



Give SYRIAN SWEETS for Christmas

Benefiting Syrian Refugees in Our Community

Order sweets for the holidays on SignUp Genius

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084fa9a72ea5ff2-give1>

and have them delivered for \$10 – OR – pick them up at Temple Emanuel
5801 S Rural Rd, Tempe, AZ 85283, Friday, December 22, 9 am-12 noon



Paradise Valley United Methodist Church (PVUMC) is delighted to join Temple Emanuel to benefit Syrian refugee bakers this holiday season. Order your Syrian Sweets online – both ready-to-give gift boxes and party trays are available. Pick up your baked goods at Temple Emanuel on **Friday, December 22, 9 am-12 noon, OR pay a \$10 delivery fee** to have your order delivered from a baker close to you. All proceeds go directly to the bakers to help them support their families. Thank you for participating in this cross-cultural exchange which builds friendship through home-baked sweets.

[SignUp Genius for Syrian Sweets Christmas Gift and Party Tray Orders](#)



Paradise Valley United Methodist Church
4455 East Lincoln Drive • Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
602.840.8360 • pvumc.org

----- share sweets, share cultures and share love -----

To host SSE, contact: Tan Jakwani | thanhtanbui@hotmail.com | www.SyrianSweetsAZ.com

Give Syrian Sweets this Holiday Season

Our church has continued to support local refugees through RAFT (Refugee Assistance and Friendship Teams) and are happy to join Temple Emanuel for a special sale of baked goods through the Syrian Sweets Exchange this holiday season. Order your sweets online — there are many choices — and pick them up at Temple Emanuel this Friday OR pay \$10 more for delivery on another day. Visit SignUp Genius to place your order online TODAY! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084fa9a72ea5ff2-give1>

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church



December 17, 2017 3rd Sunday in Advent

*Coming Home:
The Gift of Grace*
Matthew 1:1-17

Welcome to PVUMC

8:00 am Worship Chapel
9:30 am Worship Sanctuary
11:00 am Ignite Chapel
Cookies & Carols

Welcome to Paradise Valley United Methodist Church. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We invite you to stop by the **Paradise Perk**, our volunteer-run church coffee shop, next to the Fellowship Center, serving fresh-brewed coffee and tea, as well as smoothies in all your favorite holiday flavors.

Subscribe to *From Paradise*
E-News. Text PVUMC to **22828**.
Subscribe to the weekly eblast on Fridays and go paperless.

Who Will You Invite to Christmas Eve Worship?

You're invited to take a postcard from the ushers today to give to a friend or neighbor as an invitation to join you for a Christmas Eve worship celebration at PVUMC. We offer five worship services: 9:30 am in the sanctuary, join us for *Nine Lessons and Carols*. It's our only morning service. At 3 pm, we'll offer a family service, designed for those with small children and those with evening plans. Traditional candlelight services are at 5, 7 and 9 pm. Childcare available at all services except 9 pm. Don't forget to take a postcard as you leave the service today. Come home to PVUMC on Christmas Eve.



Looking Ahead at PVUMC



Cookie Walk TODAY

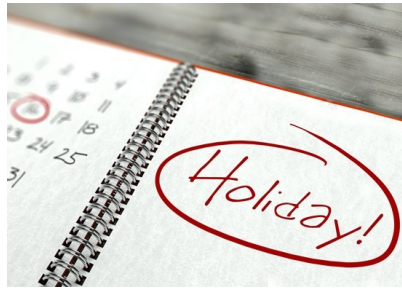
You're invited to the Cookie Walk in the Fellowship Center this morning, benefiting the children and youth music programs at PVUMC. TIP: If you're going to Ignite this morning, buy cookies at the Cookie Walk to share at the Cookies & Carols event in the chapel, 11 am-12 noon today.



Serendipities Open for Preschool Concerts

Serendipities will be open Wednesday and Thursday, December 20 and 21, 9 am to 12 noon, for the Preschool Christmas Concerts. Stop by to shop for all things Christmas and support missions at the same time. Stuffed animals are 30 percent off. Like the [Facebook page](#) and share with your friends.

* When you see "Read More" go to pvumc.org/news to read more.



Church Holiday Schedule

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church (PVUMC) recently released its holiday schedule for Christmas week and for 2018. The church office and campus will be closed Christmas Day, December 25, 2017 through New Year's Day, January 1, 2018, with the exception of **Sunday, December 31**, when we are open for worship at 9:30 and 11 am. The church office reopens on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018**. On **Tuesday, December 26**, the campus will be open briefly, 11 am-2 pm, for Christmas flower pick up and deliveries to our homebound members. If you would like to help with the deliveries, please email Rev. Andrea Andress. [Read More](#)*



Christmas Cards to UMOM

Thanks to your generous stamp donations, Marge Dennis reported that she and her daughter, Cindy Brown, were able to prepare 60 card and stamp sets for residents at UMOM New Day Centers. Thank you!



