



PASTOR'S POST

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

*"For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven" Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSV.*

Greetings,

A few Sundays ago, I preached from Luke's Gospel about the healing of the ten lepers (Luke 17:11–19). It's a story about mercy, faith, and above all, gratitude.

I started that sermon with a little guessing game: who wrote *The Jungle Book*? (It was Rudyard Kipling). Kipling once had a reporter tell him that someone had calculated he made over a hundred dollars a word from his writings. The reporter handed him a \$100 bill and said, "Give me one of your hundred-dollar words." Kipling looked at the bill, slipped it into his pocket, and said, "Thanks."

That's a pretty good word, isn't it?

In that story from Luke, ten people were healed, but only one came back to say thanks, and he was the last person anyone expected to, a Samaritan. We often focus on the nine who didn't return, but I think it's more hopeful to focus on the one who did. One person noticed what God had done and turned around in gratitude.

I found this to be a good reminder for us as we move closer to Thanksgiving. Be that one. Pause long enough to see what God is doing, even in the ordinary, and give thanks.

There is no doubt in this 21st Century, we all have plenty to worry about, but gratitude has a way of putting life in perspective. When we stop and say, "thank you," we remember God's has been with us all along, and always will be.

So go ahead and say that priceless word often. "Thanks."

Giving Thanks,
Pastor Brady



*And speaking of thanks, "Thank You!"
for all the cards, kind words, messages,
gifts, and the cupcakes for
Pastor Appreciation Sunday.*

*I am touched by your thoughtfulness.
I am truly grateful for the opportunity to
serve United Church as Senior Pastor.*



Happy **November** from your Music Ministry!

We hope you enjoyed our selections for Broadway Sunday on October 19! That was a fun challenge for our choir, as we are also preparing for our big Christmas Cantata with the Phoenix Symphony on December 21st!

November, of course, brings thoughts of **Thanksgiving!** And family and food and giving thanks for what we have, without all the unnecessary spending and gifts associated with Christmas. My mom, Margaret Paulson, passed away a few days before Thanksgiving in 2003. Although that was very sad for our family, it gives me a little smile to think that she and God got together to plan her passing just before a day that my siblings and I would always remember and to give thanks for having such a wonderful mother in our lives. As a hard-working farming mother of seven, she never let us realize how poor we were. Although, with three older brothers, I got an awful lot of "hand-me-downs." She also is responsible for my strong faith and my love of music. I can still remember when I was four and five years old following her chubby fingers along the music, finding all the words to all the verses of our favorite hymns when we were singing in church.



Photo Credit: Alan Paulson

Many of you know I was an elementary music teacher for 42 years, and although Thanksgiving is basically a Christian holiday, I always used it to teach patriotic songs to be grateful for the wonderful country we live in. I always had administrators who would let me bend the rules a bit so we could include songs with lyrics like "God shed His Grace on Thee" etc. My primary students always enjoyed it when, with about five minutes left of class time, I would say "OK, you can't line up to leave until you tell me something you're grateful for!" Several kids in each class would routinely say they are thankful for "Jesus" or "God" or "my church" ...maybe that was for me more than them!!

In His Glory,

Alan Paulson, Minister of Music



Sunday, November 9 at 10:00 am

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



Greetings from your Parish Nurse....

It is November already! You may have noticed that the “Grateful Tree” is not on the window this year. Nor will I meet you at the door each week to think of one thing for which you are grateful. I will miss that experience as I was able to hear many of the stories of the wonderful things that were happening in the lives of our congregation. Some big things, but mostly, just the thankfulness for the day to day things. For being able to get up in the morning, or to laugh with friends. To have food to eat or to spend special time with friends and family.

Just because we don’t have the grateful tree here, it doesn’t mean that I am not going to remind you to be grateful! In Psalm 136, we see a responsive reading—where the worship leader called out something to give thanks to God for, and the congregation responded with “His faithful love endures forever”. Read it and look at all the reasons the nation of Israel had to give thanks to God.

