



PASTOR'S POST

*...as church, we must keep doing what we do,
serving and caring for others in the name of the Lord.*

Batter Up!

March in the Valley and Sun City has a uniqueness to it. The mornings can still have a crispness, desert blooms are appearing, and for many of us, the crack of the bat is no longer just a memory from last fall - it's spring training in full swing. The Cactus League reminds us that even the best baseball players in the world begin the season by practicing, stretching, and preparing. They know the importance of showing up early, day after day, to refine skills, build teamwork, and strengthen endurance.

I was telling someone recently that faith is like that. We don't arrive fully formed; our hearts, minds, and souls are shaped over time. Some days we swing and miss. Some days we knock it out of the park. But the discipline of showing up - praying, reflecting, listening, and thinking - is what shapes us. Just as players step onto the field knowing that a long season awaits, we step into life aware that God's work in us unfolds gradually, often in small, unseen ways.

Spring is all about new beginnings. It calls us to new life, fresh energy, and rekindled hope. And while the Cactus League may give us thrilling plays and standout performances, the spiritual season we live in calls for patience, persistence, and attention - not to games, but to the everyday moments wherever God might meet us.

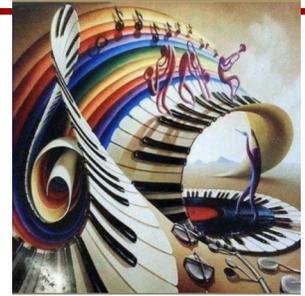
So, this month, as the base lines get chalked, the pitchers pitch, and the batters swing, consider your own field of play. Where are you in the lineup to share God's good news? Where can you take a swing at characteristics like kindness, patience, or courage? Where will your sacrifice help another score a run? Remember, just like spring training, a deep faith doesn't happen overnight, but will happen as we practice it.

So, here's to a March full of blessings, faith, and yes, a few Royals' home runs along the way.

Go Team,

Pastor Brady





Greetings from your Music Ministry!

Let me begin with one more huge THANK YOU to the 3 amazing ladies of "TLC" (Tender Loving Crooners) for their delightful love songs from several decades presented to us on Valentines weekend, March 15! Our congregation loved it! ❤️



Photo Credit: Alan Paulson

We finally finished putting away Christmas music and now it's time for Lent and Easter music! A wonderful, worshipful, time in our faith and full of glorious, emotional music. In addition to all the music that our Choir and Praise Team are preparing for our Sunday services, here's what's coming up:

Sunday, March 29; PALM SUNDAY AND CANTATA SUNDAY!

Complete with our Choir, Praise Team, guest singers and instrumentalists from the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra, all at our 10:00 am service. The perfect chance to invite some friends and neighbors looking for a church home.

Looking into April...

Thursday, April 2; HOLY WEEK continues with an ecumenical Maundy Thursday service at 5:00 pm right here at United Church, with several area churches and pastors participating. Special music will be provided by our Praise Team.

EASTER SUNDAY, April 5 will include our Sunrise Service at the Sun Bowl at 7:00 am, with our Choir providing welcome music starting at 6:45 am.

At 10:00 am there will be a continental breakfast, a short message, and more special music in our Sanctuary.

April 12 is our annual **HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY!** Be sure to wear loud, mismatched clothes and shoes, or at least a goofy hat. We will still be praising God, but with more light-hearted 'make a JOYful noise' kind of music!

Yours for a song,

Alan Paulson

Minister of Music

Lenten Schedule 2026



Palm Sunday ~ March 29, 2026
 Sunday 10:00 am UCCSC
 Easter Cantata with Phoenix Symphony

Maundy Thursday ~ April 2, 2026
 Thursday, 5:00 pm
 United Church of Sun City

Good Friday ~ April 3, 2026

Easter Sunday ~ April 5, 2026
 7:00 am Sunrise Service at the Sun Bowl, SC
 10:00 am Easter Brunch Service UCCSC

Holy Humor ~ April 12, 2026
 10:00 am United Church of Sun City

Suggestions? Requests? Text 602-427-7035 or alanpaulson1@gmail.com



On Tuesday, **February 10** at 10:30 am in the Beehive, Deborah Bates, owner and educator at Bates Retirement Services joined eleven guests in a discussion about how and when to enroll in Medicare, what is and is not covered, and the pros and cons of Medicare Advantage Plans and Medicare Supplemental Insurance.



