

Desert Chapel

NEWSLETTER

April 2024

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How to Worship With Us

Worship Service
Every Sunday at 9am

On Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/DesertChapelUMC>

YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/@danieledwards5059>

From Pastor Philip's Pen

Perspective. It's what the photographer sees through his viewfinder and it's what the artist senses to portray when they paint a picture.



It's your view on your world -- the angle from which you are looking. Our education, culture, age, religion, and geography can affect it.

I've been thinking about perspective since we celebrated Easter and the resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ. Sometimes this question of perspective is oversimplified to be - Are you a glass half-full or glass half-empty person? These oversimplifications tend to be inaccurate. What is your perspective on your faith? What is your perspective on Desert Chapel?

The weather is getting hotter and the days are getting longer. Our friends and family who live up north have started the journey back home. We pray for their safe travels and we will miss them while they are gone then rejoice when they return. Are we feeling sad with their absence?

When I first got here last July - - a well-intentioned parishioner said "We are a loving but dying church." I hope that perspective has changed. My perspective is that we are a loving and growing church that has emerged from the shadows of the pandemic.

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Apache Junction is adding new homes and subdivisions as we speak, with at least 25,000 new homes planned in the next two years. How do we welcome them with “open doors, open hearts and open minds?”

Our faith community is serving food and providing clothing to the needy every Saturday. Our attendance numbers have been steady and increasing, and we see fresh faces in the pews as you’ve invited your neighbors and your friends and people down the street.

Peggy will graciously offer a laity-led Bible study on Philippians during the week (thanks, Peggy!). Thanks to faithful donations and giving, we have new air-conditioning on the way and a new soundboard. My view is -- the sun is rising over Desert Chapel with exciting opportunities on the horizon. It’s our turn to pray fully decide what we do with those opportunities. We, all of us— everyone at Desert Chapel.

Soon we will have not only an air-conditioned and beautifully cleaned Narthex, but also Room 2 will be cleaned and ready for use. Would you consider leading a bible study for a few weeks? We extend the love of Christ with many hands and perspectives.

We’ve also begun conversations about taking communion to those who are homebound or hospital bound -- and look to build a small congregational care team. We are deeply grateful to Iris, Terry, Dave and Nancy for reinvigorating our office and making it alive and buzzing during the work-day as we organize, clean and present a friendly open door to the public during the week.

We are traveling from Easter to Pentecost; we are moving from the resurrection to a time when the Holy Spirit descended upon all of us to send us out to the world. It is that time where we consider the resurrection of our own and inner spirit and what we are called to do. Let us open our hearts to a new perspective -- a view of hope and opportunity and light.



Special Points of Interest

Average Attendance
119

Average Online Attendance
72

March Income
\$17,184.09

March Expenses
\$15,593.56



**Next
Leadership Board
Meeting**

Wednesday, May 8th

4:00pm–6:00pm

at the

Desert Chapel Narthex
462 N. Palo Verde Drive
Apache Junction, AZ
85120

Lay Leader Report

By: David Tom

I apologize for neglecting to write a newsletter piece for March. So, I will attempt to make this cover both, March and April. Besides, the March to April time is one of transition for Desert Chapel. That transition, basically, takes the form of a dramatic shift from a congregational size of 150 to a much smaller weekly attendance. That transition usually creates several challenges and opportunities for us, as leaders, as we try to plan and execute the worship and mission activities of Desert Chapel.

This year is no different, yet it seems so. There seems to be a revitalized spirit surrounding our Sunday worship, and a renewed dedication to our missions and outreach ministries. For awhile, I attributed this revitalization and renewal, to the return to normality after the devastation of the pandemic.

But lately, I see it more as a more fundamental return to prayer, worship and service. I don't want to overly dramatize the change and yet, I believe we all need to understand that Desert Chapel is embarking on a journey of planning, prayer, participation, and promotion that, with God's help, will truly make us "The Heart of Apache Junction".

For the first time in quite awhile, we have a handle on our infrastructure needs. Our air conditioning and heating shortcomings are known and are being addressed. Our other maintenance and custodial needs have been evaluated, and soon will have contractual services to meet those needs.

Our membership rolls are being updated and, our formal and informal communications practices are being enhanced. Our office operations have been evaluated, and are being slowly overhauled to better serve our congregation and community.

It is no secret that our sound system in the sanctuary, has periodic, if not constant, quality issues. Mike Gray, Paul Mosier, Pastor Philip, and others have been working with our preferred vendor to address these issues.

As of this week, a new sound board and associated wiring, and accessories, has been purchased.
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It is hoped that this new system will be seamless. Targeted completion date is Friday, April 12th.