But don’t stop there! Let your November be a time to be grateful to God. Pull out a small notebook and for this month, write down something you are grateful for each day! You can do it! It’s not hard to find something—but write it down. And then respond with your praise of God who gives that gift—“His faithful love endures forever”. That response is something we can hang on to as we go through the good days but also the difficult or frustrating days. Even the days in which we see no way forward. Can we find one thing on those days to be thankful for? And can we remember that His faithful love endures forever? That He will never stop pouring His love out to us—even when things are at their worst? That He is with us throughout it all, loving us and giving us daily gifts for which we can be thankful?

Write it down. What will happen if you are full of gratefulness this month?

Also, on **Tuesday, November 11** at 10:30 am, Sun Health will be here with a presentation by Diane Walton from Hospice of the Valley on “Coping with Grief through the Holidays”. This is not just for those who have lost someone close recently (although we know there are many within our congregation with that experience), but for all of us that may be grieving something in our lives. A loss of ability to do what we would like, a loss of purpose as we retire or a loss of independence. There are many kinds of losses that we face at this time in our lives.

The presentation this group had about grief earlier this year was so helpful that we invited them back to look specifically at grieving during the holiday time. Please join us for information and sharing as we look at this pervasive concern.

Lisa Dunbar, Parish Nurse



Mission Board



THANK YOU



Photo Credit: Brady Abel

BLANKET & SOCK DRIVE

Thank you to all who donated towards the Blanket and Sock Drive this year!

79 blankets and **211** pairs of socks were collected for Thrive, AZ and Dysart Community Center.

The Mission Board thanks you for making a difference in the lives of so many individuals.



Let us set the HARVEST TABLE on Sunday, November 23

BOUNTIFUL HARVEST SUNDAY, **November 23rd**. Please bring to worship fresh vegetables, fruits and non-perishable food items. All donations will be given to Valley View Food Bank helping our Sun City neighbors set a Bountiful Thanksgiving Day table.

What a wonderful way to honor the holiday spirit and share blessings with neighbors in crisis; a reason to feel grateful this Thanksgiving Day. Thank you, from your Mission Board, for making this Mission a place of hope.



Thanks
with a
grateful
heart



Fry's Community Rewards

Did you know you could partner with Frys and provide income for your church with every dollar you spend at the grocery store?

Once you link your Fry's card to our church, all you have to do is shop at Fry's and swipe your Shopper's Card.

Visit <http://www.frysfood.com/> or call them at 623-907-4965.

This quarter, United Church has earned \$32.69 shopping rewards from Kroger!



Community Rewards Program



Join us on Tuesday, **November 11 at 10:30 am** in the Beehive, as Sun Health presents:
Coping with Grief During the Holidays

The holidays are often difficult for grieving families. Be gentle with yourself—and learn how to develop strategies for moving through a challenging season. This presentation is offered by Diane Walton from Hospice of the Valley, right in our own Beehive.

On Tuesday, October 14, Tara Lakes, OTR/L, from Banner Rehabilitation spoke about how strokes are the leading cause of disability and can affect your the mental, emotional, and physical health. She explained how occupational therapy helps survivors to regain daily independence.

Sun Health Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Arizona nonprofit organization supporting the health and wellbeing of the West Valley. Learn more at: SunHealthFoundation.org



“A MIGHTY CHANGE OF HEART”

Again this year, the recipients of our Angel Tree Gifts will be going to foster children through an organization called *A Mighty Change of Heart*. They are a mission to make a profound difference in the lives of foster children in the State of AZ. With over 14,500 children currently in the foster care system and more joining every day, the need for support and resources has never been greater. While many dedicated foster parents open their hearts and homes to these children, the challenges they face due to limited state support and resources can be overwhelming. Often, when a child enters the system, they carry with them very little, if anything, in terms of worldly possessions, placing a heavy financial burden on foster families. This is where *A Mighty Change of Heart* steps in to provide hope and assistance.

The most urgent needs include diapers, wipes and blankets but can also include essential items such as shampoo, toys, toothbrushes/paste, and shoes in all sizes. (New items only)

Grab a tag(s) off the Angel tree, or just shop for any of the supplies listed (not child specific) and return your unwrapped items to Church no later than **December 21**. Include a small toy, soft blanket or new stuffed animal to warm the heart of a foster child and make this Christmas special in the hearts of the giver and the receiver.

