



From the Desk of the Interim Pastor



It seems especially fitting that I began my time with you just as Lent was getting underway; the parallels between Lent and UPC's interim time are striking: In Lent, we recall the "interim time" for Jesus, as he transitioned from his earlier life and turned fully toward his calling. This was obviously no easy transition! He was powerfully tempted, he was physically famished, and he encountered wild animals. Evidence in scripture suggests that his family were none-too-thrilled with his decision and behavior (e.g., Mark 3:28). Lent gives us an opportunity each year to measure our own commitment to following God's call to us against that of Jesus.

Interim time is always a Lent of sorts for a congregation, which makes this timing fortuitous. When a pastor leaves, especially one who has served for more than a decade, the whole church operating system is affected. There emerges a keen awareness of being between the no-longer and the not-yet. Anxiety sometimes leads churches to yield to temptation to settle for the 'quick and easy' rather than trust God's provision to see us through the wilderness in God's own time.

As it happens, there are five primary tasks for a church in interim time; as there are five Sundays in Lent, I couldn't pass up the preaching opportunity! So far we have visited the first three:

Coming to terms with history: This involves the congregation processing the departure of the previous pastor and the transition period, working through any unresolved issues or feelings of loss, hurt, anger, or guilt. It is also a time to celebrate past achievements.

Discovering a new identity: Does our shared self-image match current reality? Answering the questions of "Who are we now?" and "Who is God calling us to become?" are crucial in preparing to welcome the next installed pastor.

Dealing with inevitable changes and shifts in power: "I love changes and I hope they never stop!" says almost no one ever. Interim time is filled with them, including possible shifts in the power dynamics as some folks step back and others step forward.

These tasks never line up neatly in sequence; we will find ourselves moving fluidly among them in our meetings, our conversations, our mission outreach. When you feel baffled or confused or want to scream "Just get on with it!" take heart in the journey of Jesus which we are in the midst of observing. Without fully embracing the depth of interim time—Jesus' and ours—the cries of Easter Alleluias will ring hollow.

It is an honor for me to walk with you on this leg of UPC's journey. I promise you that it will be worth the time and effort no matter what wild animals we encounter. I look forward to breaking out of Lent and celebrating Easter with you! Onward... ■

Len Silvester

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This issue of the
UPC NEWS & Current Events
is brought to you by...
the word...

Transformation

c. 1400, *transformacioun*, "change of form, nature, or appearance," especially "supernatural alteration in semblance or form," from Old French *transformation*, *transformacion*, and directly from Church Latin *transformationem* (nominative *transformatio*) "change of shape," noun of action from past-participle stem of *transformare* "change in shape, metamorphose" Alternative *transformance* (1610s) is obsolete. ■

A Girl Scout Thank You!

Dear UPC community,

Thank you for buying all of those Girl Scout cookies. The Girl Scouts really appreciated it. We will use the money to pay for field trips, badges, and stuff. I was Troop 2188's top seller. I sold 368 boxes of cookies on my own, and 551 total if you include booth sales. As an award, I will receive \$100 in program credit, which I will use to go to Girl Scout camp in June at Parsons Leadership Center in Phoenix. The camp theme will be Brownie Trail Exploration. I also earned \$75 in program credit for winning the Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council's Week 3 Cookie Spirit Contest. I will also use that program credit for camp.

I really thank you for buying all of those cookies. You guys all helped me learn how to count by sixes and sevens.

Love, Eleanor Reed



Eleanor Reed selling Girl Scout cookies at UPC February 23.



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UPC NEWS & Current Events is published monthly. Submissions of announcements, stories, op-eds, and reflections on recent events at UPC are welcomed.

Requirements:

Announcements: 500 words or less
Articles/Reflections: 1200 words or less
Letters to the Editor: 750 words or less
Submissions may be edited for content, grammar, and space available.

