150 W 28TH ST. YUMA, AZ. 85365 | (928) 726-6680 | OCTOBER, 2026

SIERRA VISTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Breaking News

The Session has been working with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon staff to acquire pastoral support to provide an ordained pastor to administer communion on a scheduled basis.

We are pleased to announce that the Reverend Dr. Theron (Terry) Palmer of Phoenix has volunteered to fill that need on a monthly basis starting in November. Reverend Palmer will join us on Sunday, November 8, and on the second Sunday each month following, to deliver the message and to administer communion to all who desire to participate. In addition to this support, Reverend Palmer will also serve as the Moderator of the Session in formal Session Meetings as needed. Per Presbyterian polity, only ordained and approved ministers can administer communion and serve as Moderator. A brief biography for Reverend Palmer is presented below



The Rev. Dr. Theron (Terry) Palmer is a native Iowan. He did his undergraduate studies at Central College in Pella, Iowa, where he met his wife, Jan. He received his Master of Divinity degree from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He has served congregations in Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska before being called as pastor of Gilbert Presbyterian Church in 2002. He led that congregation for 17 years, retiring in 2019.

Terry is an avid student of history, a fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes and the Minnesota Twins and is a shareholder in the Green Bay Packers. (Occasionally he shows up on the golf course, but the results are seldom pretty!) Jan is a retired educator, currently serving on the session of Mission del Sol Presbyterian Church. Both Terry and Jan are active in the ministry of Grand Canyon Presbytery. Their son, Dr. Nathan Palmer, is a bio-informaticist with the Department of Agriculture in Lincoln, Nebraska.

WHILE WE AWAIT GOD'S PLANS

While we are without an ordained pastor to serve at Sierra Vista, we will be supported by visiting pastors identified by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon and others who will preach and lead worship services. A recent meeting with members of the Session has resulted in the development of a stated calendar for the next six months. This calendar is presented elsewhere in this newsletter. This calendar will be a living document and will be updated as appropriate. On the calendar, the lines denoted as "====== PREACHING" will be updates as Visiting Pastors are committed.

THANK YOU Tyler Claar for your continuing support and for leading us in worship.

If you have a potential candidate, please let either Glen Moss or Brian Smith know and we will speak with the individual to see when they are available. You can also leave a voice mail at 928-726-6680.

OFFICE HOURS AND SUPPORT

While we are in transition, it was determined that the office would not have set hours. Should you need support or assistance from the office, please plan ahead and make arrangements for visiting. You can leave a request for an office visit by calling the church office and leaving a message at least 24 hours in advance. The phone system is available 24 hours per day and will be checked daily Monday through Thursday for messages.

Sarahi Shriver, our Administrative Assistant will be working from home on a limited basis to provide the necessary support for Sunday services, blue sheet preparation and other processes, but will normally only be in the office one day a week to run off needed material. If there is an emergency that needs attention, please call Glen Moss, Clerk of Session at 928-580-7005 and leave a message if he does not immediately pick up. All requests and messages will be responded to as soon as practical.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Your elected Pastor Nominating Committee continues working to locate our next Installed Pastor. They have received some new resumes from the Church Leadership Connection data base from the PCUSA national offices.

As of this publication, the committee does not have a viable and interested candidate identified. Please pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee and their work and that God will provide His individual (s) who will serve Sierra Vista for the future.

EVENTS

- **Painting of the exterior of the buildings:**

Is continuing. The painting contractor has recently power washed the community building and part of Fellowship Hall. When the power wash was initiated, everyone was astounded by the layers of paint that came off. In many places, the paint was in such bad shape that the bare brick was exposed. We anticipate that the painting effort will be completed by the end of October.

- **Stewardship Campaign:**

November is the time for our Annual Stewardship campaign. This year, we plan on making the initial solicitation the first week of November. We will be holding a Special Town Hall type meeting on Sunday, November 15 during the Fellowship time after the Worship service. The focus will be on “What can be done during this time of transition”. It will highlight projects that have been accomplished recently, and provide a time for open discussion about the church in general, a discussion on the financial state of Sierra Vista, and the components of Stewardship – finances, time and talent.

