



# Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

Sun Lakes, Arizona

April 4, 2023

Kairos Vol. 8, Issue #13

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## We Are A Thriving United Methodist Church

Friends,

An e-mail tells me that Easter comes together better at (business) through coupons for beautiful baskets of candies in various shapes. From baskets to bunnies, find them at (business.) The punch line said, "***Don't forget the Easter essentials!***" While I totally agree with the sentiments of the punch line, I completely disagree that you will find Easter essentials at any store in the metro.



**Easter is not about shopping** for candy and bunnies as much as these items are used as gimmicks to bring people in to buy.

**Easter is about a God** who loves the world so much God gave the best God could give in the person of Jesus Christ.

**Easter confirms Jesus** shows us the fullness of love by dying on a cross to show us there are no limits to the power of God's love.

**Easter confirms a meal** in an upper room when Jesus took bread and broke it giving it to his disciples telling them it was his body broken for them.

**Easter is foreshadowed** by trumped-up charges of treason to get the state to do for religious leaders what they could not do themselves.

**Easter is foreshadowed** by a cross on a hill where two thieves and the Son of God were crucified.

**Easter is about a grave**, sealed with the seal of the greatest power in the world of that day, the Roman government, being broken open by an even greater power, the power of God's love to transcend even death.

**Easter is a promise** that death is not the final victor in life. Death is only the doorway through which one experiences resurrection.

**Don't forget the Easter essentials!!!**

Marvin

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**Join us for Holy Week!**

**Sun Lakes United Methodist Church**  
9248 E Riggs Road, Sun Lakes  
(480) 895-8766 [sunlakesumc.org](http://sunlakesumc.org)

**Palm Sunday · April 2 · 9:00 am**

**Maundy Thursday · April 6 · 6:30 pm**  
at Chandler UMC 450 E Chandler Heights

**Good Friday · April 7 · 6:30 pm**

**Easter Sunday · April 9 · 9:00 am**

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**UNISON PRAYER**



Merciful and loving God, help us cultivate a discipline of silence in these moments of prayer with you. Open our ears to hear your still small voice, guiding us in our life's journey. Lift us from a depressing sense of loneliness that can so often creep in as we face the realities of each day. Help us recognize your eternal companionship which Jesus promised will never leave nor forsake us. Lift our eyes to see beyond the brief moments of discouragement, heartache, despair, and struggle, to the reality of eternal truths and the greater good. Make us sensitive to your ongoing love and care for us. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



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## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



If you are interested in joining Sun Lakes United Methodist Church, please stop and visit Pastor Marvin or call the Church Office at (480) 895-8766.

# THE GAZEBO



MAR 21 - MAY 23, 2023

**Sign up by Thursday, April 10 to reserve your ticket to the Hale Theater production of "The Gazebo".** The performance date is Monday, April 24 at 4:00 pm.

***This comedy/thriller has kept audiences guessing since it opened! A writer of TV whodunnits with an eye for inventing the perfect crime finds himself trying to pull off the perfect crime to protect his wife who is being blackmailed. Filled with intrigue, mystery, and sheer hilarity—you'll love the clever twists and turns of this unique whodunnit! Debbie Reynolds and Glen Ford starred in this hit movie.***

Tickets are (\$35) and must be paid by Monday, April 10, are first come first served, and are non-refundable.

Ride-sharing is encouraged.

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### **It is time to dust off your dancing shoes!**

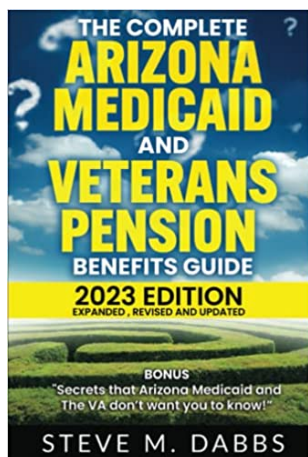
Mark your calendar for Tuesday, April 11, in Lindsay Hall to enjoy the sweet sounds of *The Swinging Memories Band*, a Glen Miller-style, 16-member Big Band!

*The Swinging Memories Band* is comprised of talented musicians who love to play great music and enjoy playing for audiences. They performed during last year's ice cream social. Dance or just relax and enjoy the music.

**The band will begin at 4:00 pm**, dinner will be served at 5:00 pm with the music starting at 5:30 pm. If you are going to join us for dinner, be sure to sign up in Lindsay Hall or call the Church Office at (480) 895-8766 so we have enough food for everyone!

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### **STEPHEN MINISTER RETREAT - PUBLIC WELCOME!**



Do not miss the Stephen Minister Retreat, a Sun Lakes Community event on Wednesday, April 12 at 9:00 am in Lindsay Hall!

In this 2-hour session, Steve Dabbs, a certified Medicare specialist and accredited claims agent by the Department of Veteran's Affairs will present a book he has written with the newest 2023 benefits available to individuals and offers real-world examples that are easy to understand. This book includes all the newest updates and will be provided to all attendees.

A One Medical Seniors Care outreach specialist will present a description of their services, information on their dedicated office in Sun Lakes for those who are on Medicare, and the use of a multi-faceted team specializing in the unique challenges of senior care using primary care

physicians, health coaches, and other healthcare professionals.

Sheryl Keeme, Executive Director of Neighbors Who Care will share how we as a community in Sun Lakes can best work together to provide care to ourselves, our friends, neighbors, and families. How we can combine all the talents and services in the Sun Lakes community to provide the desired outcome for everyone!

Please R.S.V.P. to the Church Office at (480) 895-8766 so there will be enough materials for everyone.