For more information, visit *A Mighty Change of Heart* website at: amchaz.org.

Thank you for your participation in this life-changing mission at United Church of Sun City.



Photo Credits: Kristi Geiger



Sunday, September 28, 2025

**Pastor Brady welcomes three new members:
Joan Paulsen, Nadja Irons and Douglas Eichorn**



It must be fall!!!

Thank you Nadja Irons, Joyce Symmonds, Liz Scriven and Diane Gahm! What a beautiful fall tree to decorate our Sanctuary!!! They also decorate our fellowship tables for each season!



Broadway Sunday was a Spectacular Show!

In case you missed it, United Church Music Ministry put on a spectacular

Broadway performance on Sunday, October 19!

Pastor Brady's message was from 1 Corinthians about love, with comparison to the classic movie and Broadway production of *The Sound of Music*.

Thank you Choir and Praise Team for sharing with us your musical talents, creativity and emotional renditions of our favorite **Broadway** hits!



Ladies Lunch celebrated October in their Halloween costumes and fall themed clothing! What a great crowd gathered for delicious food, fellowship and door prizes!!

Pictured around the table from left: Karen Fiori, Diane Gahm, Joyce Symmonds, Mary Segers-Koscielny, Barb Norton, Ginger Dawson, Jean Cross, Sara Ward, Mary Sue Andreason, Heather Purtle, Kris Purtle, Liz Scriven and Hedy Hall.



Let Us Break Bread Together



Photo Credit: United Church of Sun City

Sunday, October 5 was World Communion Sunday. At United Church, Pastor Brady lead Holy Communion by breaking bread with the congregation using breads from around the world: German Pumpernickel, French Baguette, Mideastern Pita, Jewish Rye, Italian Focaccia, Sourdough and wafers. After worship, the various breads were available for sampling during our Fellowship time.



ARE YOU A VETERAN?

Thank you for your service!

In honor of our Veterans, we have established a "Veterans Honor Wall" on the south side of the Sanctuary.

If you are a Veteran, we would like to include you and recognize you for your service.

Please provide us with a service picture and a current picture of yourself (we would be happy to take a picture of you) and we will post it along with your service details.

Veterans will be recognized during Worship on Sunday, November 9, 2025



In the July 2024 Issue of our Newsletter, we posted an article called **Project Cross** requesting different, unusual, meaningful crosses to add to the wall in the Beehive. We've had an incredible response and our wall is looking great!!

If you have a cross you'd like to donate, you are welcome to bring it in and we'll hang it up for you!



Photo Credit: Robin Lemkuil



Do you have a favorite cross you would like to share with United Church?

We continue to look for different, unusual, meaningful crosses to add to the wall in the Beehive.

We would love to see your cross as part of our Cross Collage. **(no Crucifix's please)**

- ✚ Crosses should be 12 inches high or less.
- ✚ We will hang your cross for you.
- ✚ Your donated cross will be proudly displayed with the rest (but it will not be returned to you.)
- ✚ Help us continue our **Cross Collage!**

COMMUNION at United Church

Please join us on
Sunday, November 2nd
at 10:00 am
All are welcome!



Are you in need of

Pastoral Care

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

Stewardship Sunday is November 2, 2025

While there are many ways to support United Church, our annual **Stewardship Campaign** provides a chance to think in a particular and prayerful way about the choices we make in support of our Church.

Your financial gifts make possible all the programs, projects, ministry and worship experiences that define our community life. As well as administrative expenses like air conditioning, campus maintenance, including the Memorial Garden, and general repairs and expenses.

Deciding how much of our income to donate to charitable organizations can be difficult. Our faith tradition lifts up the model of a tithe, a percentage of one's income to charity. Know that part of your gifts to United Church go towards community mission projects (see our newsletter every month for details on mission projects we participate in regularly).

You can give to United Church without turning in a commitment card. So, why write down your intention for the coming year? Of course, telling the church about our intention helps leaders plan. But we ask you to write down your intentions for another reason. We ask you to return a commitment card because it connects you to the mission and ministry of our congregation. Returning your commitment card affirms with all of your being that you are part of our response to God's dream.

Please watch your mailbox for **Stewardship** materials. Prayerfully consider your pledge, and return your pledge card on/before **Loyalty Sunday, December 14.**

Dreaming God's Dream

NO GIFT TOO SMALL, NO DREAM TOO BIG.



Help us
decorate for
Christmas!
9:00 am
on Monday
November 24
in the
Sanctuary!

The deadline for the
December Newsletter:
Monday, November 17.



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.

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!

(October location was on the School Supply page,
top right mixed in with the school supplies)

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Sunday, November 2 at 11:00 am



Mary Mitchell	11/11
Linda Nelson	11/11
Mindy Ochoa	11/14
Barbara Rainey	11/17
Dean Stryker	11/18
Karen Crawford	11/20
Kris Purtle	11/20
Beverly Eaton	11/23
Diana Weaver	11/25
Greg Bradley	11/26
Leslie Chrissan	11/30



Dick & Dorothy Murray	11/03
Stephen & Rose LaPlant	11/29



At United Church, we offer a Healing Service several times a year. Our Healing Service is not about a cure, but about God providing what we most need. Healing does not mean your injury or illness is gone forever and never existed. Instead, healing means that your injury or illness has less control over your life.

We acknowledge that God knows our needs before we ask, but in our asking, prepares us to receive the gift of God's grace. Trusting in God's presence with us, we can be assured that no matter what we face, some form of healing is always possible. It may be in the form of reconciliation, peace, resilience, contentment, a lessening of fear, the gift of clarity, the ability to accept, or something else.

Join us on **Sunday, November 16** during our regular 10:00 am worship, for a service of healing with anointing of oil. Participation is optional, healing is essential. *Pastor Brady*

*"God isn't asking you to figure it out.
God's asking you to trust that He already has."*

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Thursday, October 9
at 1:00 pm

George's Lakeview Café
10502 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City
All Are welcome!



Please RSVP Hedy Hall
or the church office



Thanksgiving Word Scramble

Unscramble the Thanksgiving words and then use the highlighted letters to form the secret message. You will have to unscramble the message as well.

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Answer Key: Cornucopia; Harvest; November; Pilgrim; Turkey; Cranberry; Mayflower; Plymouth; Holiday; Wampanoag; Pumpkin Message: Thank You For This Day!



November 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 OFFICE CLOSED
2 Stewardship Sunday 8:15 Praise Team 10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 11:00 am New Member Class Worship online	3 1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive	4 8:00 am Men's Breakfast George's Lakeview Cafe 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive	5 10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group	6 No Bible study today. 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8 OFFICE CLOSED
9 8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Veterans recognized and new members received Worship online	10 1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm Activities & Fellowship Board meets 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive	11 Veterans Day OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 am Sun Health Presents: Coping with Grief during the Holidays in the Beehive 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive	12 10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group	13 9:00 Finance Meeting 9:00 Mission Meeting 10:00 Council Meeting 11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 1:00 pm Ladies Lunch George's Lakeview Café 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15 OFFICE CLOSED
16 8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Healing Service Worship online	17 Newsletter Deadline 1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive	18 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive 5:00 pm New Member Dinner	19 10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group	20 11:00 am Bible study Pastor's study 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22 OFFICE CLOSED
23 Harvest Table 8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Worship online	24 9:00 am Church Decorating 1:00 pm Walking group 2:00 pm TAI CHI in the Beehive	25 1:00 pm Senior Exercise Class in Beehive	26 10:00 Converse and Connect 12:00 Power of the Pause 1:00 pm Walking group	27 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED 	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 First Sunday of Advent 8:00 Praise Team 8:40 Choir Practice 10:00 am Worship with Worship online	Notice: The Wednesday night AA Meeting Group has dissolved and will no longer be meeting at our location.			 New Member Class Veterans Day Sun Health: Coping with Grief Healing Service Harvest Table All Church Christmas Decorating Thanksgiving First Sunday of Advent		

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



November 2025

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