Photo Credit: Robin Lemkuil



Join us on **Tuesday, March 10 at 10:30 am** for **What is In-Home Care?** With the right kind of support and home safety guidelines, older adults can comfortably age in place. Matt Burlend with ComForCare will discuss the types of personal and medical care services offered by professional caregivers in your home. Please register near the Welcome Table or contact the church office.



THANK YOU!

A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to Dickie Duniver, our Sexton and Holly Lentini, our Assistant Sexton for all of their hard work completing some projects in our storage room that typically, go unseen!

After the staircase installation, Holly spent several hours cleaning and organizing the storage area! WOW! She did a fantastic job! Thank you, Holly!

We appreciate both Dickie and Holly for their service to United Church. Seen and Unseen!

Dickie went above and beyond his regular scheduled duties to install a new collapsible staircase to our attic space which houses the sanctuary and office air conditioning units. Regular access is required for maintenance and filter changes. Thank you, Dickie, for installing a safer, more stable staircase!



Photo Credits: Robin Lemkuil

Birthdays Celebration 2026

The years just flew and before we know it we are decades old and accustomed to it.

The Activity and Fellowship Committee would like to invite you to join them in celebrating everyone's birthday on **Sunday, March 8** in the Friendship Center after worship.

Wishing you many Happy Birthday moments...
the kind that leave you feeling special and loved all year long.



The Third Annual Art Auction will be in the Beehive the entire month of March!

The art was donated to United Church with 100% of each sale supporting the United Church **AV Upgrade Fund!**

Paintings will be on display and available for bidding during the month of March so have fun with your bids and help make this event a great success!

Art Auction



Are you looking for a way to give of your Time or Talent?

April 5, 2026

As Easter approaches, we will be looking for volunteers to assist with our worship service at the Sun Bowl and with our Easter Brunch worship on that day.

Areas we will be needing your help:

Sun Bowl

- ✝ Ushers to hand out bulletins
- ✝ Communion Servers
- ✝ Ushers for collection
- ✝ Floaters to fill in where needed

Easter Brunch

- ✝ Setup
- ✝ Cleanup

Watch for sign-up sheets near the Welcome Desk



Mission Board

Church of
the Palms
5,755

9,954
Meals!

United
Church of
Sun City
4,199



Thank you for participating
in this fun event creating
almost 10,000 meals for the
hungry in our community!

Souper Bowl of Caring 2026



Check out the Shadow Box
in the Beehive!

Hedy Hall painstakingly
put together a collage of
events from 2025.

We've been a busy church!

Thank You, Hedy!



Photo Credit: Robin Lemkuil

COMMUNION at United Church

Please join us on
Sunday, March 1
at 10:00 am.

All are Welcome!



Are you in need of

Pastoral Care

Please contact
the Church office
at 623-933-0058.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thank you to all who attended the United Church of Sun City Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, February 8.

Several items were discussed and voted on including a change to the Church Bylaws, the 2026 budget and the slate of officers for 2026.

Remember to pick up your 2025 Church Annual Report at the Welcome Table.



The deadline for the
April Newsletter:
Monday, March 16.

Please submit your
articles to Robin at:
office@uccsc.com.

*Remember to check the
calendar for special events.*

If you would like to have an article submitted in the Sun City Newspaper *The Independent*, please forward your articles to Robin in the Church office the Monday of the week before you want it published.

Send your information to Robin at
office@uccsc.com.

Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Worship at First Presbyterian Church, Sun City

Ash Wednesday



Photo Credit: Brady Abel

Area Pastors Participating:

L to R front row: Ann Utke, Brett Winters, Bill Utke,
Mark Makowski

L to R back row: Paul Whitlock, Brady Abel

Find the Cross †

Each month we will hide a cross
somewhere in the Newsletter.

Either in the writing, in a picture,
it could be anywhere!

Enjoy trying to find it
but don't tell your friends..
they will have to find it on their own!

(February location was on the thermometer page
at the top in the A/V Experts box.)

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Sunday, March 1 at 11:00 am

THANK YOU



\$54,300 Goal!

\$15,700

Additional Point and Zoom Cameras and updated camera program.

\$4,800

Replace and upgrade Video Projector to a Laser projector

\$30,523

Replace and upgrade wireless mics and mic systems with recharging stations.
Replace and upgrade the digital sound board, stage monitors and sound system processor.



\$30,777!!