- **First Wednesday Meals:**

October 7, 2026 celebrated the start of the one night per month meal event. The meals are open to all scouts and anyone else who wishes to attend. Cost is $ 4.00 per meal or $15.00 for the entire family regardless of the number. The menu for November will be the popular Tater Tot Casserole, a vegetable side dish, a tossed salad and cookies for dessert.

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CALENDAR 2026-2027

- **October 15 Apostolic in Sanctuary 6 to 9 pm**
- **October 16 Apostolic in Sanctuary 6 to 9 pm**
- **October 17 Apostolic in Sanctuary 10 am to 2 pm**
- **October 18 Tyler Claar preaching**
- **October 21 Cub Scout Pack Meeting - 6 pm sanctuary**
- **October 25 Tyler Claar preaching**
- **October 28 Hand in Hand Fall Festival DFH during school**
- **October 28 Hand in Hand Fall Festival DFH during school**

- **November 1 Mission Partner - ABCS ???**
- **November 1 Sandwiches for Crossroads during Fellowship time**
- **November 8 Rev. Terry Palmer preaching and serving communion**
- **November 8 ABCS Thanksgiving Family meal sign-up in DFH NEED Sign-up sheet and flyer**
- **November 15 ========= Preaching**
- **November 15 Stewardship Town Hall Meeting in DFH after worship service**
- **November 22 ========= Preaching**
- **November 22 ABCS Thanksgiving food donations due**
- **November 22 Food donations for ABCS Families delivered**
- **November 23-29 Hand In Hand closed**
- **November 28 Pull Hanging of the Greens materials from attic and stage in sanctuary**
- **November 29 ========= Preaching**
- **November 20 Hanging of the Greens Worship Service**
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CALENDAR 2026-2027

- **December 6 Mission Partner - Crossroads ???**
- **December 6 ABCS Christmas Family meal sign-up in DFH NEED Sign-up sheet and flyer**
- **December 6 ABCS Christmas Family gift ornaments on tree in DFH for sign out**
- **December 6 Poinsettia order forms in OOW until December 20**
- **December 9 Girl Scouts in sanctuary 6-7 - Cookie Meeting**
- **December 13 Rev. Terry Palmer preaching and serving communion**
- **December 13 DFH - Hand In Hand set up and decorating**
- **December 14 Hand In Hand Kindergarten Christmas program 6 pm DFH**
- **December 15 Hand In Hand 3/5 day Christmas Program 6 pm**
- **December 17 Hand in Hand Christmas 2 day Program in sanctuary 11am followed by DFH**
- **December 20 ========= Preaching**
- **December 20 ABCS Christmas gifts and food donations due**
- **December 20 Annual hayride and neighborhood caroling event leave parking lot at 5:30**
- **December 24 Candlelight service - ========== Preaching**

- **January 3 Mission Partner - ???**
- **January 10 Rev. Terry Palmer preaching and serving communion**
- **January 11 Reports for Annual Meeting Reports due in office**
- **January 17 ========= Preaching**
- **January 24 ========= Preaching**
- **January 31 ========= Preaching**
- **January 31 Annual Meeting of the Congregation immediately after worship service**

