

# THE SHEPHERD LIFE



## **DUO LOGOS**

I begin this column with a big "Thank you" to everyone who made our Lenten and Easter worship experiences so rich: To the choir who wonderfully presented "The Passion and the Glory of the Risen Christ" cantata; To Xuelai, for your skill and heart as you lead us; to the many I who helped decorate the sanctuary for our Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday services; and to those who provided food for our Easter continental breakfast. Thank you also, Vicki and Abraham, for your extra work and dedication during this busy season. Easter Sunday was truly a day of celebration as we welcomed our recently-resettled Afghani friends and our local Knights Templar in worship. It was a special day!

As for May, we find our Pastoral Search Committee beginning to review prospective candidates to be your next "called" Pastor. You will be receiving updates on their progress. It seems with Easter now behind us, we start to prepare for the summer (ugh!) To those of you who excuse our heat with, "But it's dry heat," I

say, "Well so is your oven!" But what can we really say ... we live in a desert!

So let us settle in for summer in the Southwest, at least for those of us who stay here from May through October. Yet, wherever we spend our summer, we pray for God's guidance and care, knowing of the new life made possible by the presence of the Christ in our world today.

Blessings to you... always.

*Pastor Jim*

## **SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS**

*by Bill Janiga*

In our last Search Committee update, we mentioned that our church profile was officially listed and we were getting applications from candidates. On Tuesday night, the Search Committee met with Rev Lyons, our Conference Minister and we were given quite a few applications. It appears there is a strong interest in our church and we are hopeful the "right" candidate is waiting to lead us on our journey. We will keep you updated as our search progresses.

**A Society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.**  
–Greek Proverb

Holy Week, and Easter Sunday are so rich in music, and message, and community – to the tune of more than 150 Shepherd Easter Sunday attendees. We witness this more often when we attend service, or other types of gatherings on our Campus. We benefit greatly when we show up, share, and commit, in our small groups, in our bigger mission, and in our membership. Those long time members, those newest members, those who are baptized, those who are visitors, those who are learners, ALL receive the riches of those who have gone before us.

Shepherd continues to be who we are, a loving, respecting, alive community – that welcomes all. As we prepare for our new leadership, I'm reminded how generous our members are. I'll bet our best laid plans will be less than what our great God will provide in the days, months, and years to come. Let's remember those whom have helped build the foundation of Shepherd, and continue building on that – I can assure you, you will receive abundance in spirit.

With Respect and Love,  
Laura Minnick, Moderator

## **COVENANT GROUPS**

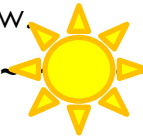
The Truth Seekers will meet in the Fireplace Room on Tuesday, May 16th at 1:30 pm. Doc & Mary Kay Smith will be the hosts. All are invited to attend. This will be the Truthseekers last meeting until fall.



The Truthseekers Covenant Group at a recent meeting

The Second Saturday Covenant Group will meet MONDAY, May 8th from 10:30AM-6:00PM in the Fireplace Room.

The Wise Guys Covenant Group had their last meeting of the year on April 17th with a luncheon at the home of Lew & Carol Shaw.



## **ICM FOOD & CLOTHING BANK**

For the last number of years, Shepherd has had a Mother's Day food drive to help stock the shelves for summer. Donations of hygiene supplies drop drastically in the summer as well, so this year our focus will be on personal care items: soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, etc. The dollar stores are a perfect source for these products. Please donate as you are able!

## SERMON THEMES FOR MAY 2017

**May 7** Fourth Sunday of Easter  
First Sacred Reading: Psalms 23  
Second Sacred Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Sermon Title: "How Do We Know When We Have Enough?"

**May 14** Fifth Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

First Sacred Reading: Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

Second Sacred Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Sermon Title: "If You Aren't Part of the Solution" ... or "Things My Mother Used to Say."

**May 21** Sixth Sunday of Easter  
First Sacred Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-18

Second Sacred Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Sermon Title: "Is Our God Too Small?"

**May 28** Seventh Sunday of Easter (Memorial Day)  
First Sacred Reading: Psalms 42  
Second Sacred Reading: Amos 5:18-25

Message: "Flowing Streams"



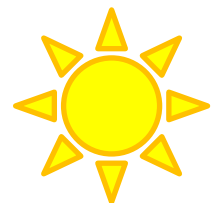
## GOOD EARTH NEWS

The Good Earth Group will be selling coffee, chocolate and possibly produce May 7. Please stop by the table.

