

Encanto Community Church

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

The Pilgrim

October Events

- October 1 **Pet Blessing 10 AM**
Pet Memorial Service 11:30 AM
- October 3 Hand Bells 5 PM
Choir 7 PM
- October 8 Communion Sunday
Deacons Meeting
Pet Food Bagging
Spanish/English 11:30 AM
- October 10 Hand Bells 5 PM
Choir 7 PM
- October 11 Trustees 6:15 PM
Council 7 PM
- October 14 Yard Sale Haul Up! 10 AM
- October 15 Neighbors in Need
Outreach Meeting
Fellowship Outside!
Spanish/English 11:30 AM
- October 16-19 Yard Sale Prep
- October 17 Hand Bells 5 PM
Choir 7 PM
- October 20 Yard Sale Set Up 1 PM
- October 21 **Rummage Sale!! 7 AM-3 PM**
- October 22 Halloween Decorating
Nominating Committee Meeting
Spanish/English 11:30 AM
- October 24 Hand Bells 5 PM
Choir 7 PM
Goodwill Pick Up
Newsletter Deadline
- October 25 Late Last Supper 6:30 PM
- October 29 Spanish/English 11:30 AM
Play Rehearsal 11:30 AM
- October 31 Happy Halloween!
Hand Bells 5 PM
Choir 7 PM

October 2023



Please Remember in Your Prayers:

Diane Boudle, Bill Edens, Tammy Hughes, Jane Gempeler, Ron Jasper, Debbye Jones and Rev. Gloria Smith, Carol Krietenstein, Rich Maxwell, Carl Madsen, George Penny, Jami Pourkeveh, the Probst Family, the Rigali Family, Cindy & Mike Robinson. 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 October culinary adventure for the Encanto Church Late Last Supper Club will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, when we will join together for dinner at Greektown located at 8519 North Seventh Street, Phoenix, Arizona. If you've never been to Greektown, you should know that it has been a local favorite for many years, consistently producing delicious Mediterranean food, including traditional Greek dishes, wonderful seafood and chicken dishes, great salads, Saganaki (flaming cheese), and magnificent chocolate mousse. As always, we will meet at the restaurant, and we will each pay our own way. Please let Kathy V. know if you wish to join the party, and she will make the necessary reservations. Thanks!



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

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Treasurer's Report. (General Fund for August 2023)

Beginning Balance: \$-5,836.51
Received: \$15,366.02
Disbursed: \$15,439.44
Ending Balance: \$-5,909.93
For a loss of: \$-73.42

Total Offering Receipts for August 2023

8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27
\$1,892	\$1,494.50	\$3,520.25	\$1,809.27

A \$5,000 withdrawal was made from the Endowment Account on 8/15/23.

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



Fellowship Hour

Thank you to Kathy S., Jan, Tom N., and all who contributed treats for September; and to everyone for making The Spaghetti Dinner so enjoyable! If you would like to provide treats one Sunday, please sign up on the Cookie Calendar posted in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Our conversational English and Spanish classes continue to be 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.

Deacon on Duty

The Deacons are available to assist the pastor.
The Deacon on Duty for October is:

Paul Petrasek

317-430-6677

Birthdays To Remember

October

Michelle Lusania	1st
Jill Mahoney	2nd
Carolyn Krietenstein	3rd
Brendan Williams	3rd
Jan Russell	4th
Ian Sorter	5th
Marilyn Hall	17th
Jenna Williams	18th
Jacob Nasser	23rd
Mitchell Nasser	23rd



And a very Happy Anniversary to Steve Holloway and Kathy Van Etten!
They celebrate on October 13th!

Pet Blessing & Memorial Service

Encanto Community Church United Church of Christ
2710 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Blessing Service 10:00 AM & Memorial Service 11:30 AM

Blessing Service is 1 Hour Service of Celebration

(All Pets Welcome—Please use a leash or carrier)



www.encantocommunitychurch.org
Facebook—Encanto Community Church UCC

Don't forget to mark your calendars for one of the best days of the year! Abbey the therapy dog and her friends will be our special guests this year!



I hope you all are rested up after the excitement of the Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. In case you haven't heard yet, the event was a great success! The Saturday Morning Social Gang earned a total of \$1,194.37, thanks to all my helpers. You all know who you are, and you should know that I appreciate all the help you gave. You all gave so much to make this the success that it was. I appreciate you all so much. Thanks again. Jan

Yard Sale

The Fall Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and it will feature all kinds of items including furniture, Halloween costumes, artwork, holiday items, collectibles, and clever gift ideas!

