

COMMUNITY CHURCH *of the Verdes*

January 18, 2026



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Time for Centering

Today's Sermon — “Thy Kingdom Come”

When Jesus teaches us to pray, “*Thy kingdom come*,” he is inviting us into more than hope for a distant future. He is teaching us to desire—and to receive—God’s reign here and now. This Sunday we turn to **Luke 6:20–26**, where Jesus speaks words of blessing and warning that reverse the values of the world: blessing for the poor, the hungry, and the weeping; warning for the satisfied, the praised, and the secure.

In these words, Jesus shows us what life looks like when God’s kingdom draws near—and how unsettling that nearness can be. As **Dallas Willard** reminds us, “*The kingdom of God is the range of God’s effective will.*” To pray for the kingdom, then, is to ask that God’s will take effect not only in the world, but in our own lives—our loves, our loyalties, and our choices.

Long before us, **Augustine of Hippo** taught that when we pray “*Thy kingdom come*,” we are not asking God to do something new, but asking that the kingdom may *come to us*. God’s reign is sure; the deeper question is whether we are willing to live under it.

I pray that we hear Jesus’ challenging and hope-filled words, and that we learn what it means to pray—not only for heaven someday—but for God’s kingdom to take root among us now.

Blessings ~

Pastor Steve

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Pastor: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

People: *Who has given us new life through grace and mercy.*

Pastor: *Come, all who are weary and carry heavy burdens.*

People: We come to the Cross

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the stars

Pastor: Let us worship God,

**Hymn of Praise* *This Is My Father's World* #59

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)

Eternal God, You are our refuge and our fortress, yet we confess that our trust in You falters. We are anxious about the future, and we seek security in things that cannot last. We are tempted to compromise with what is crooked, rather than walk in Your straight path. We confess our doubt, our fear, and our divided hearts. Surround us again with Your mercy, Lord. Set our feet firm upon Your promises, and keep us secure in Your steadfast love, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Silent Confession

Prayer Response *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord* *#306*
*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, incline thine ear to us, and grant
us thy peace, Amen.*

***Please stand as you are able**

Assurance of Pardon

*Congregational Response *Gloria Patri*

#35

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Call to Offering

Offertory

Like a River In My Soul

(arr. Osiek)

*Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

#46

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture

Luke 6:20-26

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

A Day Will Come

(arr. Duren)

Sermon

"Thy Kingdom Come"

Time of Reflection

**Closing Hymn*

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

#585

Charge and Benediction

**Closing Response*

O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life

#432

**Postlude*

Music for today's worship includes:

Prelude: Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown (arr. Wood), Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (arr. Parks), I Saw the Light (arr. Kirkland)

Time of Reflection: Sweet Hour of Prayer (Bradbury)

Postlude: "Are Ye Able", Said the Master (#621)

Volunteers assisting with worship today:

Communion Table: Alex and Kathy Stamey

Badge Table: Jackie and Jon Williams

Fellowship:

Flower Committee: Sharon Severson, Jennifer Ristau, Linda Paulos, Deb Barth

Lector: Gerry Baldwin

Tellers: Judy Sevier and Tom Spaeth

Ushers: Tom Young, Lisa Young, Charla Smith, and Tom Reinarts

Road Signs: Bill Hickman and Ric Doerflinger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome members and guests! If you are visiting for the first time, please stop by our badge table for a welcome gift. Visit our website www.veredefaith.org for additional information. **Please complete the Fellowship Pad** at the end of each pew; pass it along, and back. **Fellowship is held following worship** in Founders Hall.

Attendance at last Sunday's service was 240; 201 joined online.

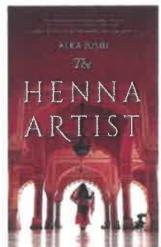
Today's flowers were donated by: Rockee Coalson: In loving memory of my family in heaven.

Stephen Ministers are trained, ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help through a crisis or difficult time. Contact one of our Leaders, Donna Angiolillo, Glenda Hage, Debbie Etcheson, John Pasnau, Dan or Judy Villanueva.

In need of prayers for you, your family, or friends? Contact Joan Brunner at 480-471-7274, or Pastor Steve with requests, or if you would like to serve on the team.

AA meetings are held weekly on Mondays at 8:00am in the library.

PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) meetings are held every other Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the library. Questions? Contact Greg & Weezy Smith at lift5800@gmail.com. *Meetings will start again in December.*



SPIRITUAL THEME IN LITERATURE

The Spiritual Theme in Literature book discussion will be led by Winnie Leathers. The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the Library @ 10:00am. The book for **January**-The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi; **February**-The Midnight Library by Matt Haig; **March**-American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins; **April**-Crying in the H Mart by Michelle Zauner; **May** - Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate. All are welcome.



BIBLE STUDY WITH ED CARPENTER

Thursday Bible study with Ed Carpenter will be in Founders' Hall at 7:30am and 4:00pm. Both sessions are covering the same material. The subject will be the Gospel of John. All are welcome.



