



# common ground

find it. embrace it. share it.



Join us for lectures and roundtables in October and November. Explore the diverse worldviews, beliefs, cultural orientations, and prejudices we hold. Discover why they are such powerful forces in our lives. Connect with others with the hope of meeting on common ground. Register for speaker events at: [pvumc-finding-common-ground-speaker-series.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/pvumc-finding-common-ground-speaker-series.eventbrite.com)



Paradise Valley United Methodist Church  
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**journeys**  
small groups at pvumc  
explore. discover. connect.

# Journeys 2.0 - Fall 2017

Explore. Discover. Connect.



## Small Groups Ministry

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## **Journeys: Fall 2017** **Explore. Discover. Connect.**

Journeys, PVUMC's new small groups ministry, invites you to travel with others on the pathway of faith. *Explore* different areas of spiritual growth. *Discover* where God is leading you, and *connect* with others. With so many itineraries to choose from, we're sure you'll find at least one place where you can engage with others and grow as a disciple of Christ.

We invite you to join us on a shared journey of life and faith, open to all, regardless of age, ability, economics, color, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, politics, theology or anything else that might separate us from each other. Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, you're invited to walk with Christ in community with all of God's children, and embrace the endless possibilities of God's unconditional love.

Come, be part of the journey.

**Our Mission:** Alive with the Spirit, we bring God's love into action, by igniting faith, transforming lives and creating community.

**Our Vision:** Love that crosses all barriers and embraces all people.

## **Entry Point**



If you're new to the church, or new to Christianity, we invite you to check out The Gathering before you embark on your journey. Get an overview of the church, and an introduction to others at Paradise Valley United Methodist Church. If you're not a member yet, consider coming to the New Member Orientation class on **November 15**, 6:30 pm in G2.

### **Free Childcare**

Free, quality childcare is available during all our classes and events. Call 602.840.8360, ext 134 at least 48 hours in advance of the class or program you wish to attend. If you have to cancel, even at the last minute, please call the number again.

### **Feed My Starving Children**

**Leader: Jim Bateman**

Every month, except for this December, PVUMC schedules **FMSC** packing events at the Mesa Fiesta Building, 1345 S Alma School Road, Mesa, AZ 85210. Join us on **Saturday, November 18**, 4:30-6:30pm. A special FMSC MobilePack event is set for **December 2, 3-5pm** at the Phoenix Convention Center, and PVUMC is an event sponsor. Register to participate in either event by emailing Jim Bateman: [jnbateman@aol.com](mailto:jnbateman@aol.com). Include your name, phone number, number of participants, and names and emails of those over 18.

### **Open Dates for UMOM Servers**

**Leaders: Dave Hepburn and Elaine Heredia**

**2nd and 4th Saturdays**

### **2nd Thursdays, year-round**

PVUMC has opportunities for people to serve dinner to residents at the UMOM facility at 3333 E Van Buren on Saturdays. To serve, contact Dave Hepburn at [dhepburn@umom.org](mailto:dhepburn@umom.org). To cook and/or serve dinner at the Halle Center on the 2nd Thursday of the month, contact Elaine Heredia, [emhere@cox.net](mailto:emhere@cox.net).

### **Monthly Volunteers to Project Cure and St Mary's Food Bank**

**Leader: Tony Book**

**Sept-May, mornings**

### **2nd and 3rd Wednesdays**

To join the email list, email Tony Book, [imbbook73@gmail.com](mailto:imbbook73@gmail.com).

## **Social Justice**



The **Church and Society Ministry Team** hosts civic academies about important issues in our community and works with VIP — **Valley Interfaith Project** — and other faith communities to encourage civic engagement. The last event, a Civic Academy on **Tuesday, October 10**, was led by ASU professor Jesenia Pizarro, and looked at "Offender Rehabilitation." VIP's Human Development Agenda includes criminal justice reform, as well as public education, healthcare, work force training, neighborhood safety, immigration reform and refugee resettlement. The group takes political actions to advance the agenda. If you are interested in becoming a part of this group, and would like to be involved with taking action on specific issues, email PVUMC's Rapid Response / VIP communications coordinator, Dan Sagramoso, [dansagramoso@cox.net](mailto:dansagramoso@cox.net) and/

or join the Church's "Social Justice" email list and Facebook page for updates.

