread" devotional FREE to our members and friends. Please take your copy from our display case outside the entrance door to the PWCC Fiction Library.

PWCC Library will continue to be open every Sunday morning and daily 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, except for holidays.

PWCC library has a section in our Worship Center Classroom titled **Small Group Study Material**. If you plan a small group study in your home, for fall, you may want to review what we have to offer in the way of leader guides and DVD's to study over the summer. If you need more student books, we will be happy to order them for you.

<b>Fiction /New to our Library</b>	<b>Non-Fiction/ New to our Library</b>
Remember ----- Karen Kingsbury	Where Do We Go From Here ---- David Jeremiah
Beach Winds ----- Grace Green	Stress Fractures----- Charles Swindoll
Southern Belles Bridges Collection Lauralee Bliss	Death and the Life After----- Billy Graham
Unveiling The Past --- -- Kim Vogel Sawyer	Mixed Blessings - William Christopher (TV's Father Mulcahy)
Beyond the Desert Sands Tracie Patterson	

## ***Women's Connection***

### ***Ladies, join us for great conversation!***



We meet Monday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom for an informal time of fellowship. Each week someone will present a topic about a life experience to which everyone is invited to share their story. At times we groan for each other but mostly we laugh together. Recently we've discussed the origin and story of how we received a scar. We've shared about learning to ride a bike, drive a car, a boat or even a tractor. We look forward to welcoming new ladies into our fellowship! Small snacks and water provided. For questions call the church office.



## **Quilter and Sew Meeting**

Our next meeting will be Friday, May 5 at 9:00 a.m.  
in the Hoover Hall classroom.

Do you like to sew?

Then join us for fun and fellowship in making quilts and  
blankets for children.

Fabric and instructions are provided!

## **Courtneys Creations**

We meet on the first Friday of each month.

Join us at our next meeting on May 5 at 11:00 a.m. in the Worship Center classroom  
Many beautiful crocheted and knitted items have been donated to moms at this very  
critical time in their lives.

Thank you all for your sharing your time and talents with us.

Please call Diane Preston for more info 651-278-5868.



## **Coloring Fellowship**



Come join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

For the month of May we will be meeting on  
May 9 and 23, 10:00—11:30 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom.

Lots of fellowship and a little coloring.

Bring family and friends. We have supplies to share.

**Questions???** Contact Deborah Phillips Dodson or Mary Beth Tyson

## **Fellowship Games**

Join us in the Hoover Hall classroom  
Mondays  
May 1 and 15 at 2:00 p.m.



**Beginning Sunday, May 28**  
we will begin one Worship Service  
on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.



**Save the Date**



**God, Country, Freedom**  
**July Dinner**

## May Meetings

### AA/Alanon

Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom
Saturdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Hoover Hall/Hoover Hall classroom

### Baptism Class

Sunday, May 21	10:00 am—10:30 am	Worship Center classroom
	11:30 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom

### Celebration Bells

Fridays, May 5, 12, 19, 26	9:00 am—10:00 am	Sanctuary
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### Choir

Sundays, May, 7, 14, 21,	8:15 am—8:40 am	Choir Room
Sunday, May 28	9:00 am—9:55 am	Choir Room
Thursdays, May 4, 11, 18, 25	3:00 pm—4:30 pm	Choir Room

### Christian Readers Book Club

Thursday, May 4	1:00 pm—2:30 pm	Worship Center classroom
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### Coloring Fellowship

Tuesdays, May 9, 23	10:00 am—11:30 am	Hoover Hall classroom
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### Courtneys Creations

Friday, May 5	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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### Discovering PWCC!

Thursday, May 18	1:00 pm—3:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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### Exaltation Bells

Fridays, May 5, 12, 19, 26	10:30 am—11:30 am	Sanctuary
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### Fellowship Dinner

Wednesday, May 17	5:00 pm—7:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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### Fellowship Games

Mondays, May 1, 15	2:00 pm—4:30 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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### Hope Bags

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

Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	11:00 am—12:00 pm	Worship Center classroom
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### Leadership Meeting

Tuesdays, May 9	9:00 am—10:00 am	Hoover Hall
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### Meet, Great & Eat

Sunday, May 7	11:45 a.m—1:30 pm	Hoover Hall
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### Men's Bible Study

Mondays, May 1, 8, 15, 22	10:00 am—11:00 am	Choir Room
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### Missions

Monday, May 8	1:00 pm—2:00 pm	Hoover Hall classroom
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### Quilters & Sewers

Friday, May 5	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Hoover Hall
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## May Meetings

(continued)