\$25,000 Council & Congregation approved funds from the 2025 7% Endowment Allocation

Funds raised so far:

Donations \$3,582

Spaghetti Dinner \$710

TLC Concert \$431

Cookie Walk \$341

Craft Fair \$556

Christmas Party Raffle \$157

Total
\$5,777



March BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Barb Grant	3/01
Denise Hollen	3/01
Carol Archer	3/06
Laura Hamrick	3/07
Alison Jacobs	3/09
Sue Johnson	3/12
Jerry Walter	3/13
Pat Koopmans	3/21
Sharon Wachs	3/21
Marian Gilbert	3/23
Ron Patton	3/24
Millie Carlson	3/25
Floyd Ellison	3/28
Ann Moridt	3/29
Carol Durocher	3/20
Rozanne Freeman	3/31
Jim Gray	3/31



Ron & Kayla Wiebold	3/02
Davi & Line Wirth	3/28



Photo Credit: Robin Lemkau

On Sunday, February 15, the family of Joyce Symmonds joined us for a very special worship and committal service in our Memorial Garden. Joyce was a member of UCCSC since September 24, 2023. Joyce's family and her friends here at United Church will remember her with great fondness and we will enjoy her beautiful floral arrangements for years to come.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 1:00 pm
George's Lakeview Café.
10502 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City

March is Women's History Month...
Remembering history makers
and barrier breakers.

All are welcome!
Please RSVP Hedy Hall
or the Church office



Meets Tuesday,
March 3 at 8:00 am

MEN'S BREAKFAST

George's Lakeview Café
10502 W. Thunderbird Blvd. Sun City
All are Welcome!

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 LENT</p> <p>8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 11:00 am New Member Class 11:00 am Fellowship Worship online</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in the Beehive</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast George's Lakeview Cafe</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group</p>	<p>5</p> <p>11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in Beehive</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>9:30 am Matter of Balance</p>	<p>7</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>
<p><i>Art Auction in the Beehive all Month!</i></p>						
<p>8 LENT</p> <p>8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with New Member Reception 11:00 am Fellowship with All Church Birthday Cupcakes! Worship online</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive 2:00 Activities Board Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:30 am Sun Health In-Home Care</p> <p>1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in the Beehive</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 9:00 Finance Meeting 9:00 Mission Meeting 10:00 Council Meeting 1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in Beehive 1:00 pm Ladie's Lunch at George's Cafe</p>	<p>13</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>14</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>
<p>15 LENT</p> <p>8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Healing Service 11:00 am Fellowship Worship online</p>	<p>16 Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in the Beehive</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in Beehive</p>	<p>20</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>21</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>
<p>22 LENT</p> <p>8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Volunteer Appreciation 11:00 am Fellowship Worship online</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive</p>	<p>24</p> <p>1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in the Beehive</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in Beehive</p>	<p>27</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>28</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>10:00 am Cantata Practice</p>
<p>29 PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>7:30 Orchestra Practice 8:30 Cantata Practice 10:00 am Easter Cantata with the Phoenix Symphony 11:00 am Fellowship Worship online</p> <p><i>Art Auction ends today.</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive</p> <p>1:30 pm Mary Ann Fairbanks Memorial in the Chapel and Committal in the Memorial Garden</p>	<p>31</p> <p>1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in the Beehive</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group</p>	<p>April 2</p> <p>11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 1:00 pm SilverSneakers Exercise Class in Beehive</p> <p>Maundy Thursday Ecumenical Worship at United Church at 5:00 pm</p>	<p>3 Good Friday</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>4</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>

*United Church of Sun City
11250 N. 107th Ave., Ste. 105
Sun City, AZ 85351*



March 2026

STAFF:

**Rev. Brady Abel, Senior Pastor
Greg Bradley, Moderator
Heather Purtle, Vice Moderator
Bill Zimmer, Past Moderator
Alan Paulson, Minister of Music
Beverly Fletcher, Organist**

**Praise Team: Kira Kadel-Funk, Brenda Goodenberger, Michael Nanney
Robin Lemkuil Office Manager/Asst. to the Pastor
Craig Zimmerman & Boni Locke, Office Assistants
Lisa Dunbar, Parish Nurse
Dickie Duniver, Custodian
Holly Lentini, Assistant Custodian
Greg Yagi, Lester Atkinson and Robin Lemkuil, Audio/Video Tech**

All Members & Friends of United Church, Ministers of the Good News

**Office Hours 8:30 am to 1:30 pm —Monday through Thursday
The office is closed on Friday and Major Holidays
Sunday Worship Service 10 am in the Sanctuary and also online.
Coffee Fellowship—After Worship
Communion the 1st Sunday of each Month
Bible Study—Thursday 11:00 am each week**

Phone: 623-933-0058

Email: Office@uccsc.com

Website: uccsc.com

**Facebook: United Church of Sun City
YouTube: United Church of Sun City**