## OUTREACH NEWS



Our Special offering for May will benefit Habitat for Humanity, Central Arizona. Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope. Habitat works to build, renovate and repair simple, decent and affordable homes in partnership with individuals and families in need. Since their inception they have built or renovated more than 1000 homes throughout Maricopa County and Parts of Pinal County. These qualifying families pay for their homes through sweat-equity hours and no-profit loans. Despite this too many residents in Central Arizona still don't have a simple, decent affordable place to live. Your donations help Shepherd to sponsor new families and provide us opportunities to volunteer.





### YOU ARE INVITED

Concert entitled "Songs of Unity, Diverse Voices" performed by the Phoenix Women's Chorus at Shepherd of the Hills

Saturday, May 20th 7:00PM

Sunday, May 21st, 4:00PM

Our repertoire is a wonderful range of music celebrating the strength, heart, courage, fun, diversity and love within our community! The concert is donation-only with a suggested donation of \$20.

### MAY BIRTHDAYS AT SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

Barbara Hancock May 1st  
Kelly Mollison May 2nd  
Andrew Keene May 2nd  
Paul Schweizer May 3rd  
Brian Hall May 6th  
Mia Welker May 8th  
Beth Sposito May 12th  
Edward Hancock May 14th  
Prescott Smith May 16th  
Dylan Erickson May 22nd  
Jean Olsen May 26th  
Jean McLellan May 26th  
Howard Haynie May 30th



### FROM VAL WALLACE

Things are slowly getting better. I have moved into a condo in Sun City. My new address is:

17404 N. 99th Avenue  
#236

Sun City, AZ 85373

Thanks again for all the notes, good wishes and calls. You helped my recuperation considerably. Please keep in touch. I will visit when I can.



### DIAPER DRIVE

The Diaper Bank of AZ is experiencing an overwhelming demand for size 5 and size 6 diapers that it currently cannot meet. Please bring sizes 5 or 6 diapers to Church between May 1st and 21st. Monetary donations are also accepted, and tax receipts are available. Gabi Young volunteers for the Diaper Bank and will be collecting all diapers on May 21 to bring to the Bank's warehouse. All diapers will be distributed to non-profits at the next distribution day on June 5th. Learn more about the Diaper Bank of Central AZ by visiting [www.diaperbankaz.org](http://www.diaperbankaz.org) or follow them on Facebook.

**Shepherd of the Hills UCC  
Council Meeting  
Tuesday, April 4, 2017**

In attendance: Sue Spahle, John Schneeman, Rev. Jim Meadows, Beth Franco, Joe Coltman, Laura Minnick, Alice Rice, Stephen Fuller, Austin Shackelford, Carol Shaw, Lauren Schweizer. Not in attendance: Jeanie Roper

Opening Prayer: Rev. Jim Meadows at 6:30 PM

**Worship & Music- Sue Spahle**

Easter Services

Currently coordinating the service with an Easter egg hunt and light breakfast. Thank you to John & Diana Schneeman for providing the breakfast.

A new and artistic background for the posterior wall of the Alter in the Sanctuary will be installed for Easter

Videos for Lent have been received well. With that in mind, we are looking into contemporizing the services with more utilization of the audio and video system by having interactive music and videos.

Recently planted Easter baskets with flowers that the committee will sell on Palm Sunday for a fundraiser.

Mark Fuller, Stephen's brother, is a highly regarded pianist and has expressed interest in our invitation to him to perform a piano recital. More to come.

**Pastor's Report-Rev. Jim Meadows**

Another UCC 101 was done last Sunday for the Confirmation class and congregants.

It has been exciting to see our new members on Sundays and we look forward to upcoming events with them.

Confirmation Class

Buddhism 101

Planting baskets

Possible "overnight" the last weekend in April

Visits

"Bright Sunday" traditionally the first Sunday after Easter. On April 23rd, Judy Green-Davis, who Rev. Meadows has worked with in the past will be a guest preacher.

A baptism will also be held this Sunday.