# Missions

Many of the *Journeys* groups offer hands-on engagement in our community and world. It's how we bring God's love into action, igniting faith, transforming lives and creating community. Check the *Looking Ahead*, *From Paradise E-News*, *Desert Scroll*, and [pvumc.org](http://pvumc.org) for activities.



## **Change the World Day**

**Leader: Dave Hepburn**

**Sunday, November 12, 2017**

**8:30am-2pm**

Join us for this special day of service when we take church out of the building and into the community, living out our mission to be God's love in action. This is the 4th annual Change the World Day, and includes individual and family service opportunities like last year. Sign-ups and donations of food and UMCOR items begin **Sunday, October 22**. Look for a Sign-Up Genius form to be available online soon after that. Check the *Looking Ahead* and website for details and updates.

A difference from last year is that instead of serving lunch, we will serve **breakfast BEFORE you go serve**. So grab your breakfast burrito and coffee (the Paradise Perk will be open!), chat with others during registration and get excited about serving with your "tribe." Invite your friends and neighbors to join you for this unique, once-a-year, special day where we can all feel like we've changed the world for the better.

The **Missions Ministry Team** offers numerous opportunities to join others in serving our community and world throughout the year. Opportunities include international mission trips (Guatemala and Costa Rica) as well as regular workdays and seasonal projects:

- Feed My Starving Children
- Habitat for Humanity
- Project Cure
- St. Mary's Food Bank
- UMOM food drives and meal servers
- Wesley Community Center
- Open Table
- Refugee Assistance & Friendship Teams (RAFT)
- Faithworks mission trips
- Desert Southwest Conference mission projects
- Christmas gifts for families, seniors & youth
- Navajo children & families Christmas gathering

## ***The Gathering***

**Leaders: Clergy, in conjunction with other PVUMC leaders**

**Sundays, October 2017**

**10:30-11am, Fellowship Center**

Want to know more about PVUMC or about how to connect with others who are here on Sundays or during the week? Come to The Gathering on Sundays after 9:30 am worship. Meet people, ask questions and enjoy a cup of coffee in a casual atmosphere just outside F5/6 and the Paradise Perk. Let us know what we can do for you to help you get connected.

## **Advent Study**

### **PVUMC Advent Series: 2 Choices**

**Clergy and Journeys Leaders**

**November-December 2017**

Journeys leaders have an opportunity to lead an Advent study on one of two books recommended by the clergy:

- 1) *Journey to the Manger: Exploring the Birth of Jesus.*  
Cost: \$15; Author: Paula Gooder
- 2) *Because of Bethlehem.*  
Cost: \$11; Author: Max Lucado.

*Journey to the Manger* explores the New Testament's various accounts of the birth of Jesus. Learn about the Old Testament prophecies, Jesus' genealogy, the angelic announcements, and what Jesus' birth meant for the powerful and the poor alike. *Note: No study guide or DVD.*

Max Lucado's book includes a leader's guide and a class DVD. This study focuses on Jesus' humanity and the promise that God is always near. *Because of Bethlehem* reminds us that "everything works together for the good of those who love God" (Romans 8:28).

*Journey to the Manger* groups include:

**Sojourners – Wednesdays,**

4:30 pm in the church library, G2

**Susanna Circle – Wednesdays,**

9:30AM in the Parlor, A2



*Because of Bethlehem* study groups include:

**Wesley Sunday School Group –**

Sundays, 11am in G2

**Adult Bible Study –** Sundays,

8am in A2

**Mustard Seed Bible Study –**

Mondays, 9am in F8

**Pastor's Bible Study –**

Wednesdays 10:30 am in F8

**Brown Baggers –** Fridays,

12 noon in G2

Please contact the church office to purchase a book for class or personal study. A few groups meet in members' homes. Email [andrea@pvumc.org](mailto:andrea@pvumc.org) for details.