**KIM HUMPHREY, CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PARENTS OF ADDICTED LOVED ONES (PAL)
Families Matter (Engaging the Family for Success Through
Substance Addiction)**

Monday, February 2, 2026

4:00 pm Church Sanctuary

Kim Humphrey is a nationally recognized expert on substance abuse and its impact on families. He offers a unique blend of professional knowledge, heartfelt understanding, and lived experience.

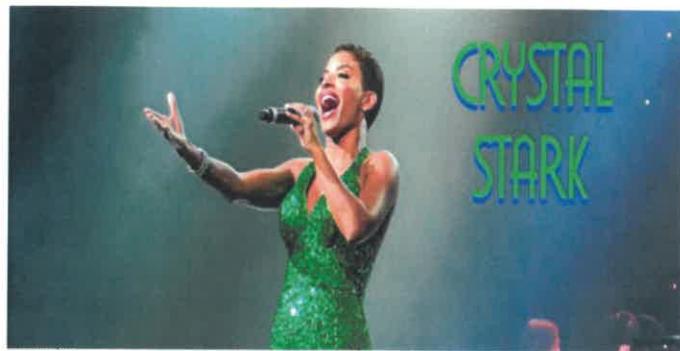
With more than 30 years of service in the Phoenix Police Department—retiring as a Commander—Kim has seen firsthand the challenges families face. His own perspective deepened when he and his wife navigated their sons' struggles with addiction. Through PAL, they discovered hope, healing, and tools that strengthened their marriage and transformed their family's journey. Come hear Kim's inspiring story and his uplifting message of hope for families and communities.

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COMING FEBRUARY 20TH

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COMING MARCH 13TH



YACHTZILLA



CRYSTAL STARK

Get your tickets in the Administrative Office during normal business hours. Or after service on Sundays.



MISSIONS

Lunch making and delivery for Justa Center: The third Thursday of the month at 9:00am.

FHCMA Food Closet: toothpaste, canned fruit, Saltine, and Ritz crackers.

Extended Hands Food Bank: non-perishable food items.

Pad Project Ministry: Monday's at 1:00pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry: 2nd Friday of the month @ 9:00am



JANUARY MISSION DRIVE JUSTACENTER

This month, we are collecting items for **Justa Center**. They assist homeless seniors on their path to housing by providing life-sustaining resources. Please help by donating:

- ♥ **New sweatshirts (Sizes M, L & XL)**
- ♥ **Hand warmers**
- ♥ **Adult-size gloves**

Items can be placed in the Blue Bin in the Narthex or in the church office doorway. Thank you!

GRIEF SUPPORT/SHARE GROUP

Open to all. Our Grief Support and Share Group will begin on Thursday, February 5th and will meet every Thursday until March 12th. We will be meeting in the library from 3pm—4:30pm. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Angiolillo at 845-416-3445.

OPERATING FUND

**YTD Actual contributions
through January 11 were
\$33,254**

**YTD Budgeted contributions
through January 11 were
\$27,500**



Support CCV Ministries & Missions with Online Giving

Thank you for your continuing support!

Please consider these other funds open to special giving in your estate planning...

Legacy Endowment Fund – current balance \$378,952

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to expand and enrich the mission of the congregation, to initiate new ministries or significantly change the scope of existing ministries. No more than 5% of the three year average fund assets may be distributed in any one year.

Memorial Garden Fund – current balance \$482,645

The purpose of the Memorial Garden Fund is to provide for the perpetual operation and maintenance of the Memorial Garden. Established in 1990, the Memorial Garden provides a resting place for the interment of the ashes of loved ones. It is open to current and former members and residents of Rio and Tonto Verde.

Scholarship Fund – current balance \$20,153

The Scholarship Fund promotes scholarships among young people involved in institutions we support through Mission giving. Recipients are chosen from applicants who are demonstrating academic excellence, commitment, and service in or to one of the following non-profit institutions or community: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), NPH (formerly Friends of the Orphans), Sunshine Acres. The Scholarship Fund's sole support is contributions from our members. Donors cannot be related to recipients.

Did you know?... If you are age 70 1/2 or older, you can make a gift from your IRA to support the church. It will not add to your federal taxable income; It counts toward your required minimum distribution, and allows you to experience a tax benefit, even if you do not itemize deductions. You should discuss any such gifts, before making them, with your financial advisor.