Send submissions
by the 20th of each month to:
newsletter@upctempe.org

Here are items needed for TCAA:

Breakfast items
Travel snacks
Canned goods

Please drop off your donations in the Sanctuary Narthex.
Financial contributions may be sent to the office. Make checks out to "TCAA" and reference "Food Pantry"



UPC Youth Mission Trip

By SUE SCHNEBEL

During school spring break, the Youth Team took this year's mission theme, **Food Insecurity**, and worked locally learning about the agencies available to those in need around our church. They visited Family Promise Day Center, Feed My Starving Children, United Food Bank, Tempe Meals on Wheels, did yard clean up for a Meals on Wheels client and learned a great deal from a shopping challenge where they had to buy multiple healthy meals for the unhoused for under \$25. This trip embraced our mission work giving the youth the opportunity to experience not only the circumstances of food insecurity but what solutions are out there. ■



YOUTH GROUP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 9): All Youth are invited for games and snacks and faith-building! For more information you may contact Ted Gibson tedgibson@upctempe.org.

Earth Day—Recycle, Reduce, Reuse

The 3 R's of Responsible Living

By LINDA RISSEEUW

Our Mother Earth is in trouble. As Christians God commands us to be good stewards of the earth.

I thought it was time again to think about recycling. Just an update, and maybe some changes.

I decided to go directly straight to the Recycling Guru for Tempe. She was very helpful. I asked several questions that you may have had too.

First, an update on recycling plastics. Do the numbers on plastics mean anything anymore?

The numbers are a resin code for the kind of polymer the plastic is. But it doesn't tell you if it is recyclable. #1 and #2 are more easily recycled. Hard plastics, such as bottle and jars. Added to that are cups, tubs, clamshells (my own personal bugaboo), shampoo and detergent bottles, etc. Is it hard? Test it by hitting it on the kitchen counter. If it bonks, then it's okay. Items should be larger than a tennis ball or they will fall through the

sortation machinery. The plastic must be clean.

Restrictions: **No Styrofoam, No plastic bags, No plastic wrap.** It clogs the recycling machines. Take those clean plastic bags back to the grocery store, or Target or other stores that have bins for them.

What kind of non-can metals can be recycled? Just about any kind as long as it is bigger than a tennis ball. An I-beam is probably not a good idea. See construction waste later. Save the vacuum cleaners and swing sets for bulk pickup on your assigned week.

What is the difference between Compostable and Biodegradable?

Biodegradable isn't a regulated term. Eventually just about everything will biodegrade in a thousand years or more. **Compostable** will break down eventually but there is a difference between backyard composting and commercial composting which uses enzyme digesters to compost. Landfills are not conducive to the breakdown of these items. It could

stay there for decades and when it breaks down it could release methane. Compostable items besides food waste should carry a BPI symbol.

Are there any plans for the City of Tempe to consider citywide composting of food waste? Right now Tempe isn't planning to. Technology like digesters with enzymes would take a lot of money and space.

How is demolition waste handled? It is not recycled by the city. It is the contractor's responsibility. Scrape metal usually gets recycled because there is a private market for it. However, if you are having some remodeling done at your house, make sure the contractor takes reusable items such as cabinets, sinks, lighting fixtures, bathroom fixtures, doors, windows, tile flooring and lumber, to one of two places—Stardust or Habitat for Humanity ReStore. They will get used again. Look on their websites for other items. <https://stardustbuilding.org/> or <https://www.habitat.org/restores> ■



Each city in the Valley has its own website for recycling. Many use different recycling companies. Not all cities accept the same items. Please check with your city to find the way to be the BEST RECYCLER.

Here are the Recycling websites for Phoenix and East Valley cities.

Tempe www.tempe.gov/government/public-works/solid-waste-and-recycling/

Chandler www.chandleraz.gov/residents/recycling-and-trash

Mesa www.mesaaz.gov/Utilities/Trash-Recycling/Mesa-Recycles

Gilbert www.gilbertaz.gov/departments/public-works/solid-waste/recycling

Phoenix www.phoenix.gov/publicworks/residential-recycling

Or use a search engine to look up the name of the city and "recycling".

Things to remember: DO NOT bag your recyclables AND make sure they are clean

REMEMBER MOTHER EARTH IS COUNTING ON YOU!

P.S. Next month there will be more recycling ideas to think about.