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## **VETERANS CIRCLE OF HONOR NEWS**

The memorial service for WWII veteran Jack Holder, a decorated and celebrated Navy pilot, and a survivor of both Pearl Harbor and Midway, is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Friday, April 14 at Cornerstone Church, 1595 S. Alma School Road, Chandler, AZ 85286.



On that day a wreath will be placed in the Veterans Circle of Honor to thank Jack for the example he set, for his commitment, and for his service to the United States.

As a reminder, the Veterans Stand Down for 2023 will be held on April 28 from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Arizona Fairgrounds, 1826 W. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, April 19 at 2:00 pm, Room 3.

Howard Strouse  
Veterans Circle of Honor

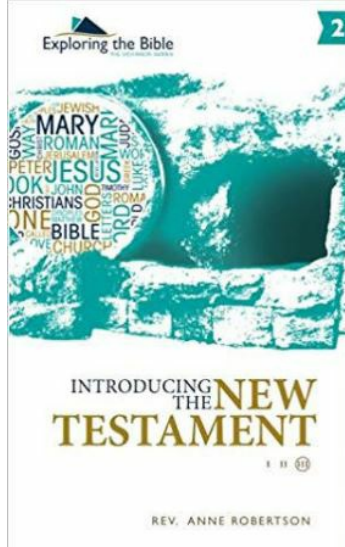
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## **INTRODUCING THE NEW TESTAMENT CLASS**

Join Rev. George and Cathy Smoot, on Wednesdays, beginning April 19 at 10:00 am in Room 4 for an exploration of the New Testament covering what Nazareth was like in the 1st century, what scholars know and don't know about Jesus, how Paul really wrote all those letters, as well as the wild and baffling book called Revelation.

Sign up in Lindsay Hall or call the Church Office at (480) 895-8766.



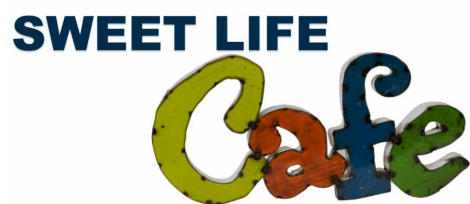


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## CONVERSATIONS WITH PASTOR MARVIN

Do you have burning questions about the Bible?  
About world issues? About local topics?

Join Pastor Marvin on Thursdays, beginning April 20 at 10:00 am for a lively, 6-week discussion on any number of topics and see what questions others might have and their views on the topic. Sign up in Lindsay Hall or call the Church Office at (480) 895-8766.



Sweet Life Cafe will begin after Easter on Thursday, April 20, from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm in Room 4.

The study will be the *History and Archaeology of the Bible*, over a 6-week period we will cover the world as it was in the book of Genesis and Exodus.

This video study is presented by lecturer Jean-Pierre Isbouts, DLitt a National Geographic Historian. Sign up in Lindsay Hall or call the Church Office at (480) 895-8766.

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# TODAY, I AM GRATEFUL FOR...

If you've been in one of our Lenten study groups reading Adam Hamilton's *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, you may recall these words from a recent chapter: "There are two words that summarize the heart of the Christian response to God: thank you. These two words describe the essence of worship. They help us understand how we are meant to live our lives. But how hard it is to remember them."

Below are some responses of those in our congregation who remembered:

- Overcoming some of my grief, but hoping others can someday feel the presence of knowing the same. God has given me the strength to do this.
- The sunny and warmer days in Sun Lakes.
- The wonderful music of the Red Mountain Brass, our bell and vocal choirs, and our associate pastor.
- The wonderful love and fellowship at the Ladies Retreat, and my family arriving today and Sunday.
- Living in this great country and the beautiful world God has created.
- Red light delay periods, reverse lights on cars, and you who are reading this journal.
- Our senior pastor and his inspiring messages. Also, for the music director, organist, and bell choir director and their talents.
- I can come here to exercise. There was a long period when we could not gather at all!
- Today's wonderful breeze. It reminded me of Illinois!
- Our Missions group for all the work they do for those in need, as well as for all of those that we can help.

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## **THANK YOU!**

Thanks so much for hosting your March blood drive! Your commitment to hosting American Red Cross blood drives is highly valued! The

American Red Cross thanks you for helping to save and improve lives!



At your recent drive, we collected 25 units of lifesaving blood, welcomed 7 first-time donors, and collected 12 units from type-O donors! Each unit of donated blood can help save more than one life, and we're so grateful for your contribution! What a great job on your first drive, congratulations!

With appreciation,

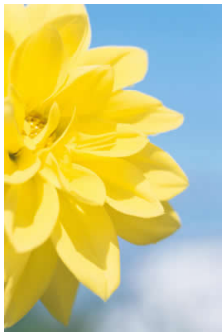
Daphne Mathew  
Account Manager II  
American Red Cross Blood Services  
(480) 209-4312 (c) | [daphne.mathew@redcross.org](mailto:daphne.mathew@redcross.org)

### CHURCH OFFICE

The Church Office will be closed Monday, April 10 for the Easter Monday holiday. Re-opening Tuesday, April 11 at 9:00 am.



### LOVE AND SYMPATHY



...to Barb Carruthers, family, and friends on the death of her husband, Rod Carruthers, Saturday, March 25. A memorial service will be held in the fall.

...to the Wagner family and friends on the death of Ethel Wagner, Sunday, March 12. A committal service will be held on Friday, April 21 at 11:30 am at Valley of the Sun Mortuary and Cemetery, 10940 E Chandler Heights.

[APRIL BIRTHDAYS](#)

[APRIL ANNIVERSARIES](#)

[APRIL CALENDAR](#)

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[CUSTOIAL REQUEST FORM](#)

[THE SLUMC SOCIAL SCENE](#)

**Sun Lakes United Methodist Church**

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Contact Our Staff