The church is very appreciative of gifts from trusts, foundations, and stocks. Occasionally, these gifts are received with no indication of who the donor is. So that we may properly recognize and record the gift, we ask that you either notify the church office or have your financial representative document the donor {and intent} when it is sent to us.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, January 19

8:00am AA Meeting (Library)
9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
1:00pm PAD Project (Sunday School Room)
2:00pm Performing Arts Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, January 20

9:00am Community Prayer w/Pastor Steve (Chapel)
4:00pm ASU Lecture (Sanctuary)
4:30pm Weekly Rosary St. Dominic (Chapel)

Wednesday, January 21

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
10:00am St. Dominic Bible Study (Chapel)
11:00am Bible Study: The Lord's Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Founders Hall)
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 22

7:30am Bible Study w/ Ed Carpenter (Founders Hall)
9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)
4:00pm Bible Study w/ Ed Carpenter (Founders Hall)

Friday, January 23

9:00am Community Prayer w/ Pastor Steve (Chapel)

Saturday, January 24

9:45am St. Dominic Centering Prayer (Chapel)
1:00pm Erna Miller Memorial (Memorial Garden)

Sunday, January 25

8:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
9:30am Fellowship (Founders Hall)
10:00am St. Dominic (Sanctuary)
11:00am St. Dominic Fellowship (Founders Hall)



Stephen Swensen M. D.

Monday, January 26, 2026

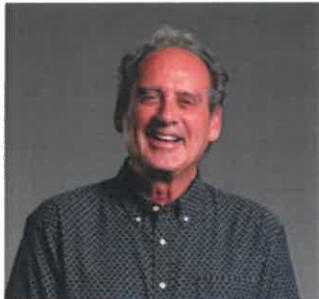
4:00 p.m. Church Sanctuary

"Kindness and Good Life" is Dr. Swensen's message of hope.

Kindness is helping others do better and better has no limit. If the *Good Life* is optimal health span, fulfillment, and positive life assessment, then kindness is central to achievement. Dr. Swensen will show how kindness improves the mental, physical, social and spiritual well-being of people.

Dr. Swensen is a recognized speaker, interdisciplinary researcher and expert in wellbeing, leadership and organizational development. For 35 years, he served patients at the Mayo Clinic as a clinician, scientist, educator and leader. He lives in Fountain Hills, has been married for 48 years, and has two children.

Please join us for this free event as we enter the New Year with a positive message of hope!



MEN'S ON-SITE RETREAT

January 31, 2026

8:30 am ~ 2:30 pm

In this retreat, led by **Pastor Joel K. Johnson**, founding pastor of Westwood Community Church in Chanhassen, Minnesota, we will apply the "Rhythms of Life" to its three fundamental questions: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? In this Retreat we will bring clarity to life's purpose. In Joel's words "We are going to have fun together; it's going to be a meaningful time...and God is going to meet us in personal and powerful ways".

A continental breakfast and light lunch will be included. Tickets are \$20. Register either after the 8:30 service in the Founders Hall, at the Church office, or on-line at veredefaith.org

This Is My Father's World

59



1. This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-tening ears, all
 2. This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car - ols raise, the
 3. Our God has made this world; oh, let us ne'er for - get that



na - ture sings and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the flow - ers bright, de - clare their Mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 Our God has made this world and shines in all that's fair; in
 God trusts us with this world, to keep it clean and fair. All



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; God's hands the won - ders wrought.
 rust - ling grass I hear God pass, who speaks to me ev - ery - where.
 earth and trees, the skies and seas, God's crea - tures ev - ery - where.



WORDS: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901, alt.

MUSIC: Traditional English melody; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

TERRA BEATA

SMD

585 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



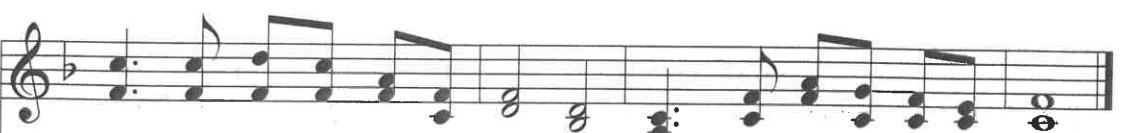
1. What a friend we have in Je-sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri-als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an-y-where?
 3. Are we weak and heav-y lad-en, cum-bered with a load of care?



What a priv-i-lege to car-ry ev-ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev-er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre-cious Sav-ior, still our ref-uge, take it to the Lord in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of-ten for-feit, oh, what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith-ful, who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be-cause we do not car-ry ev-ery-thing to God in prayer.
 Je-sus knows our ev-ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a sol-ace there.





Vision Statement

To be a Christ centered church that inspires individuals to grow closer to God and to serve others with loving and compassionate hearts.

Faith Statement ~ The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Community Church of the Verdes
25603 Danny Lane, Suite 1
Rio Verde, Arizona 85263

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm
Friday — 9:00am — 12:00pm
Telephone: (480) 471-7239
www.verdefaith.org

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Beard
Pastor's cell: (732)546-5332
Pastor's email: sbeard@verdefaith.org
Director of Music: Tom Wojtas
Office Manager: Tami Burke

A/V Operator: Skyler Evans
Vocalists: Debby Wojtas, Jeffrey Stevens, Sara Bruton

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Affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches



We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation



Find us on Facebook "Community Church of the Verdes"