2025 Senior Service Award

By LAWN GRIFFITHS



Cheri Hardy

Longtime University Presbyterian Church member Cheri Hardy has been chosen for the annual Presbytery of Grand Canyon's Senior Service Award recognition for 2025. Each church of the presbytery is invited to select a member or couple, at least age 60, for sustained service to their faith communities.

The honorees were feted at the 37th annual luncheon and awards celebration March 27 at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church in Sun City West, where some of their individual work was shared.

Cheri and her husband, Dale, joined UPC in December 1984. Since then, Cheri has served three terms on session, a term as a deacon where she was moderator and two terms on the Board of Trustees. She is completing her current three-year term as the trustee overseeing community use of campus facilities. Cheri was church school superintendent two separate times. She was a church school teacher for ages pre-school through fifth grade at various times.

She was moderator of the Kayenta Circle of Presbyterian Women and was co-moderator 2020-22 of PW. In 2002, she was named Woman of the Year and bestowed the PW Lifetime Achievement Award.

Cheri has been at the center of planning each year for the annual February Mission Month focus, developing themes, activities and engaging compel-

ling speakers on diverse issues of the day. Cheri has coordinated the church's hosting of homeless families for a week at a time in the Family Promise program, a demanding duty of detail and hospitality.

When UPC began exploring what the church should be doing in Christian witness for LGBLQ+ persons, she was involved in a task force on "inclusive feasibility," a process of conversation, discernment and opening hearts.

With emerging issues surrounding refugees, sanctuary and the fierce Arizona desert, Cheri and Dale became early volunteers delivering water regularly to tanks south of Ajo for refugees crossing the desert. They have helped support the work of Frontera de Cristo, Humane Borders and No More Deaths outreach. That has expanded to their taking part in a team of volunteers to deliver donations of clothing, food and more for migrants served by Frontera in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico.

Cheri has been part of UPC's expansion of missions to embrace social justice and peace-making initiatives, especially providing emergency accommodations from refugees from several nations where religious freedoms are suppressed. She was the voice on session in 2014 that led to UPC providing 100 days of asylum on campus for Luis Lopez Acabal, who had fled from violence in Guatemala.

Cheri and Dale have been longtime Tempe Meals on Wheels volunteers.

A native of Binghamton, New York, Cheri was the oldest of three children all born within 30 months. The family belonged to a small evangelical, non-denominational church. She remembers her father telling her that, at 15, she was too young to find a summer job, so she needed, instead, to do some volunteering. Thus, she helped at an underprivileged youth program teaching classes in cooking and sewing. She went on to a community college after high school. There she met Dale, who had also been a neighbor. They were married in 1970. Dale had joined buddies on a long road trip across the west which made a lasting

impression. In time, the Hardys packed up and headed to Arizona.

In high school, aptitude tests had given Cheri exceptionally high marks in "persuasion" and seemingly a candidate to be one of four things: lawyer, teacher, preacher or salesman, "Except for lawyer, I have been all those," she said. Through the years, Cheri has held a dizzying number of jobs. "I sold cosmetics, I sold jewelry. I sold enough vacuum sweepers in New York to pay for our trip out here." She worked in a doctor's office and in a laundry mat and did bookkeeping at Arizona State University.

She spent five years with a materials-handling company and travelled the state marketing shelving. She believes she was the first woman in Arizona in that role.

For a time, Cheri worked for a friend with the Arizona Egg Company, simply fielding his phone calls that were transferred to her home early in the day, while her friend delivered eggs. She notes those were days before cellphones.

From starting studies in liberal arts, she and Dale both would earn business degrees from ASU. Cheri's was in marketing. Night classes allowed her to graduate in 1981.

One of her early community volunteer stops was the Sistine Adult Day Center in downtown Mesa. After joining UPC, she received training and taught English as a Second Language for five years at Motorola and Intel facilities. She also was a literacy instructor teaching the Laubach Way to Reading curricula.

Cheri spent the first years at UPC engaged in Christian education roles like summer bible school, Wednesday at Church activities for children and teaching Junior Worship classes with Dale.

Since 1996, Cheri has been a realtor focused on the Southeast Valley. It has fit well with her marketing acumen. "I am quite a people person," she acknowledged.