As usual, we will meet on the preceding **Friday, October 20, 2023, starting around 1:00 p.m., to sort, price, and move items outside to the parking lot.** We'll order pizza for dinner (**around 6:30 p.m.**) and work as long as necessary. Then, **on Saturday, October 21, 2023, we'll meet at 6:00 a.m.** to set-up and get things ready for a 7 a.m. opening.

We will also be forming an assembly line to move items up from the basement at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 14, 2023, so that we can all work on the preliminary sorting, pricing, and cleaning throughout the week preceding the yard sale. Hopefully, everyone will be available to help with those aspects as well.

If you're not able to work the sale, at least come by, do some shopping, and make a donation. It's for a good cause! You will find the array fascinating, ranging from the ridiculous to the sublime, and remember that all proceeds benefit the Church General Fund and Youth Activities.

Hope to see you there!

Come by and lend a hand when we decorate for Halloween. **We'll be hanging skeletons and setting out pumpkins after church on Sunday morning, October 22, 2022.** Come join the fun! The more, the scarier..."



All week, every week, please remember that we collect a variety of items for recycling including plastic water bottles, aluminum cans, newspaper, catalogues, and scrap metal. Proceeds go to support various church activities. Please see Cindy or Michelle for details about where to leave the recyclables when you bring them to church. Thank you!

Scripts for the Church Youth Christmas play will be distributed at the end of October. If you or the young people in your world would like to be involved in this year's adventure, please check your schedules, and let Kathy Van Etten know directly. Rehearsals will be held on Sundays after church from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. from October 29, 2023, through December 17, 2023 (our show date), with a mandatory dress rehearsal occurring at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning, December 16, 2023. The show will be presented during the annual Church Christmas Luncheon on Sunday, December 17, 2023.



Who the Hell Are You?

by Rev. Dr. Steve Barrett

Ed Stock, We Thank You for Your Service!

Very few of us have ever jumped out of a perfectly good airplane, or served in the Marine Corps and the Army, the Police Department and the Department of Public Safety, or been a narcotics investigator, a counterintelligence official and a marksmanship instructor. Our own Ed Stock has done all of these things and more. It is a great privilege to say thank you, Ed, for your service. Our lives are safer because of you.

It all started in Nashville, Tennessee, where Ed was born. His family moved to Show Low, Arizona when he was a young child. Ed says that whenever he visits the South, his southern accent returns and is so thick you can cut it with a knife. (It happens to me too!)

While Ed was on leave from the Marine Corps, he went on a blind date with a beautiful young woman named Kathy. After a couple of years the two were married. At first Kathy's mom didn't like Ed, but the two soon became best friends. Ed and Kathy went on to have two children, a boy and a girl, and then five grandchildren, two girls and three boys. Ed is justly proud of all of them.

Ed has been a member of ECC for approximately 55 years. And the main drawing card to our church was Kathy! Ed has served as a Sunday School teacher, a deacon, and a trustee, just to name a few.

One of Ed's biggest interests has always been shooting. Naturally he is an Expert Marksman. From 1980 to 2016 he taught marksmanship at Gunsite Academy in the Prescott area. No doubt his most famous student was Tom Selleck, whom Ed describes as a true gentleman. Other interests over the years have included weight-lifting, karate and marathons.

Ed's favorite color is somewhat predictable, olive-drab green. His best loved cuisine is southern cooking. His number one fast food dish is the double meat patty at Whataburger. And for a classier meal, no one beats Durants.

Ed's most beloved movie is My Fair Lady, with Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison. He watches this movie any chance he gets, and he can hum along with each and every song. Another movie high on Ed's list is The D.I. with Jack Webb. TV pleasures include the old British comedies every Saturday afternoon and Lawrence Welk. You would guess right if you guessed that his favorite actor is his former student, Tom Selleck.

As for musical tastes, just play Ed a classic country and western tune, or an oldies but goodies number from the 1950's. His singers of choice are Patsy Cline and Jim Reeves. His number one vacation destination is Germany, and Ed has great memories of a river cruise there. And his most important holiday is November 10, the Marine Corps birthday!

Ed, we are proud of your service to our church, our community, and our country. We love you and Kathy, and we look forward to many more years together at ECC. You are a true example of the Marine Corps motto, *semper fi* (always faithful). May we always be faithful to you!



Pastoral Ponderings

Yesterday, I was participating in a series of training programs on keeping our church safe and secure. Thirty minutes into the workshop, I began to experience a sense of grief. Over the years of my adult life, I have felt grief when learning of bombings and attacks on synagogues and mosques throughout the world. I have grieved when African-American churches have been the victim of hate groups in America. Now, I grieve because all churches, synagogues and mosques are targets for individuals and groups who are inclined toward violence and destruction.