# Life Stages

No matter what life stage you're in, you'll find a place to belong at PVUMC. Moms with little ones find the support they need in MOPS. Families with young children may want to check out Modern Family and Caring Kids. Older adults may find fellowship at Saguars, and young adults at YAL. Explore the different groups, discover where you fit in, and connect with others on the same journey.



**MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)**  
Leaders: Jenn Coughlin and Sarah Quinn  
**2nd and 4th Thursdays**  
**Aug 24, 2017- May 10, 2018**  
**9-11am, H7**

MOPS is a community of moms with children age 5 and under. Visit <https://www.mops.org/groups/pvumc> to contact learn more, and connect with Jenn, [jennhcoughlin@gmail.com](mailto:jennhcoughlin@gmail.com), or Sarah, [sarahquinn@ymail.com](mailto:sarahquinn@ymail.com), the group's leaders. Come to a session and find the support you need in a faith community of women who are in the same boat as you are.

## **Modern Family and Caring Kids**

**Leaders: Erin Zeller and Rev. Brenda Smith**  
**Sundays, Sept 10-Nov 19**  
**11am-12noon, H5/H1**  
Meet parents with young children and explore faith and parenting issues together in *Modern Family*. This fall, the parent group watches and discusses *The Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel, and invites parents to carry the discussion home to their children. **Caring Kids** meets at the same time, and invites children in 1st grade and up to participate in structured mission and service projects. Email Rev. Brenda Smith, [brenda@pvumc.org](mailto:brenda@pvumc.org), for a full schedule and to register your child(ren). Modern Family hosts the Mini-Singers Concert on **Sunday, December 3**.



## **Young Adult Lifegroup**

**Leader: Rev. Brenda Smith**  
**Sundays, year-round**  
**12:30pm, on- or off-campus**  
Email Rev. Brenda Smith for a full schedule: [brenda@pvumc.org](mailto:brenda@pvumc.org). Enjoy faith-based lunch discussions, service projects and social activities with YAL 18-24 and the monthly Career YAL.

# Spirituality



## **Yoga for Everyone**

**Leaders: Mary McGill and Mary Thomson, Desert Song**  
**Mondays, Oct 2017-May 2018**  
**6-7:10pm, H1**

*Yoga for Everyone*, led by registered yoga teachers from [Desert Song](#), offers a free, weekly yoga group practice for all levels. Bring your mat or use one of ours. A towel or blanket and comfortable clothing suggested.

## **NEW: Knitting Together**

**Leader: Cassandra Holmes**  
**Wednesdays**  
**9/13-12/13/17**  
**9-10:30am, Paradise Perk**  
This knitting group is for anyone who is interested in knitting, crocheting, sewing or making jewelry in community with others. All ages and levels of ability are welcome. Come chat, hang out, and enjoy the Perk coffee while you create and craft together.



## **Spiritual Direction**

"Two giraffes walk together so that one can blow the dust from the other's eyes" describes the experience of setting aside a time of prayer and discussion with an individual trained to help you be aware of how God is working in your life. If you are stuck, not feeling close to God, or confused as to what you want to be doing, consider a monthly time with a spiritual director. Contact Rev. Andrea Andress 602.840.8360, ext 142, or [andrea@pvumc.org](mailto:andrea@pvumc.org) for information.

# Prayer/Music

## Centering Prayer

**Leaders:** Rev. Andrea Andress and Kathy Kramer-Howe

**Wednesdays this Fall**

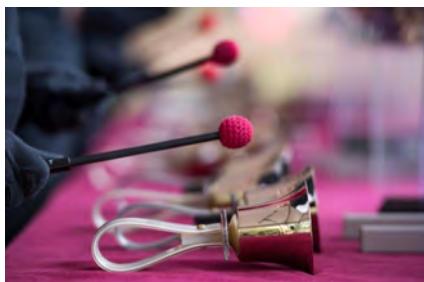
**September 13 and 27**

**October 11 and 25**

**November 8**

**6:15-7:30pm, H6**

Experience the freedom of centering prayer at this class, which teaches a method of meditative silence and contemplative prayer as a way to experience God's presence in us. Sometimes chimes or bells are used.