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

Sundays, May 7, 14,

9:00 am—10:00 am

Hoover Hall classroom

### VLT

Tuesday, May 9

10:00 am—12:00 pm

Hoover Hall classroom

### Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, May 4, 11, 18, 25

9:30 am—11:00 am

Hoover Hall classroom

### Women's Connection

Mondays, May 1, 8, 15, 22

10:00 am—11:00 am

Hoover Hall classroom

### Women's Fellowship Outing

Wednesday, May 3

9:00 am

Meet in Parking Lot

**Monday, May 29,**  
**The Church Office will be**



## Missions Moments

Mary Ann Lind, Chair

### Valley View Community Food Bank



The Food Bank serves the west valley for those in need which was a dream of Jesse and Rose Ramirez 15 years ago. There are two locations the main one is, 10737 W. Peoria in Sun City and the second is there newest location opened Mon mornings at the Foundation in Sun City West. The Sun City West location opened in Nov 2022 serving 175 clients the very first week. Valley View Community Food Bank serves 712,663 clients in the West Valley and 413,631 are seniors. With the cost of groceries increasing, please remember to support the

Food Bank through the summer which is there hardest times.

Pick up a couple extra canned goods, canned meat, cereal, pasta or rice when you shop. The Mission's Team is sponsoring a fun work day at Valley View Food Bank in Sun City on Sat April 29 from 9-11 am so please sign up at the Members Services Desk for a morning of serving God by helping families who are in need. We will meet in the church parking lot at 8:30 am for carpooling that day. Help sort food items and pack boxes for needy families.

Pray for Valley View Community Food Bank and all the volunteers it takes to keep it running.



Thank you for the many prayers, cards, visits and rides I received when I was ill.

Mona Reeves

***Dear Pastor Jim,***

***We would like to thank you and all of Palm West Community Church for allowing CBS to meet here year after year.***

***We couldn't ask for a more perfect place to share and grow in our love for Jesus.***

***You have an incredible staff and they make each and everyone of us feel love and "right at home".***

***Thank you again and may the Lord bless this beautiful church!***

***Much love and appreciation, Lucille, Leslie and all the members of Sun City West Community Bible Study.***



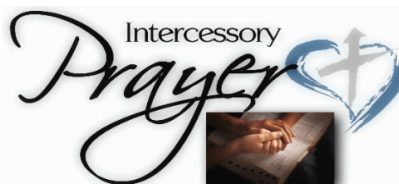
### Do you have a prayer request?

If so, email [prayer@palmwestchurch.org](mailto: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.



## Hope Bags Claudia Smith



### Showers of Blessings

Sunday, March 19 brought many showers of blessings both to PWCC and to the missions we serve through the Hope Bag Ministry. Our talented quilters created so many lovely quilts using bright colored fabrics and the skills the Lord has given them to bless those in need. Just fourteen quilters produced 409 quilts, amazing!!!



The six people who sewed the 1,550 Hope Bags; and those who crocheted the cords were working all year. We just hope their sewing machines hold out after all those hours of creating the bags. We might even have to buy new crochet needles, as the gals are probably wearing out the old ones.

What a joy to see the representatives from Phoenix Dream Center, Neighborhood Ministries, THRIVE az, and Phoenix Rescue Mission attend our dedication. We all enjoy seeing and hearing the babies and little ones as they will be receiving our gifts. (Thank you to Bob St. Clair, Larry Peek and Lou Plett for the pictures)

### LOOK OUT 2024...HERE WE COME!!!

Yes, our teams are already at work toward our goal for 2024. Beautiful material is being selected for each quilt and Hope Bag measuring and cutting and crocheting is in full swing. We will be meeting with each of the missions to determine their needs for the Hope Bag items for next year. We endeavor to have every item meet a need for the women and children. How exciting to be the hands of servants for our Lord.

### THE MISSIONS WE SERVE

Many folks have asked about the missions the Hope Bag Ministry serves in the following months we will seek to share about each of those missions: why we serve them; what each mission's focus is; and other ways we serve them through this ministry. You can pick up a brief history of the Hope Bag and the missions on the members table in the Sanctuary narthex. You'll enjoy getting to know each of these missions and the results of their work for Jesus.

### COME JOIN US

#### Are you interested in serving with a dynamic team at PWCC?

If you would like to know more about the Hope Bag Ministry, please contact Claudia Smith 623-692-7911 or email [mspuff42@gmail.com](mailto:mspuff42@gmail.com)

We would love to share information with you about how this ministry operated throughout the year. Come and join us at our next meeting on May 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Hoover Hall classroom. You will have an opportunity to meet some of our team members and observe our needs.

**We cannot express in words our deep gratitude to all of PWCC who make this ministry possible.**

*"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work..."*

*11 Corinthians 9: 8*





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



*Happy Mother's Day*