"I really can't think of a more deserving person for the Senior Service Award than Cheri Hardy," said UPC member

(Continued on page 7)

Presbyterian Women's News

PW SPRING LUNCHEON

The Spring Luncheon will be held in Fellowship Hall on Saturday April 26th. We will begin at 11:00 AM, lunch will be provided by the Co-ordinating Team. Our guest speaker from Woman 4 Women will share information about their organization. After that we will help put together feminine hygiene kits, and Manna Bags for the summer months. This is a great opportunity to combine FUN, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & MISSION. Everyone is welcome!



2024 PW Spring Luncheon

GIFT'S OF WOMEN SUNDAY:

Gifts of Women Sunday will be celebrated during worship on April 27. This a response to International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. UPC traditionally celebrates Gifts of Women on the Sunday following Easter. This year we will hear an inspiring sermon from the Rev. Vonna Thomas on the theme from the Presbyterian Women's triennial Churchwide Gathering held August of 2024, "Do Every-



2024 PW Spring Luncheon Food

thing in Love." This theme is taken from 1 Corinthians 16:13 and 14, "Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." Presbyterian Women who attended the Churchwide Gathering will be participating in the worship service. The annual PW Birthday Offering will also be collected that day. This offering provides grants for capital projects that support women and children. ■



2025 Easter Lily Dedications

By NANCY MARTIN
& DONNA DELUTIO



UPC Deacons are happy to help you honor people close to your heart this time of the year. You may want to remember a family member or friend whose memory is special to you on Easter. Or you may

want to honor someone you know by giving them a lovely plant to show you care. This could be a great opportunity to show your gratitude or recognition to those UPC folks you value for their hard work and/or help when you need it.

Think about someone who puts their heart into preparing for church service every week. Remember "it takes a village." Aren't we thankful for so many people on staff or on the Sanctuary committee as well as various board members. Remember the folks who lead caring missions...and the list goes on. It is an honor to be blessed with beautiful music, a clean campus and weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters keeping all of us aware of important news, isn't it?

Can you believe it? Easter is approaching on April 20, 2025. On March 30th and April 6th and 13th the

Deacons will have a table on the patio after worship to accept your donation of \$15.00 for an Easter lily or plant in memory of loved ones or to celebrate someone "special" to you. Your plant will be placed in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. You may pick up your plant after the service or if you would like to donate yours to a home-bound church member, please indicate that when you sign up.

As an alternative to Sunday morning sign up, you may use the online giving button from upctempe.org, or contact Donna DeLutio at (480) 621-8163 or Nancy Martin (480) 241-9296. Also, you may leave a check at the church office payable to UPC with "Easter Lily" written in the memo line.

The Deacons are grateful for your support and we pray that you have a Blessed Easter. ■

SENIOR SERVICE AWARD

Continued from page 5

Suzanne Niemann. “Cheri is a person who rarely says no when asked to help with a task, project, or a problem. She has a heart for mission. Cheri can always be counted on to be a problem-solver and a positive force in everything she does. I am a better person for knowing her and having her as a dear friend.”

Catherine May, a 2024 recipient of the service award, said, “Cheri is committed to working for justice for all people, from feeding our Tempe neighbors to supporting borderlands residents and

migrants, from ensuring opportunities for learning to caring for our planet.”

SENIOR SERVICE HONOREES FROM UPC: 1983 – Irvin Lawler, J.J. Lamberts; 1985 – Kathleen Fite; 1989 – Marion Niemeier; John Wilson, Bobbie Overby, George Overby; 1991 – Bill and Betty English; 1992 – Louise Lamberts; 1993 - Frank Armstrong; 1994 – Catherine Rubush; 1995 – Ruth Trimble; 1997 – John Bell; 1998 – Dot Maple; 1999 – Gerry Edson; 2000 – Jim Hillyard; 2001 – Helen Alderson; 2002 – Jeanette Wilson; 2003 - Hans and Trudy

Hebert; 2004 – Jim West; 2005 – Ede Yarter; 2006 – Barbara Harden; 2007 – Betty English; 2008 – Don Morton; 2009 – Ruth McHenry; 2010 – Evelyn Colby; 2011 – Jim and Barbara Hillyard; 2013 – Jeanette Miller; 2014 – Betty Dumond; 2015 – Jim and Sara Hershauer; 2016 – Doyle Burke; 2017 – Junior Meier; 2018 – Pat and Mikki Gallagher; 2019- Joyce and Pete Godfrey; 2020 – Chet and Bonny Henry; 2023 -- Patty and Lawn Griffiths; 2024 – Catherine May and Dan Abbott; and 2025: Cheri Hardy. ■

Adult Christian Education

The ACE Committee thanks all who participated in our ACE Survey. The information you provided will help guide us as we begin the process of putting together a robust schedule for the 2025-26 church year that meets the wishes of the congregation. The survey consisted of the following categories: Contemporary Issues (The Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other), A World View of Faith, Tools for Going Deeper into Scripture, Christianity and the Arts, Faith: For-

mation, Mission and Service, Stump the Pastor and Other.

With almost 40 responses returned, Contemporary Issues was overwhelmingly the top choice of topics. Tools for Going Deeper into Scripture, and Faith: Formation, Mission and Service ranked significantly behind coming in second and third.

The ACE Committee has already begun researching topics and speakers based on these results. We will put a ma-

jor focus on your preferences but will certainly do our best to honor topic(s) from each category. ■

Pastor Len will offer a 'teaser' session for the series he will offer in October about the Apostle Paul and his attitude toward women. It is a hot topic, right? Today's title: 'The Apostle Paul: A Feminist?'

Friday Night Book Club

The Lion Women of Tehran - April 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

Written by **MARJAN KAMALI**

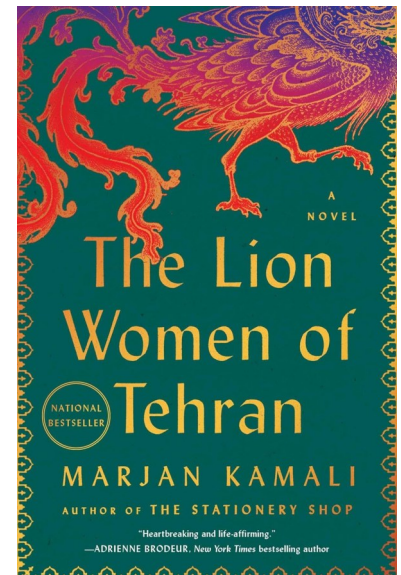
In 1950s Tehran, seven-year-old Ellie lives in grand comfort until the untimely death of her father, forcing Ellie and her mother to move to a tiny home downtown. Lonely and bearing the brunt of her mother’s endless grievances, Ellie dreams for a friend to alleviate her isolation.

Luckily, on the first day of school, she meets Homa, a kind girl with a brave and irrepressible spirit. Together, the two girls play games, learn to cook in the stone kitchen of Homa’s warm home, wander through the colorful stalls of the Grand Bazaar, and share their ambitions of becoming “lion

women.”

But their happiness is disrupted when Ellie and her mother are afforded the opportunity to return to their previous bourgeois life. Now a popular student at the best girls’ high school in Iran, Ellie’s memories of Homa begin to fade. Years later, however, her sudden reappearance in Ellie’s privileged world alters the course of both of their lives.

Together, the two young women come of age and pursue their own goals for meaningful futures. But as the political turmoil in Iran builds to a breaking point, one earth-shattering betrayal will have enormous consequences. ■



Who's on Campus?

By **CHERI HARDY**

My name is Jamilyn and I am thrilled to teach my private violin students here at UPC! My childhood friend's parents are members of UPC and were kind enough to connect me to this wonderful community and space.

I am an ASU alum. I graduated with my Bachelor's degree in Violin Performance and Master's degree in Music History & Literature. I studied with Katie Mclin during my undergrad and worked on my master's thesis with Sabine Feisst.

After graduate school, I started an orchestra program at a new BASIS school, where I developed the curriculum for and taught beginning, intermediate, and advanced string classes. After 4 years, I was offered an Adjunct Faculty position at Grand Canyon University, where I taught Music History, String Techniques, Chamber Music, and Private

Violin Lessons for 5 years.

Currently, I am on faculty at Rosie's House (a non-profit afterschool music program) where I teach violin lessons to bright young students. I also enjoy maintaining my own private violin studio in Tempe. I perform regularly with the West Valley Symphony, MusicaNova Orchestra of Scottsdale, and the Sedona Symphony. I also enjoy subbing with Arizona Broadway Theater, Arizona Opera, the Phoenix Chorale, and many other groups around the Valley.

I have been teaching and performing for over 20 years and work with violin students of all ages and levels. I am a registered Suzuki instructor (Books 1-10) and would be happy to welcome new students!

You can learn more about me and violin lessons on my website: jamilynrichardson.com or email jamilynrichardson@gmail.com for more info!

"We are delighted to have Jamilyn teaching on our camps. If you have any questions about renting space at UPC please contact Cheri Hardy at (602) 920-5176." ■



Jamilyn Richardson



Session Highlights for January and February

By **JIM HERSHAUER**

Clerk of Session

Session has had an action-packed January and February. In addition to the regular committee meetings and activities, we held a planning meeting on Saturday, January 25th to focus on issues related to our transition between installed pastors.

At the January Session meeting, the Interim Search Team (Paul Green, Catherine May, Sue Schnebel, and Alan Sweeney) reported that an Interim Pastor had been selected. They provided a brief synopsis of the Pastor's background and their evaluation. Session endorsed an agreement with Interim Pastor Len Sil-

vester. The Finance committee reported total revenue for 2024 of \$373,667.31 and total expenses of \$357,257.77. This allowed Session to move \$16,000 to the Scheduled Maintenance Fund to raise its balance to above \$90,000.

In February, six new members were received. They are Margaret Branson, Sommer and Chris Decker, Barbara and Drake Hawkins, and Gloria Ortiz. A motion to replace two heat pump units was approved. Rev. Shelly Moe reported that she and Elder Jeannette Miller took homebound communion to several members at the Health Care Center at Friendship Village. Rev. Shelly Moe led a committal service for John Griffin (spouse of member Helen Griffin) on February 8,

2025, in the UPC Memorial Garden. Member Hazel Davidson died on February 12, 2025, and a memorial service is planned on March 8, 2025. Interim Pastor Len Silvester and Rev. Shelly Moe will co-officiate the service. Member Joe Simmons died on February 22, 2025, and a memorial service is planned at the funeral home. Session approved Cheri Hardy for the Senior Service Award of Presbytery. Session also took steps to begin the process of calling an installed Pastor.

Remaining 2025 Stated Session Meetings were revised to: April 22nd, May 27th, *no meeting in June*, July 22nd, August 26th, *no meeting in September*, October 28th, November 18th, and December 16th. ■

Nursery Time Update

By SUE SCHNEBEL

Thanks to the efforts of Jan Felton, our Nursery Time includes a mini-Bible lesson along with an activity and, of course, some playtime. Here two of our children listened to a brief reading about Noah’s Ark and had the opportunity to see illustrations from a variety of children’s books. Asher is coloring a picture of Noah and his ark for his grandmother while Theo is creating one of the animals, a giraffe. The children along with Jean Luce enjoyed the lesson. ■



A Special Moment

March 2, 2025

With a little help from his friends, Junior Meier serves communion.

Don’t Make Them Like They Used To

By STEVE WHITE

Largely hidden from view, the UPC campus has 22 air conditioners or heat pumps. As far as we can tell, the Sanctuary Narthex air conditioners were original with the 1980 construction. The trustees have been replacing units as necessary, and these two have finally been retired. When the filters were changed last fall, trustee Phil Witherspoon said he was careful not to knock off too much rust, or there wouldn’t be anything left to hold the screws in.

Two new air conditioners were installed on March 13, 2025. ■





- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Bev Phillips | 14 Bonny Henry |
| Gene DeLutio | 15 Laura Green |
| 4 Corrine Silcox | 16 Chuck Riden |
| 7 Mark Henderson | 17 Tom Sevlie |
| 9 Alan Sweeney | 23 Sara Hershauer |
| Asher Gibson | 24 Tabb Forster |
| 11 Patty Griffiths | 25 Suzanne Niemann |
| Chris Decker | 29 Kay Hosek-Knauss |

If you see a birthday is missing or we have the wrong date, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Worship Volunteer Schedule

Below is the schedule of worship volunteers for the coming months. If you are listed and have a conflict, you are asked to please find a replacement and then contact Joan Grey.

To volunteer or get on one of the rotations, contact Joan Grey! Thank you!

April 2025

Sanctuary Readiness Team Larry Seubert

Apr 6—5th Sunday in Lent

Liturgist..... Sada Reed
 Children’s Moment Sada Reed
 Worship Tech..... Gil Urias, Chris Trella

Apr 13—6th Sunday in Lent

Liturgist..... Joyce Godfrey
 Children’s Moment Joyce Godfrey
 Worship Tech..... Geoff Beams/Chris Trella, Bianca Osorio

Apr 20—Easter Sunday

Liturgist..... Vicki Jacobs
 Children’s Moment Sue Schnebel
 Worship Tech..... Brigitta Kuiper, Chris Trella

Apr 27—2nd Sunday of Easter/Gift of Women Sunday

Liturgist..... PW
 Children’s Moment PW
 Worship Tech..... Jim Niemann, Sada Reed

May 2025

Sanctuary Readiness Team Larry Seubert

May 4—3rd Sunday of Easter/Earth Day Sunday

Liturgist..... VACANT
 Children’s Moment..... VACANT
 Worship Tech..... VACANT, Chris Trella

May 11—4th Sunday of Easter

Liturgist..... Nob Ichishita
 Children’s Moment..... Sue Schnebel
 Worship Tech..... VACANT, VACANT

May 18—5th Sunday of Easter

Liturgist..... VACANT
 Children’s Moment..... VACANT
 Worship Tech..... VACANT, VACANT

May 25—6th Sunday of Easter

Liturgist..... VACANT
 Children’s Moment..... VACANT
 Worship Tech..... VACANT, VACANT

Monthly prayer guide...

- ✘ All of creation, and for the strength of our leaders to stand up for environmental conservation.
- ✘ Those affected by natural disasters around the world.
- ✘ Communities bearing the weight of poverty, prejudice, and violence in their streets and neighborhoods.
- ✘ Those struggling with mental and physical illness.
- ✘ Migrants, especially those separated from families and those dying in a desperate search for a better way of life.

- ✘ LGBTQIA+ persons who continue to suffer from prejudice, marginalization, and discrimination.
- ✘ Elected & community leaders, that they can bring peace to our nation and world.
- ✘ The people of Ukraine.
- ✘ The people of Israel and Palestine, that peace make break out instead of war, that hostilities may end and understanding begin, that people and leaders may see one another as fellow creations of God rather than enemies.

- ✘ Religious leaders of all kinds, that they may have the courage to preach and teach love, compassion, and restorative justice.
- ✘ UPC Officers: elders, deacons, trustees (see a full list at www.upcetempe.org/leadership).

If you have a prayer request you would like shared during Sunday worship, text it to (480) 256-8216 on Sunday morning.

UPC Calendar

Submit corrections, additions, or deletions to the church office at
(480) 966-6267 or upc@upctempe.org.

Check online for updates or to subscribe on your computer or device:
www.upctempe.org/calendar

April 2025

Tue, Apr 1

4:00 pm Violin Lessons (Rm 2)

Wed, Apr 2

9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)
10:15 am Office Calendaring Meeting (CR)
3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (ZU)
5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner (FH)
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu, Apr 3

8:00 am TOPS (MR, COR)
7:00 pm CE Committee (Z)

Fri, Apr 4

3:00 pm I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: Quakers
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat, Apr 5

7:00 am I-HELP Guests Depart
7:15 am Baseball Card Show (FH)
9:00 am Congregational Work Day

Sun Apr 6

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

9:30 am Worship Service (S, ZU, YouTube)
10:30 am 'UPC Cafe' fellowship time on the patio
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)
11:00 am Adult Christian Ed (S, Z)

Mon, Apr 7

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

4:30 pm Adult Christian Education Team (Z)
7:00 pm Administration Committee (Z)
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue, Apr 8