## Adult Music Groups

Please contact Music and Arts Ministries Director Dr. Ashley Snavley, [asnavley@pvumc.org](mailto:asnavley@pvumc.org), to join one of the adult music groups: Chancel Choir, Paradise Singers and Paradise Bells. Singing or ringing together with these weekly groups connects you to each other as you explore and discover the joy of making music and performing as an act of worship.

# Enneagram

## Lunch Conversations on Transformational Living

**Leaders:** Rev. Andrea Andress and Adele Swan

**Thursdays, 9/14/17-12/14/17**

**12-1:15pm, Library, G2**

Explore personal spirituality through the lens of contemplative issues and the work of the Enneagram. Beginners are welcome. The group uses a DVD study for the first six weeks, examining how personality develops, how we get stuck in boxes of our own making and how we might let down our walls to rediscover our true selves as God has made us. Bring a lunch (optional).

## Enneagram Opportunities

To read about and register for Enneagram classes hosted by PVUMC, visit the Arizona Enneagram Association's website at <http://arizonaenneagram.org/>.

PVUMC hosts the 3rd Thursday of the month AEA MeetUp, 6:30-8:45pm in H7. Scholarship assistance is available. For more information on classes, workshops and AEA speaker events, contact Rev. Andrea Andress, 602.840.8360, ext 142, or [andrea@pvumc.org](mailto:andrea@pvumc.org).

Monthly offerings are listed on the calendar and in the *Desert Scroll*, the church's bimonthly newsletter.

## Saguars

**Leader:** Chris Chaille

**3rd Thursday of the Month,**

**September through May**

**10:30am-1pm, Fellowship Center**

A fellowship group for older adults meets monthly for luncheon and entertainment programs. People are invited to bring a salad or dessert to share for the potluck meal. \$3 donation appreciated.



## Sojourners

**Leader:** Rayme Ellett

**Wednesdays, Sept 2017-May 2018**

**4:30-5:30pm, Library, G2**

This women's group meets while Music Makers, the afterschool children's music program, is in session. This fall, they have been studying *Beautiful Already*, a women's Bible study "Reclaiming God's Perspective on Beauty" by Barbara L. Roose.

# Bible & Books

## Mustard Seed Bible Study

**Leaders:** Sara Bollman

and Chris Midyett

**Mondays, Sept 11-May 2018**

**9-11am, Fireside Room, F8**

This group of women studies God's word, grows in Christian discipleship, and supports each other in prayer. This fall, they have been reading and discussing *The Bible Jesus Read: Why the Old Testament Matters* by Philip Yancey.

## Caring Bible Study

**Leader:** Pam Poley

**Tuesdays, year-round**

**10:30am-12pm, Parlor, A2**

Learn more about how the Bible impacts everyday lives. Study together and share insights; share your joys and concerns, and pray for each other. Once a month, travel to Friendship Village to visit with residents.

## Growing Together in Our Walk

**Leader:** Kim Summers

**Wednesdays, beginning Sept 13**

**6-7:30pm, Fireside Room, F8**

This class began with a five-week DVD and book study based on *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet* by Adam Hamilton. They are currently looking at doing an Advent study.

## Bible, Beliefs and Beyond

**Leaders:** Doug and Eleanor Norris

**Sundays, Sept 17-Dec 2017**

**11 am-12pm, F5/6**

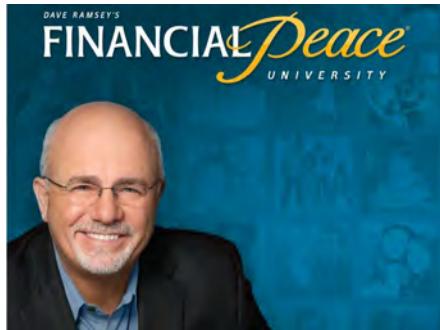
Rev. Doug Norris and his wife, Eleanor, lead this discussion class which explores topics suggested by participants. Discussions are led from a United Methodist and Biblical perspective.