2017 - 2018

community concerts

music for everyone at pvumc



The Phoenix
Girls Chorus

Jan 12
7 pm

Register
Online!

[pvumc-concerts.
eventbrite.com](http://pvumc-concerts.eventbrite.com)

Join us as we welcome the Bella and Cantabile Choirs of the Phoenix Girls Chorus and their eclectic musical repertoire of classical, sacred, folk, contemporary choral literature, Broadway and foreign language selections. Founded in 1981 by Daniel Hooper, the Phoenix Girls Chorus has delighted and entertained audiences throughout Arizona and around the world. Under the direction of Ms. Danya Tiller, Artistic Director, Cantabile, won first place in their choir division and was also awarded a gold diploma for their excellence in performance at the Franz Schubert International Choral Competition.

Donations gratefully accepted at the event.
Childcare available with 48 hour reservation.
Call 602-840-8360, ext 134.



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Give the Gift of Shelter with UMOM Holiday Cards

PVUMC supports UMOM through the sale of holiday tribute cards that pay for a night of shelter (\$15); a day of shelter, food, and childcare for a child (\$50); a week of shelter (\$100); or a month of shelter (\$360) for a homeless child or an adult at UMOM New Day Centers. Stop by the patio table after worship TODAY or come to the office during the week to buy a card or two to give to family and friends as we remember the birth of a child needing shelter so long ago.



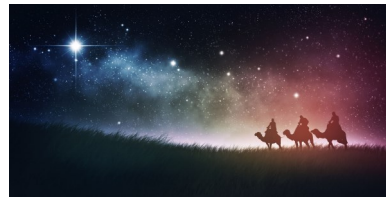
Need to Relax? Try Yoga.

Yoga for Everyone, led by Desert Song instructors, meets **Mondays, December 18** at 6 pm in H1, and again in 2018, beginning **January 8**.



UMOM Residents Thankful

Christmas is a time for giving, and UMOM is grateful for your donations of food throughout the year, on the first Sunday of every month. When a family moves out and into their own apartment, UMOM provides a food box to get them started, and your gift of food is so appreciated. The staff and residents at UMOM are grateful, and wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Magi Visit January 7, 2018

Every year, the three kings or Magi visit the children on Epiphany Sunday morning in their classrooms at 9:30 am. Encourage your child to come to class on time **Sunday, January 7** to hear the Magis' stories and hear about how they went to see Jesus, the newborn king. Gifts for all the children too! [Read More*](#)

Inviting Prayers of Intercession

Joys

Invitations to Christmas Eve
Worship at PVUMC
Christmas card and stamp
donations to UMOM
Birthday Party for Jesus

Hospice

June Palmer, mother of
Susan Bowers
Lois Wallace, mother of
Roanne Wallace

Hospital/Outpatient

Judy Harmon

Deaths

Lydia Schenker, who died Dec 4,
mother of Elizabeth Hubacher
Andrew Thomas

Continuing Concerns

Sue Blumer, Gene Chaille,
Victoria Crawford, Al Hagerman,
Rosalie Hughes, Kay Jones, Pat
Van Wormer, Veronica Winters

Our Church

Christmas Missions Offering
Cookie Walk TODAY
Youth Progressive Dinner
Piano Fund Concert - January

Community, Nation and World

Generosity to those in need

Prayers at the Manger

Bring your prayers to the Christ Child this Advent. Look for the manger in the narthex of the sanctuary and for another near the altar in the chapel. Cards are available for you to write your prayer request and place it in the manger. The clergy will pray for the concerns that you bring.

Prayer Time Sunday Mornings

Join us as we pray, 9:10-9:20 am, before the 9:30 am worship service in the sanctuary. Come to the church altar to pray for our church in this holy space.

Join the Prayer Team

Prayer requests are shared with our pastors, staff and e-mail prayer team members (200+). To be added to the email list, email prayer@pvumc.org.

Funeral Reception Help Needed

If you can help bake cookies or help with funeral receptions, please contact Debbie Doran, funeral reception coordinator, 480.694.3897/sirsnow1@cox.net.

Pastors on Call 24/7

We have a pastor on call 24/7. Call the church office anytime. Our number is 602.840.8360. If you call the office after hours, follow the instructions or press "2." Leave a message and a pastor will return your call.

Send Prayer Requests to

prayer@pvumc.org
If you or someone you know needs prayer, submit a prayer request using our online request form at pvumc.org, e-mail prayer@pvumc.org or call the church at 602.840.8360. Prayer request cards are also available in pew pockets.

Paradise Perk Open Sundays

Stop by for your favorite holiday coffee, tea and smoothies, 9 am until 1 pm on Sundays.

This Week at PVUMC

Sunday, December 17, 2017

Adult Bible Study	8:00AM A2
Worship Service	8:00AM C1
Cookie Walk	9:00AM F1
Prayers for the Church	9:10AM A1
Squad 57 Class	9:30AM H1
Sunday Classes for 2s-4th Grade	9:30AM E10/11 E12/13 E4 E8 H3
Worship Service	9:30AM A1
Sunday Morning Live! SML	9:30AM E14
Career YAL, ages 25-35	9:30AM F5/6
Mini-Singers	10:30AM E9
Ignite Worship Service	11:00AM C1
Wesley Sunday School	11:00AM G2
Women's Covenant Group	11:00AM F8
Youth Choir Rehearsal	4:00PM A4
Youth - Progressive Dinner	5:00PM E14
Squad 57 Christmas Story Tour	5:00PM Off campus
Young Adult Christmas Party and Youth Alumni Reunion	6:00PM Off campus

Monday, December 18, 2017

Mustard Seed Bible Study	9:00AM F8
Rehearsal for Preschool Christmas Program	9:15AM A1
Preschool Soccer	12:30PM F1
Preschool Artworks	12:30PM E12
Salaam Chai Paradise Mtg	3:00PM H4
Men's Emmaus Covenant Group	4:00PM F8
Yoga for Everyone	6:00PM H1
Boy Scouts - Troop #30	7:00PM F1 G2

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Staff Meetings	9:00AM G2
Rehearsal for Preschool Christmas Program	9:15AM A1
Prayer Group - private	10:00AM F8
Caring Bible Study	10:30AM A2
Staff Prayer	11:00AM C1
Preschool Artworks	12:30PM E12
Chica Chica, Book Book!	12:30PM E13

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Serendipities Open	9:00AM G
Preschool Christmas Program	9:00AM A1
Susanna Circle	9:30AM A2
Paradise Singers Rehearsal	11:00AM A4
Prayer Chain Ministry Mtg	11:30AM G2
Gymnastics 2017/18	12:00PM F1
Music Makers	4:30PM A4
Bells of Paradise Rehearsal	6:00PM A1
Women's AA	7:00PM H7
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30PM A4

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Men's Breakfast Bible Study	6:30AM F5/6
Serendipities Open	9:00AM G
Preschool Christmas Program	9:00AM A1
Lunch Conversations	12:00PM G2
Ashley Practice Time	2:00PM A3
Finance Ministry Team Mtg	6:00PM G2

Please note that the PVUMC Preschool is open 9 am Monday-Friday this week.

The church office and campus will be closed Christmas Day, December 25, 2017 through New Year's Day, January 1, 2018, with the exception of Sunday, December 31, when we are open for worship at 9:30 and 11 am.

PVUMC 2018 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day	Monday, Jan. 1
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday	Monday, Jan. 15
Presidents Day	Monday, Feb. 19
Day after Easter	Monday, April 2
Memorial Day	Monday, May 28
Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, Sept. 3
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, Nov. 22
and the Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, Nov. 23
Christmas Day	Tuesday, Dec. 25
and the Day after Christmas -	Wednesday, Dec. 26

* Read more at pvumc.org/calendar.

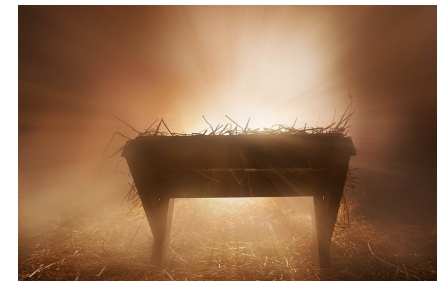
Looking Ahead at PVUMC



Arizona Tax Credits

Giving generously to charities may mean a tax credit for you if you are an taxpayer in AZ. A state tax credit comes directly off the amount of your Arizona tax when you donate to a [Qualifying Charitable Organization](#) or to a [Qualifying Foster Care Organization](#) as designated by the state. It allows you to lower your state tax directly by the amount of the contribution. It is different from a tax deduction. When you donate, the Qualifying Charity or charities of your choice receive a much-needed donation (up to \$800 for married couples; up to \$1,000 for Qualifying Foster Care Organizations). Read more and see the online lists at <https://www.azdor.gov/TaxCredits/QualifyingCharitableOrganizations.aspx>. Other tax credits are available for private school scholarships and public school extracurricular activities. See www.azdor.gov or your tax professional for details.

* When you see "Read More" go to pvumc.org/news to read more.



Subscribe to Devotions Online

The **Advent Blog** and our website was recently honored by being named one of the top 60 United Methodist blogs and websites in the world! Visit <https://pvumc.org/news/2017-advent-blog/> to subscribe today via email, or read the daily devotions online directly from the website: pvumc.org/news. Have a story to share? We still have a few days to fill. Email Kim Summers your 200-500 word story ASAP. Please include a title, your byline, a short prayer and a scripture. The theme is Coming Home. Questions? Email paradisevalleyumc@gmail.com.

Give to Christmas Missions

We invite you to give generously this Christmas season to the PVUMC special missions offering. You gifts go to those served by the Wesley Community Center, which began in 1950; UMOM, the largest homeless shelter in the state; and the PVUMC Emergency Relief Fund, that helps both individuals and local organizations. Visit [GIVE NOW](#), choose "Missions" and write "Christmas" in the comments.