Earth Day April 22nd will also be celebrated on Sunday the 23rd

The Hills Camp at Friendly Pines April 22-23rd. Nola has opened the invitation to everyone who would like to register.

Interment of Ashes and Memorial for Bill Wallace

SWC UCC Annual Conference May 5th & 6th . Missy and Austin

Shackelford will be representing Shepherd of the Hills as delegates.

**Treasurer-Joe Coltman**

The Church is in a good financial position. We are currently well ahead of income versus expenses, which is where we need to be heading into the leaner summer months.

Income \$85K

Expenses \$54K

**Buildings & Grounds-John Schneeman**

Two ballasts were replaced in Fellowship Hall

Dishwasher repair is in the waiting

Cox came to the campus today to check on improving the Wi-Fi connection. The password cannot be posted, so we are trying to figure out how to manage it (there was an issue of people abusing the internet connection)

**Membership- Jeanie Roper**

Out of town for this meeting to be with family

Jeanie has done a great job in ushering in our newest members.

**Diaconate-Carol Shaw**

Provided a reception after the Schwieman funeral

Will be putting together a reception for Bill Wallace's memorial

Cleaning out the kitchen supply area.

**Christian Education-Stephen Fuller & Alice Rice**

In service Sunday School for the little ones beginning April 23rd.

Announcements in class and in the bulletin to come.

After Church Sunday School for adults-will look for interest in the congregation

**Outreach-Beth Franco**

One Great Hour of Sharing-we had a tremendous amount of giving: over \$1,200

Recycle City- We have been in brief discussions with this company about helping the Church be more eco friendly. The company picks up materials for composting-considering using this service out of our kitchen.

It is \$240 for the year which could come out of Good Earth Funds

The only downside is training the various groups to utilize it correctly

Will find more information and bring to the council for a decision.

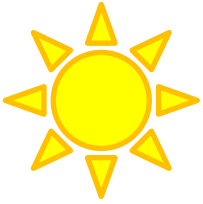
Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM

Next meeting- Tuesday May 2nd, 2017 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully & Enthusiastically Submitted,

Austin J. Shackelford, Clerk

## EASTER AT SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS



Thank you to ALL who came and celebrated Easter with us! There were between 30 and 40 at the early service and over 150 at the 10AM service. We also had 15 little ones enjoy our Easter Egg hunt! Thank you to all who stuffed eggs, baked, planned, participated and helped in many ways to make Easter Sunday at Shepherd a memorable one!

# MAY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
3:00PM EVERY Sunday- Marshallese Worship Service in Shepherd Hall	7PM Good Earth Meeting	6:30PM Church Council	10AM Wednes. Wanderers  6:30PM Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM Aihua Zhang Recital, Sanctuary	10AM Bridge- Parish House  2PM Memorial Service for William Wallace	8:30AM Yoga  1:00PM United Art of AZ  3-6:00PM K2 Kids
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10AM Worship with Communion Good Earth Sales	9AM ICM Pick up 10:30AM 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Covenant Group		10AM Wednes. Wanderers 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal	5:30pm Girl Scouts	10AM Bridge- Parish House	1:00PM United Art of AZ
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10AM Worship  Mother's Day		7AM Men's Breakfast @ Randy's	10AM Wednes. Wanderers  6:30PM Choir Rehearsal	11:30AM Book Club  6:30PM Phoenix Women's Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary	10AM Bridge- Parish House	8:30AM Yoga 1:00PM United Art of AZ 7PM Phoenix Women's Chorus Concert
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10AM Worship Last Sunday for Choir-will resume in fall 4PM Phoenix Women's Chorus Concert	9AM ICM Pick Up	1PM Truthseekers, Fireplace Room	10AM Wednes. Wanderers		10AM Bridge- Parish House	8:30AM Yoga  1:00PM United Art of AZ
28	29	30	31			
10AM Worship	Office Closed  Memorial Day		10AM Wednes. Wanderers	EVERY Mon-Sat 7AM 1st Light AA	EVERY Tuesday 6:30PM AA & Alanon 7PM Alateen	8:00PM EVERY WEDNESDAY AA-Shepherd Hall



**Shepherd of the Hills Congregational  
United Church of Christ**  
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Phoenix, AZ 85018-4599

helping one person might not change  
the whole world,



but it could change the world for  
one person.

chibird