# Bible & Books

## **NEW: The Great Spiritual Migration: Seeking a Better Way to Be Christian**

**Leaders: Pam and Stu Selthun**  
**Mondays, 9/11-11/13/17**  
**6:30-8pm, H5**

Brian McLaren's book, *The Great Spiritual Migration*, reveals how to break free of broken religious systems and embrace a new, redemptive vision where love takes center stage. This book examines 1) how to love God and love your neighbors as yourself, 2) free yourself from the idea of a violent God and 3) join others to be God's love in action.



**Financial Peace University**  
**Leaders: Jenn and JP Coughlin**  
**Tuesdays, 9/12-11/14/17**  
**6-7:30pm, H1**

Register for Dave Ramsey's FPU at [www.daveramsey.com/fpu](http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu). The \$93 fee covers all the materials in this biblically based DVD curriculum that teaches you how to save wisely, manage your money and more. First class is free.

## **Susanna Circle**

**Leader: Jami Godshall**  
**Wednesdays, year-round**  
**9:30-11am, Parlor, A2**

All women are invited to join this group for fellowship, discussion and study. Fall study is *Disciple Bible Study: Intro to the Psalms*. The group also collects gently used purses and toiletries for the women at UMOM and delivers the items in early November.



## **Pastor's Bible Study**

**Leader: Pastor Dave Summers**  
**Wednesdays, Sept 13-May 2018**  
**10:30-11:30am, Fireside Room, F8**

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to study the Bible text to be preached on the following Sunday. Led by Pastor Dave Summers or the pastor who is preaching, this class is for all ages of men and women. It's a great place to meet people. Come a half hour early to share in fellowship.

## **Brown Baggers Bible Study**

**Leader: Dave Hepburn**  
**Fridays, Sept 22, 2017-May 2018**  
**12-1:30pm, Library, G2**

This fall, enjoy lively discussion with this group's exploration of Max Lucado's *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*.

## **Men's Breakfast Bible Study**

**Leader: Jon Hearn**  
**Thursdays, year-round**  
**7-8am, F5/6**

This group brings together men of all ages for a hot, home-cooked breakfast and Bible or DVD study. A contribution of \$2 to help defray the cost of the food is appreciated. Feed your physical and spiritual hunger all at the same time! Share your prayer concerns and be lifted up before you start your day. Come when you can, as your schedule permits.

## **Adult Bible Study**

**Leaders: Cindy and Kent Heltne;**  
**Lee Steers**  
**Sundays, year-round**  
**8-9am, Parlor, A2**

Gather with others in a traditional adult Sunday School class that uses Cokesbury's Adult Bible Study series, the most widely used curriculum in United Methodist churches across the country.

## **Wesley Sunday School Group**

**Leaders: Kent and Cindy Heltne**  
**Sundays, year-round**  
**11am-12pm, Library, G2**

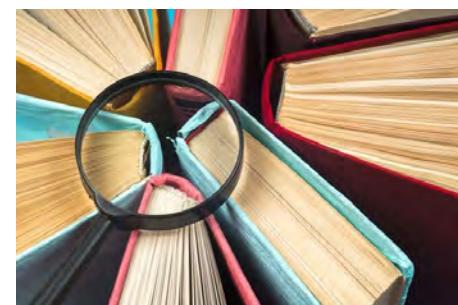
Explore aspects of faith relevant to our lives today through various book studies led by members of the group. Share a covenant relationship with others, lift each other up in prayer, and show love to the least of these in mission and service projects.

## **PVUMC Book Group**

**Leader: Cheryl Del Monte**  
**1st Non-Holiday Monday**  
**of the month**

**Year-round, 12:15-1:15pm**  
**Library, G2**

Spirited discussion of selected works by various authors, chosen by the group. Check the *Looking Ahead, From Paradise* E-News and [pvumc.org/news](http://pvumc.org/news) for current book selections. The December meeting is the annual Christmas potluck.



## **PVUMC Library, Room G2**

As you consider your personal pathway, consider the ever-expanding 400+ titles in the core collection of the church library as a valuable resource. Browse through the "Subject" section of the Catalog Guide or scan through the "Author" and "Title" section to find resources to enrich your faith journey, or search our catalog at: <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/PVUMCLibrary>.