CALENDAR 2026-2027

- **February 7 ========= Preaching**
- **February 7 Scout Sunday - All scouts in attendance will earn a commemorative patch**
- **February 10 Ash Wednesday TBD**
- **February 14 Rev. Terry Palmer preaching and serving communion**
- **February 14 Souper Bowl Soup and Chili Cook-off - for Hunger relief**
- **February 21 ========= Preaching**
- **February 28 ========= Preaching**
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- **March 7 Pastor Caesar of Jesus Pan de Vida speaking**
- **March 7 Baked Potato Bash during Fellowship time Proceeds to ???**
- **March 6 Easter lily flyer in OOW until March 21**
- **March 14 Rev. Terry Palmer preaching and serving communion**
- **March 14 Installation of elders during service**
- **March 14 Request plastic eggs and non=chocolate candy for egg hunt**
- **March 21 Palm fronds acquired for Sunday**
- **March 21 Palm Sunday ========Preaching**
- **March 21 Stuff Eggs during Fellowship time**
- **March 28 EASTER SUNDAY '========= Preaching**
- **March 28 Easter Egg Hunt**
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- **April 4 Mission Partner - Crystal Echols via ZOOM ???**
- **April 11 Rev. Terry Palmer preaching and serving communion**
- **April 11 Sandwiches for Crossroads during Fellowship**
- **April 16 Hand In Hand Dad & Me hotdog roast in grassy area**
- **April 18 ========= Preaching**
- **April 25 ========= Preaching**



- **OVERALL PROGRAM**

The Sierra Vista Scouting program has kicked off and all groups are meeting. We continue to see new families interested in the program. We currently have 49 Girl Scouts (Kindergarten through High School); 32 Cub Scouts (Kindergarten through Fifth Grade); and 19 Boy Scouts (Sixth grade through High School).

- **GIRL SCOUTS**

The Girl Scouts have been busy preparing for a camp out in Julian, CA at the end of October. A Brownie overnight event was held in early October to help train the Brownies (2 nd and 3 rd graders) about what to expect and giving them a preview of the rules before the camp out. The girls are actively selling Fall products and will soon have cookie training in preparation of the annual cookie sales. Fall products, including assorted candies and nuts, are available from any Girl Scout. If you wish to obtain more information on what's being offered, please contact Haley Hill. This year, the Girl Scout cookie menu has been modified to include a "pet specific" cookie especially designed for your "fur babies".

- **CUB SCOUTS**

On Wednesday, September 23, the Cub Scouts held their annual Raingutter Regatta. Participants built their own catamaran boats from kits and then sailed them using only their breath. Just to make things more fun, we had a brief windstorm just before the kick-off of the races. All boys met the challenge and "Did Their Best" – the Cub Scout Motto.

- **TROOP**

The Troop (Sixth grade through High School) has been active getting situated with the new year. They have held various activities and were instrumental in cooking the group meals for the Annual Laguna Camp Out over Labor Day weekend.

- **OTHER NEWS**

On Wednesday, October 7 we kicked off our "First Wednesday Meal" night. The event was a success and we will be serving the next edition of Wednesday Night dinner on November 4 with the family friendly dinner starting at 5:30 pm. Cost for the meal is $ 4.00 per plate or $ 15.00 for the entire family. The menu for this second meal will be Tater Tot Casserole, a side vegetable dish, a tossed salad, and cookies for dessert. We are happy that the year is underway and hope that you will continue to support your 8054 scouting program. If you haven't checked us out yet, please visit any Wednesday for a great time. If you know of youth who might be interested in getting involved in scouts, please have them contact Mr. Moss at 928-580-7005 or leave a message on the church answering machine at 928-726-6680.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2026

Profit and Loss Report

- **INCOME** Total income received for August was $ 16,944.59. This includes all income for the month and consists of donations in the offering plate, and on-line donations through Vanco Services. Income for the period compared to prior months is down.

- **EXPENSES** Total expenses for August totaled $ 20,053.28 which included a charge of $ 8,437.00 for the Community Building roof repair. This $ 8,437.00 was paid by donations from the Christmas in July campaign along with some previous donations for renovations on campus.

- **Balance Sheet**

Current Assets at the end of August were:

1. Restricted accounts	$ 52,770.07*
2. Wells Fargo checking account	$ 8,758.31

*The Restricted Account figure includes the Grant Funds for the painting of the exterior of all buildings on campus. These funds will be expended once the painting project is completed.

SUMMARY

This far in 2026, we have brought in $ 21,988.46 more than we spent. This "gain" is due to the CSV grant ($ 36,200). Going forward, our expenses should be less due to Pastor Dan's salary and benefits not being paid out as we seek a permanent

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm.
Let nothing move you. Always
give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that
your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58