People of faith have been the target for anyone opposed to their beliefs or their cultural and racial prejudices and stereotypes. The perpetrators have been governmental regimes, hate groups, and even other faiths including Christians.

The human darkness that strives for power, control and even annihilation of those different from the face of the earth is a thread of behavior I continually hope will disappear as we evolve. Unfortunately, it has never vanquished and periodically increases as people feel threatened. Yet, there really is no threat to the predator only an irrational fear that dwells within their mind.

I believe that the founders of our nation had hoped to eliminate some of the fear and violence when writing the Constitution and Bill of Rights. From the separation of church and state to the establishment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 we have tried to correct the behaviors of the past and domination of a class or race. Unfortunately, public laws do not change the mental attitudes, beliefs and fears of the individual. Even religion has failed to create a safe environment for individual differences and has been a perpetrator of violence and hate more often than not.

I believe that it is imperative that we expose ourselves to the teachings of various houses of faith, cultural differences, and the effects of governmental and cultural systems upon people of color or gender in order to dispel mistruths. We are God's vessels of equality, justice and the right to live without fear of violence.

It is a big challenge but each day we have unknown opportunities to learn and to teach about acceptance and love. May we commit each day to the realm of God on earth.

Blessings, Rev. Gloria

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Pet Blessing! Pet Memorial Service 11:30am Happy Birthday Michelle Lusania	2 Happy Birthday Jill Mahoney	3 Hand Bells 5pm Choir 7pm Happy Birthday Carolyn Krietenstein Brendan Williams	4 Happy Birthday Jan Russell	5 Happy Birthday Ian Sorter	6	7
8 Communion Sunday Deacons Meeting Spanish/English 11:30am	9	10 Hand Bells 5pm Choir 7pm	11 Trustees 6:15pm Council 7pm	12	13 Happy Anniversary Steve H. and Kathy V.	14 Yard Sale Haul Up 10am
15 Outreach Meeting Spanish/English 11:30am Neighbors In Need Fellowship Outside	16 Yard Sale Prep	17 Yard Sale Prep Hand Bells 5pm Choir 7pm Happy Birthday Marilyn Hall	18 Yard Sale Prep Happy Birthday Jenna Williams	19 Yard Sale Prep Nourish Phx. 8:15am	20 Yard Sale Set Up 1pm	21 Rummage Sale! 7am-3pm
22 Spanish/English 11:30am Nominating Committee Halloween Decorating	23 Happy Birthday Jacob Nasser Mitchell Nasser	24 Goodwill Pick Up Hand Bells 5am Choir 7pm Newsletter Deadline	25 Late Last Supper 6:30pm	26	27	28
29 Spanish/English 11:30am Christmas Play Rehearsal 11:30am	30	31 Happy Halloween!				

Council Meeting: September 13, 2023

The ECC Council met on September 13, 2023, the meeting was called to order by Moderator Lisa Herrmann at 7:10 P.M. to jointly meet with the ECC Trustees to hear the ECC Treasurers report given by Kathy Van Etten. The ECC monthly bills are being met thanks to a generous donation received. We are still in the red for the month of August due to the seasonal high utility costs. A big Thank You to all of our Pay Pal givers. The next month is our last month for paying the annual insurance premiums, but we will now be paying our conference dues.

The ECC Council Meeting was paused to allow Chairman Steve Holloway to adjourn the ECC Trustee Meeting.

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

Prayer was led by Steve Barrett.

Minutes from the August 9, 2023 ECC Council Meeting were reviewed, a motion to accept was offered by Melanie Herrmann, seconded by Kathy Van Etten and accepted by all in attendance into the Church Records.

Trustees Report was given by Steve Holloway; The electrical problems with the speaker and other electrical issues in the alter area are being worked on. Lisa Herrmann is working on a grant for shade trees for the ECC Campus. The CPR Class was very successful. The price for the ECC Rose Garden cremains placement has increased.

Deacons Report was given by Pastor Gloria Smith; the October 1, 2023 ECC Pet Blessing details were all worked out. The Deacons will be completing the disaster kits for storage and readiness in upcoming needed events.

Stewardship Report – None; the Committee has not met.

Financial Secretary Report was given by Kathy Van Etten; the monies are in the bank.

Religious Education Report was given by Kathy Van Etten; on September 24, 2023 the ECC Youth will be doing the Sunday Services. Melanie Herrmann will be delivering the morning's message and there will be a Senior Story presentation by Steve Holloway. We are also planning a field trip, but we will need to work with the facility for the hours available.

Memorial Fund Report was prepared by Kathy Stock; a printed copy was given to all in attendance, the signatures changes are still pending.