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

4:00 pm Violin Lessons (Rm 2)
7:00 pm Finance Committee (Z)
7:00 pm Worship Committee (Z)

Wed, Apr 9

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)
3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (ZU)
5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner (FH)
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu, Apr 10

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

8:00 am TOPS (MR, COR)
7:00 pm MSJP Committee (Z)

Fri, Apr 11

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

3:00 pm I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: Sai Organization
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat, Apr 12

Family Promise (MR, K, L, Rm 2-3)

7:00 am I-HELP Guests Depart

Sun Apr 13

Family Promise Departs

9:30 am Worship Service (S, ZU, YouTube)
10:00 am Children's Bible Time
10:30 am 'UPC Cafe' fellowship time on the patio
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)
11:00 am Adult Christian Ed (S, Z)

Mon, Apr 14

8:00 pm Stewardship Committee (Z)
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue, Apr 15

4:00 pm Violin Lessons (Rm 2)

6:30 pm CIO Committee (Z)

7:00 pm Board of Trustees (Z)

Wed, Apr 16

9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)
12:30 pm Chinle Circle (MR)
3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (ZU)
5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner (FH)
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu, Apr 17

8:00 am TOPS (MR, COR)
11:00 am Tempe Interfaith Fellowship (Z)
7:00 pm Maundy Thursday (UPC, S)

Fri, Apr 18

3:00 pm I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: UPC
7:00 pm Friday Night Book Club (Z)
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat, Apr 19

7:00 am I-HELP Guests Depart

Sun Apr 20

Easter Sunday

6:00 am Easter Sunrise Service TBD
9:30 am Worship Service (S, ZU, YouTube)
10:00 am Children's Bible Time
10:30 am 'UPC Cafe' fellowship time on the patio

Mon, Apr 21

7:00 pm Board of Deacons (Z)
8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue, Apr 22

Earth Day

1:00 pm PW Online Bible Study (Z)
4:00 pm Violin Lessons (Rm 2)
7:00 pm Stated Session (S, Z)

See CALENDAR on page 12

Location/Room References:

(CH)-Choir Room (CR)-Conference Room/Office (COR/Rm7)-Community Room (FH)-Fellowship Hall (HSR)-High School Room (MSR)-Middle School Room (K)-Fellowship Hall Kitchen (L)-Lounge (MG)-Memorial Garden (MR)-Meeting Room (N)-Nursery (PO)-Pastor's Office (Rm#)-Room Number Indicated (S)-Sanctuary (Z)-On Zoom

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CALENDAR

Continued from page 11

Wed, Apr 23

- 9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)
- 3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (ZU)
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner (FH)
- 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu, Apr 24

- 8:00 am TOPS (MR, COR)

Fri, Apr 25

- 3:00 pm I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: St. Augustine
- 8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat, Apr 26

- 7:00 am I-HELP Guests Depart
- 9:00 am PW Luncheon & Assembly Women 4 Women (FH)

Sun Apr 27

- Gifts of Women Sunday & Birthday Offering*
- 9:30 am Worship Service (S, ZU, YouTube)
- 10:00 am Children's Bible Time
- 10:30 am 'UPC Cafe' fellowship time on the patio
- 11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)
- 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed (S, Z)

Mon, Apr 28

- 6:30 pm PW Kayenta Circle (MR)
- 8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue, Apr 29

- 7:00 am Project Connect (Campus)
- 4:00 pm Violin Lessons (Rm 2)

Wed, Apr 30

- 9:00 am Lectio Divina Bible Study (ZU)
- 3:45 pm Worship Planning Team (ZU)

- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner (FH)
- 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice (S)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

May 2025

Thu, May 1

- Tempe Day of Prayer*
- 8:00 am TOPS (MR, COR)
- 7:00 pm CE Committee (Z)

Fri, May 2

- 3:00 pm I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: TBA
- 8:30 pm AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat, May 3

- 7:00 am I-HELP Guests Depart
- 7:15 am Baseball Card Show (FH)

Sun May 4

- 9:30 am Worship Service (S, ZU, YouTube)
- 10:30 am 'UPC Cafe' fellowship time on