

# Encanto Community Church

A United Church of Christ Congregation  
2710 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85007-1124  
602.266.4602

## The Pilgrim

### June Events

- June 4 Spanish/English 11:30 AM  
Pet Food Bagging
- June 10 Yard Sale Sorting 10 AM-Noon
- June 11 Graduation Sunday!  
Spanish/English 11:30 AM  
Deacons Meeting
- June 14 Trustees 6:15 PM  
Council 7 PM
- June 15 Nourish Phoenix 8:15 AM
- June 18 Happy Father's Day!  
Father's Day Lunch After Service  
Spanish/English 11:30 AM
- June 19 Happy Juneteenth!
- June 20 Newsletter Deadline
- June 21 Late Last Supper 6:30 PM
- June 25 Spanish/English 11:30 AM  
Outreach Meeting



## Father's Day Lunch

Enjoy lunch on Sunday, June 18th, following Worship Service. Lunch will include an assortment of sandwiches, chips, drink and cookies.

**WE ARE AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING  
CONGREGATION.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME  
HERE!**

### June 2023



#### Please Remember in Your Prayers:

Diane Boudle, Bill Edens, Jane Gempeler, Ron Jasper, Debbye Jones and Rev. Gloria Smith, Mildred Juncker, Carol Krietenstein, Linda, Rich Maxwell, Carl Madsen, George Penny, Patricia Probst, the Rigali Family, Cindy & Mike Robinson. Sean and Family, Nancy Studebaker, Shanti Sunderajan, Gavin V., Jay Gonzalez, Bill Willers, Encanto Community Church, Our Community, and Our World. May God's grace and healing touch be with you all.

### Late Last Supper

Our June culinary adventure for the **Encanto Church Late Last Supper Club** will take place at **6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, when we will join together for dinner at Babbo Italian Eatery located at 6855 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85016 – that's just south of Glendale on the east side of 16<sup>th</sup> Street.** If you've never been to Babbo's you will find that it is a delightful neighborhood restaurant that has delicious, traditional Italian food at reasonable prices. Not only does it have wonderful pastas, it also has good pizzas, salads, and calzones, as well as a good set of house wines. Come join us for a fun night out! Please let Kathy V. know if you'll be attending, so she can make the necessary reservations. Hope to see you there! Thanks!



# NEWS AND INFORMATION

## Treasurer's Report (General Fund for April 2023)

Beginning Balance: \$-4,326.35

Received: \$12,795.62

Disbursed: \$13,224.39

Ending Balance: \$-4,755.12

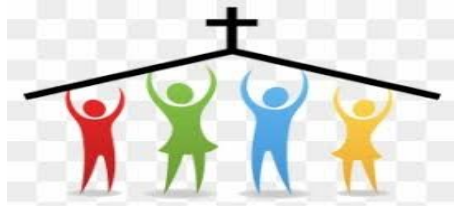
For a loss of: -\$428.72

### Total Offering Receipts for April 2023

4/2	4/9	4/16	4/23	4/30
\$4,367	\$2,108	\$2,466	\$1,840.62	\$1,024

There was no withdrawal from the Endowment account (\$68,468.21) during April 2023.

Copies of the monthly Treasurer's Reports, including a list of all disbursements, are on file in the office.



**Our conversational English and Spanish classes are now offered on Sundays after church.** If you are a non-English speaker who wants to learn basic conversational English, or if you are a non-Spanish speaker who wants to learn a bit of conversational Spanish, look for the study group that will be meeting during or after Fellowship Hour on Sundays after church.

Let's get ready to Bingo! Yeppers, there's bingo a-comin' next month, so mark your calendars on July 22 because you will certainly want to head over to ECC for some daubing and "bingo" yelling. Keep your eyes peeled for more specifics as they become available. Saturday, July 22, in Fellowship Hall, don't you dare miss it.



## Deacon on Duty

The Deacons are available to assist the pastor.  
The Deacon on duty for June is:

**Michelle Lusania**

**602-783-7507**

## Birthdays To Remember

### June

Todd Montague	2nd
Rosemary Bowman	3rd
Claudia Friscoe	3rd
Emily Morales	9th
Lauren Baber	12th
Jonathan Campos	18th
Shawn Bauer	24th

Happy Anniversary to Ed and Kathy Stock!  
They celebrate on June 15th!

This month, the **Yard Sale Sorting Squad** will be working in the basement of Fellowship Hall on Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Please join us as "many hands make light work." Also, please remember to enter Fellowship Hall via the rear kitchen door that morning, so you don't disturb the support group that will be meeting in the main area of the Hall. Thank you.

Congratulations to all of our May graduates, especially Sophie Martinez who graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College, Lluvia Morales-Torres who graduated from Alhambra High School, and Kalleen Fitzpatrick who graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Also, special kudos to Lisa Herrmann for completing her Mild to Moderate Disabilities Pre-K-12 teaching endorsement! We look forward to celebrating all of their accomplishments at a special **Graduation Sunday church service to be held on Sunday, June 11, 2023.**



Youth Tutoring Nights are on hiatus for the summer. Enjoy the vacation!

## TAKING GOD TO DINNER - PART TWO

by

*Kathy Van Etten*

(Church Treasurer)

As some of you may recall, I wrote the first of these articles in March of 2016, when we had just lost the tenancy of the Great Hope Korean Church who had been sharing our worship space for a couple of years. At that point, we also lost the rental income we were receiving from them (\$1,250 per month) which constituted about 10% of our monthly budget. Fortunately, over the years, we have been able to make up that deficit through various means. However, given our high insurance premiums (\$2,300 per month), I am concerned that we need to maintain our increased monthly income over the summer.

Yes, we have a reasonable endowment that was created from the bequests of many generous parishioners who have long since passed away, but that money is only to be used for true emergencies. If we are forced to use it merely to “make ends meet,” it will be gone very, very quickly. Consequently, I thought this would be a good time to re-run this article and ask for everyone’s help.

To reiterate my 2016 thoughts, here’s my suggestion about how to handle our current financial dilemma: Take God to Dinner!

Yes, I realize you don’t know what I’m talking about, but you will in a minute. Read on. . .

The reality is that \$1,250 per month is approximately 10% of our monthly budget. This is not an insignificant amount, but it is not an insurmountable one either. Indeed, if you run the numbers, this amount can be made up fairly easily if all of us contribute to the cause. If everyone simply donates a small additional amount every month, the problem will be solved.

How much should I give, you ask? My suggestion is to consider your donation in terms of what it would cost for you to take God to dinner once a week or once a month, depending upon your lifestyle. If you’re “feeling flush,” perhaps you would even spring for God, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost to join you for dinner!

Indeed, considering everything that God has done for each of us through our wonderful church, it’s not too much to ask that we “pick up the dinner tab” for a while in order to get us through the coming lean months.

I would further suggest that you seek guidance from the old Marxian philosophy: “From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.”

Consequently, if you are only able to take God to McDonald’s once in a while, put an extra \$10 in the offering plate for that week. On the other hand, if you are able to take God, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost to dinner at Durant’s, pitch an extra \$100 in the offering plate for the month – unless, of course, you are ordering drinks, in which case, you had better double that amount.

This may seem like a silly way to look at the matter, but I think you’ll find it quite practical.

At the end of the day, if twelve of us who are able to do so donate an extra \$100 to our beloved church every month for the next few months (perhaps, through September), we’ll get through the summer shortfall with relative ease, and we’ll be ready to embark on an exciting new chapter in the fall. Just a little food for thought . . .

Thank you for your consideration.

# Pastoral Ponderings

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible was introduced in 1989 as the most accurate revision of scriptures using the new scriptural, textual and philosophical knowledge gained since 1977 when the Revised Standard Version of the Bible was introduced. Since 1989, the advancements made through archeology, historic languages, the translation of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and textual concepts of writing has continued to expand.

In 2017, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States (NCC) “commissioned the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), the leading international association of biblical scholars, to review and update the *NRSV*. The SBL’s mandate and process were single-mindedly intended to ensure the currency and integrity of the *NRSVue* as the most up-to-date and reliable Bible for use and study in English-language religious communities and educational institutions.”

The New Revised Standard Version updated version (*NRSVue*) of the Bible is not a new translational but a revision of previous versions of the Bible dating back to the authorization of the King James Version of the Bible. Each revision since the KJV utilizes new concepts and knowledge to produce the most accurate Bible available in our day and age.

The *NRSVue* strives to be presented as scholarly and holy text that is accepted in the ecumenical and interfaith communities. “Shively T.J. Smith, a New Testament assistant professor at Boston University School of Theology who edited 1-3 John for the project, said she appreciated the range of voices that were heard and considered as the updated edition took shape. It attempts to reverse the historic trend in translation history from the 19th and 20th centuries in which some Christian communities and scholars of the Bible were historically excluded from the translation endeavors of our English Bibles.”

The *NRSVue* presents approximately 12,000 substantive edits and 20,000 total changes, which include alterations in grammar and punctuation. It also uses gender neutral text when appropriate but maintains the word “Lord” in order to retain authentic Judaic history.

The *NRSVue* was approved by the NCC Board in October of 2021. Print versions of the *NRSVue* was available as of mid-2022. You can also read a free version of the *NRSVue* at [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) along with 150 different versions of scripture in English and other world languages.

The quotes in this pondering are text provide by the NCC in press releases.

Blessings, Rev. Gloria

# Who the Hell Are You?

by Rev. Dr. Steve Barrett

## Emily Morales, We Are Proud of You!

There are not too many UCC churches that have active youth groups. We are thrilled to have such a vibrant group of young people. And we are especially proud of our newest confirmand, Emily Morales! She studied diligently before making her profession of faith. Her confirmation project was to secure materials and build the wonderful pergola roof which protects our garden plants from the harsh Arizona sun.

Emily was born in Scottsdale and raised in Phoenix. She is a rising Eighth grader at Pueblo del Sol Middle School. Her best-loved subject is English language arts. At the opposite end of the list comes math. Emily has three sisters and a stepbrother. While the family has several dogs, the one who is closest to Emily's heart is a two year old chihuahua named Coffee, who cries when they tell him they are taking him somewhere. She would love to someday operate a day care center for dogs.

Emily is an avid soccer player. She is also a fan of Neymar, the professional Brazilian footballer. (Check out his pics on the internet!) Her favorite colors are red and blue, and her favorite food is pizza. For a special treat Emily enjoys the vast array of food at Red Wok buffet.

Emily's television viewing is centered on the Disney channel. Her musical interests consists of Spanish numbers, especially Norteño songs. She is a big fan of Peso Pluma, a new young Mexican singer, songwriter and rapper. At the age of 23 he has recorded two albums and at least 24 singles.

Given the chance to travel, Emily enjoys going to both California and Las Vegas. If she were to come back to life as an animal, she would be a cute little dog. Her favorite Halloween costume was a witch, complete with black robe and pointy hat. Her long-term career goal is to become an attorney.

Emily, we hope you know how proud of you we are! If there is anything the members of ECC can ever do to help you on your life's journey, please don't hesitate to ask. We pray that your youthful years will be happy, safe and productive. Thanks for joining our ECC family!



# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					Happy Birthday Todd Montague	Happy Birthday Rosemary Bowman Claudia Friscoe
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Spanish/English 11:30 AM Pet Food Bagging					Happy Birthday Emily Morales	Yard Sale Sorting 10 AM-Noon
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>Graduation Sunday</b> Deacons Meeting Spanish/English 11:30 AM	Happy Birthday Lauren Baber		Trustees 6:15 PM Council 7 PM	Nourish Phx 8:15 AM Happy Anniversary Ed & Kathy Stock		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>Happy Father's Day!</b> Father's Day Lunch Spanish/English 11:30 AM Happy Birthday Jonathan Campos	<b>Happy Juneteenth</b>	Newsletter Deadline	Late Last Supper 6:30 PM			Happy Birthday Shawn Bauer
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Spanish/English 11:30 AM Outreach Meeting						

## Council Meeting: May 10, 2023

The ECC May 10, 2023 Council Meeting was called to order at 7:14 P.M. by Moderator Lisa Herrmann.