Outreach Report was given by Melanie Herrmann; current projects are the ECC Welcome Packets, and the October 1, 2023 Pet Blessing. We are not doing a Halloween party this year, but the fall garden project will be scheduled shortly so look for an email regarding the work date.

Hospitality Report given by Todd Montague; the Cookie Bank is in good shape. Special Treats are planned for the Halloween Sunday Fellowship Hour. We are exploring treats for the Pet Blessing Sunday Fellowship Hour.

Pastor's Report given by Pastor Gloria Smith; I have signed up for all upcoming September 2023 FEMA and DHS Webinars I spoke with fellow UCC Pastors, exploring outreaching to fellow UCC Churches for Interactivity with UCC Congregations for special services.

The ECC Council discussed, voted, accepted, and adapted a policy that the ECC Church Calendar posting of any fund raising luncheon or dinner affair following any Sunday Services must be open for all of the congregation in attendance on that date, regardless of their ability to pay.

Moderators Report was given by Lisa Herrmann; work continues on the updating of the Church Directory. Calendar updates were made for September and October. Ideas for the upcoming ECC 80th Anniversary were discussed.

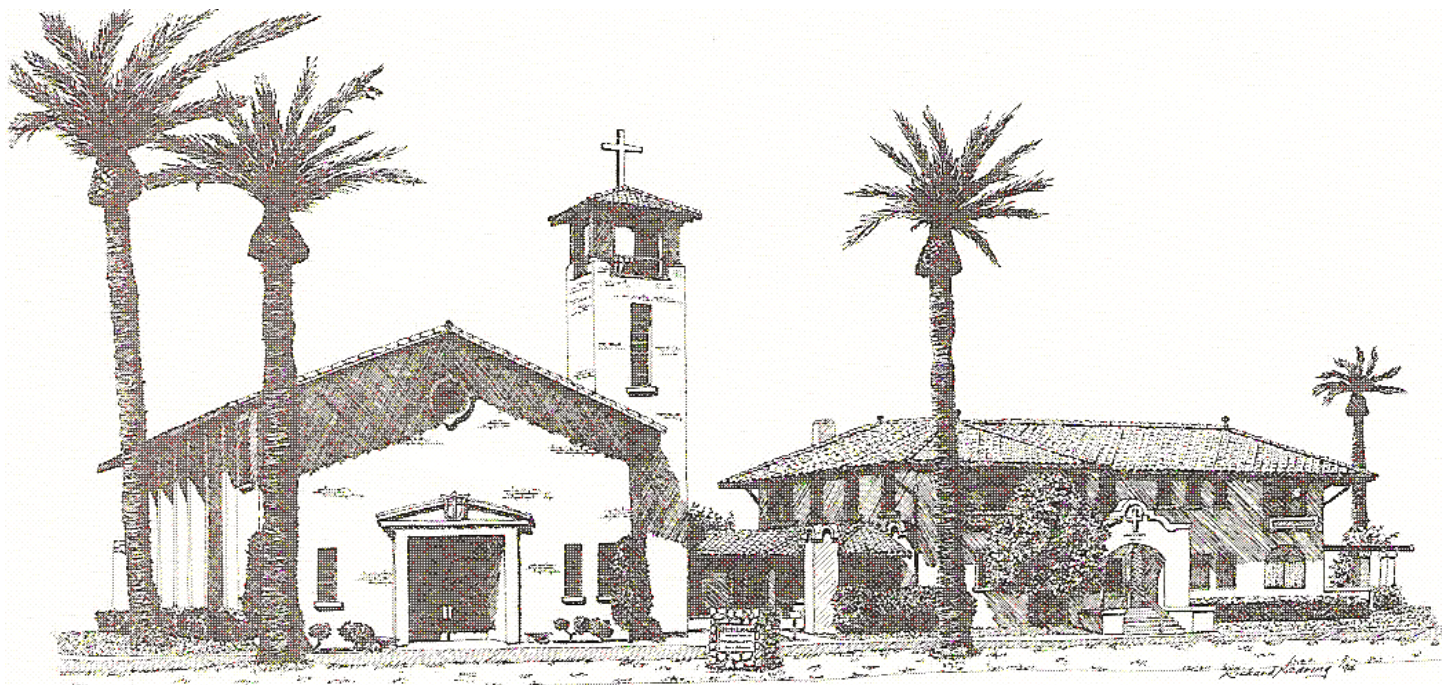
The September 13, 2023 ECC Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M. by Moderator Lisa Herrmann.

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

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September Late Last Supper



Fry Bread House



Youth Message, Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction