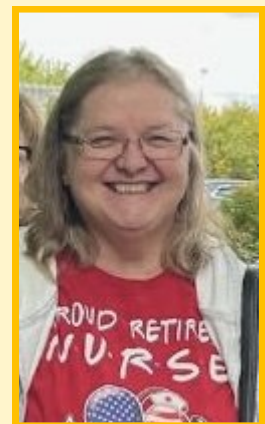
None of the above would/will be possible without the generous donations of expertise, time, money, and prayer from throughout our congregation. A shining example of such dedication is the work of "The Chargers", one of the longest continuing organizations at Desert Chapel. The Chargers conducted several breakfasts and special meals as they have done for many years. On Sunday, April 7, 2024, they donated \$2,600.00 to the Desert Chapel general fund!

So, as we transition on many fronts, we need to know that throughout our congregation, we have groups and individuals that are volunteering, working, planning, preparing, partnering, praying, and promoting Desert Chapel as "The Heart of Apache Junction".

Welcome Terry Toser & Iris McKinney

Hello! I would like to introduce myself. My name is Terry Toser. My husband, Alan, and I moved to Arizona from Wisconsin. We moved here to be closer to family. I have two daughters and 7 grandchildren. I recently, retired from a 43 year nursing career.

While in Wisconsin, I was an active member of my church's mission committee. After moving to Arizona, I was interested in becoming involved in my new church and was invited to become the new Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) representative. I hope to perform well and look forward to working with the church community.



Hi, my name is Iris McKinney. I know a few of you already as I have been a parishioner and volunteer at the church since January 2023. This past January, I became a new member of the church as well as a Member-At-Large of the Leadership Board. I am very excited for this role as it enables me to serve as an advocate for the public interest. I am grateful for the opportunity to be more involved in the church and look forward to supporting all of its loyal members by communicating any challenges, suggestions and/or compliments to the Leadership Board as I receive them. Please feel free to contact me at irismckinney1526@gmail.com
Thank you.

Hymnal

Submitted By: Eleanor Edwards

The information for this review came from the Companion To The United Methodist Hymnal by Carlton R. Young, google.com, www.popularhymns.com, and www.iiiaboutgoa.com

Victory in Jesus Eugene M. Barlett

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.” John 11:25

Since the early 1960’s, “Victory in Jesus” has become popular among evangelical congregations, and the recent hymnals published for these churches have included it.

According to the supplement to our hymnal, this song was included at a time when mainline Methodist churches were on the decline and evangelical and charismatic churches were increasing in membership.

“The whole matter of popular religious songs was so decisive that as with language, it was given to a special group of experts and practitioners to name, frame, and suggest the repertory in a proposal that could be considered by the hymnal subcommittee.”

The work of the committee was greatly aided by consultant Riley R. Case who had already conducted a survey in the churches in his mid-Indiana rural-small town district. This survey consisted of popular religious songs found in five widely used hymnals and songbooks. This led to the realization of the importance of being sensitive to the needs of small membership churches.

Our Methodist churches now sing music that has become more evangelical, conservative and culturally exclusive and seems to have led to a positive response from our worshippers.

Charles M. Smith referred to it as the most requested recent hymn from his district in North Carolina. This reviewer notes that it has become more often requested song during our pre-service hymn sing in our church.

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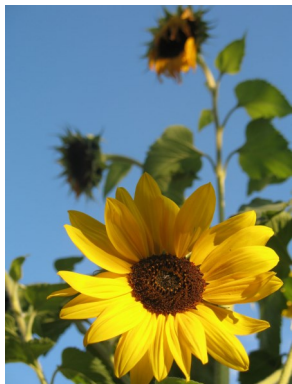
Philippians Bible Study

led by Peggy Cabrinha
On Thursdays at
10:30am - Noon
At Peggy’s home.

Please contact Peggy for
At (785) 626-0171
Or by email
peggycabrinha38@gmail.com

The words from this well-known hymn remind us that we can experience victory in Jesus every day of our lives. We have victory over death and its challenges. We can experience peace and joy in the midst of the trials and difficulties that confront us.

Mr. Bartlett, was born on Christmas Eve of 1885. He wrote this song, his last one, in 1939. He was a well-known gospel singer, writer, teacher, editor, and publisher. He was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1979.



If heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,
how he gave his life on Calvary to save a wretch like me;
I heard about his groaning, of his precious blood's atoning,
then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!
he sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;
he loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;
he plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

Community Outreach Ministries at Desert Chapel

Donations & Items Needed

Used items in good condition are fine. Please clean the clothes before donating.

Men's slim size (30-34) jeans
Men's small t-shirts and underwear in all sizes, towels.

Bicycles are also needed, in good working condition.

For the Blessing Box,
"Pop Top" cans of fruit, canned meat, tuna, small packages of crackers and PB snacks.

Community Feast serves a meal every Saturday, 11:00am - 2:00pm, in our dining hall. We feed "hungry people". Many are homeless, several elderly people in our community, low-income people, and people that just enjoy a good meal and fellowship time with others. (It's lonely eating by yourself all the time)

Our Clothing Closets continue to serve those in need with clothing, shoes, blankets, pillows, and more. Open every Saturday from 10:00am - 2:00pm.