Attendees: John Hasenstab, Steve Barrett, Melanie Herrmann, Pastor Gloria Smith, Lisa Herrmann, Steve Holloway, Todd Montague, Kathy Van Etten, and Kathy Stock.

Treasurers Report: Given by Kathy Van Etten, printed copies of the budget for April 2023 were handed out to all in attendance. The Goodwill payment from the yard sale monies has not been received as of May 10, 2023. The Endowment gained a small amount and a donation was received for the endowment.

Prayer was led by Moderator Lisa Herrmann.

The ECC Council Meeting Minutes for the April 12, 2023 meeting were reviewed, voted upon and accepted in to the records by all in attendance.

The Trustees Report as given by Steve Holloway, the garden coverage project has been completed as part of Emily's service project. The sprinkler system has been repaired, a speaker system for the choir area is being researched. Michelle is going on vacation and the Church Office coverage has been secured. The text portion of the new sign was discussed and updates will be given as progress is made.

Deacon's report: given by John Hasenstab, Preparations for the confirmation service and flowers will be picked up for Mother's Day. The Deacons will meet on Mother's Day after church.

Stewardship report: No report at this time per John Hasenstab.

Financial Secretary report: Given by John Hasenstab, the monies are in the bank, and the envelopes have been ordered for the upcoming year whilst we transition to Servant Keeper.

Religious Education Report: Given by Kathy Van Etten; Confirmation will be on Sunday May 14, 2023. The youth have been working on Mother's Day cards and photos for Services on Mother's Day. Summer camp options are being explored.

Memorial Fund Report; Given by Kathy Stock and printed copies were given to all in attendance.

Outreach Report: Given by Melanie Herrmann; Cinema under the stars will now be 2 movies during the fall and summer sessions. September we will do a car wash and the monies raised will be given to poverty pets, and the Arizona Task Force \Search and Rescue.

Hospitality Report: Given by Todd Montague; cookies are in the bank and the schedule is posted in the Fellowship Hall for upcoming Fellowship hours.

Pastor's Report: Given by Pastor Gloria Smith; the new bylaws were passed by the UCC Conference, and the UCC Credit Union has been chartered. Let us pray for our fellow UCC Churches as many of them go through changes. Informational bulletins from the UCC Insurance Board regarding the Abuse Prevention for Seniors and Vulnerable Adults, and also a fact sheet from the CRC Group explaining rising cost of commercial property insurance premiums were distributed to all in attendance. ECC members have expressed interest in attending the next annual meeting if it is held close to the Phoenix area. I will be on vacation in the early part of the summer. Our Pastor Gloria is now the Moderator Elect for the UCC Conference.

Moderator's Report: Given by Moderator Lisa Herrmann; CPR training classes and other safety related training opportunities are being explored. Lisa will be attending the June ECC Council Meeting via Zoom. The Calendar was reviewed and updates were made.

Old Business: Bus cards are available on an as needed but limited basis. The file cabinets in room 4 need to be sorted and organized, so that work is scheduled for June 24, 2023.

New Business: Pastor Gloria Smith will celebrate her 30<sup>th</sup> UCC Ordainment Anniversary on August 22, 2023, and another important anniversary on May 1, 2023 was Pastor Gloria's 12th anniversary with us at ECC.

The ECC May 10, 2023 Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M. by Moderator Lisa Herrmann.

**Encanto Community Church**  
United Church of Christ  
2710 North 7th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85007



**Rev. Dr. Gloria Smith**, Minister  
**Lisa Herrmann**, Moderator  
**Jill Mahoney**, Choir Director  
**Genevieve Benham**, Organist  
**Tony Lusania**, Caretaker  
**Michelle Lusania**, Office Administrative Assistant

**Encanto Community Church**  
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