The Blessing Box, near the sidewalk on Palo Verde, has been a big help to many people. It is filled with canned goods and non-perishable foods. Everyday people visit the Blessing Box, taking what they need. Numerous hungry people that are homeless, stop by often.

Volunteers Needed. Many of our volunteers are Winter residents. They are leaving. We have so many opportunities to serve in our ministries.
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VOLUNTEER





Chris, volunteer in Men's clothing room, helping Roy find a nice shirt.

If you would like to be “up front and personable” with people, Saturday is your day. You can work in the clothing closets or help in the kitchen or dining room.

If you feel led to serve by the Lord and you're more comfortable helping “behind the scenes”, we always appreciate the help. Sorting or organizing in our clothing closets, weekdays.

Kitchen prep, **early Friday or Saturday** mornings (7:00am - 9:00am). Help sort out Salvation Army food donations, Fridays around 12:00pm. (We will call or text you to confirm)

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS! Several of our volunteers attend Desert Chapel UMC (DCUMC). Many have been serving on Saturdays for several years now. There are also several volunteers from our community, they started and “go hooked”. God called them to serve and they do it with a Happy Heart and smile.

If you would like more information on donating or volunteering, please call Nancy January at (715) 492-



Ladies from DCUMC getting our giveaway food items table ready for Saturday customers.



Sandy attends Velda Rose UMC. Her group of ladies make homemade sleeping bags. They have donated many to our DC ministry.



Volunteer Dorothy visiting with friends at the Community Feast, Howard and Wayne.



Our own DCUMC Barber, Ric Kayer, gave Joe a much needed haircut. Joe is Irish and a Korean War Veteran. He went on a Honors Flight to Washington, DC. Joe is a college grad and taught history from Minnesota.



Link & Olma (mother) She is visiting from San Diego. Link hopes to convince his Mother to

New Soundboard



Here's our very own Paul Mosier happily posing with a new soundboard.

After 30 years, we have a new soundboard, thanks to a generous and loving donor. As with any new technology - - it will probably take a few weeks to work the bugs out, but we are over the moon excited!

Our first service with the new soundboard was Sunday, April 14th and already we saw improved sound both, in the Sanctuary and on the Facebook / YouTube videos, for our online worship community.

Thank you to all who support the mission and ministry of Desert Chapel -- good things are happening here!

We offer thanks to the faithful and generous donors of the past who gave us the soundboard that faithfully served Desert Chapel for 30 years, and we look forward to new sounds in the future!



April

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6  Clothing Closets 10am - 2pm Community Feast 11am - 2pm 
7 Worship Service 9am 	8	9	10 Board Meeting 4pm	11	12	13  Clothing Closets 10am - 2pm Community Feast 11am - 2pm 
14 Worship Service 9am 	15	16	17	18	19	20  Clothing Closets 10am - 2pm Community Feast 11am - 2pm 
21 Worship Service 9am 	22	23	24	25	26	27  Clothing Closets 10am - 2pm Community Feast 11am - 2pm 
28 Worship Service 9am 	29	30				

Prayer Requests

We are a praying congregation. We encourage you to share your praises, concerns and prayer requests with the congregation. There are several ways to do this.

1. Place a prayer request under Prayer Bear before service.
2. You can place a prayer request in the offering plate.
3. You may send a prayer request to the church's email address at info@desertchapelumc.org
4. You can call the Church Office and leave a message at (480) 982-2259.



Ways to Give 🙏

We give to the church as the embodiment of our Lord here on earth, to support its good works. Giving is a form of spiritual discipline - akin to prayer, church attendance, and doing charitable works - helps you to grow in your faith. There are several ways to give:

Giving In-Person: 🌀

Certainly, our preferred method is for you to join us for services at 9:00am and provide your gift there. We love seeing you!



Give By Mail: 📧

You can mail your gift to the church office. Please mail your offering to:
Desert Chapel UMC, 462 N. Palo Verde Drive, Apache Junction, AZ 85120

Give via Online Banking: 💻

Many banking institutions offer online banking. Via online banking, you can schedule checks to be mailed automatically, no stamps needed! Add Desert Chapel UMC to your list of payees for bill pay from your checking account through your bank for weekly or monthly gifts to the church.

When you set up Desert Chapel to receive, use this address:
Desert Chapel UMC, 462 N. Palo Verde Drive, Apache Junction, AZ 85120

Give Online using Subsplash: 🖱️

Using the online option via Subsplash, you can provide a bank or credit card for payment and arrange auto-payments on your schedule. Click the "Subsplash" button at: <http://desertchapelumc.org/giving/> to set it up and manage it!

Thank you for your generosity! If you have any questions, call the office at (480) 982-2259 or email info@desertchapelumc.org.



PASTOR
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Desert Chapel UMC
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