



The Catalina News



You are welcome here!

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, whatever your age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, economic status, education, physical or mental ability, family structure, or religious background, you are welcome.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Dec. 19– Today – in person worship. 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary. Traditional service

Children’s Sunday School – within the service each week

Koinonia Sunday School Class – 9:00 a.m. – E-23 All adults welcome

Seekers Sunday School Class – 9:00 a.m. H-230. All adults welcome

11 a.m. – noon visit the Nativity Room -E18. (see article, p. 5)

Wed., Dec. 22 – Men’s Bible Study – 6:45 a.m. -8:00 a.m. E-23

Th., Dec. 23 – Virtual Coffee – contact Pastor Matt for link

Th., Dec. 23 – Bell Choir rehearsal

Th. Dec. 23 – Sanctuary Choir rehearsal 7:00 – 8:30 Choir Room

Fri. Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Services – 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. (see article p. 6)

Sunday, Dec. 26– in person worship. 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary. Contemporary service – (see article p. 5 “Watch Party”)

Children’s Sunday School – within the service each week

Koinonia Sunday School Class – 9:00 a.m. – E-23 All adults welcome

Seekers Sunday School Class – 9:00 a.m. H-230. All adults welcome

Th., Dec. 29 – Virtual Coffee – 10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Zoom – Contact Pastor Matt for the link

**SUNDAY SERVICES
IN PERSON AND LIVE
STREAMED EACH SUNDAY
10 A.M. – SANCTUARY**

Go to: www.catalinamethodist.org
for the link each week
(Services are also archived
on the website)



2019

MERRY CHRISTMAS

**The deadline for the next
newsletter is:
5:00 p.m., Mon., Jan, 3,
2022.**

**CATALINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2700 E. SPEEDWAY BLVD.
TUCSON, AZ 85716
520.327.4296
EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS – 520.477.8876**

**IN PERSON OFFICE
HOURS
Mon. – Th. 8 am to 2
pm
CLOSED DEC. 27-28
CLOSED FRIDAYS**

STEPHEN MINISTRY

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation. If you are in need of a caring, confidential, Christian ear, call the church office at 520.327.4296.



Please include the following persons during your prayer time:

- Karen Conway – health issues.
- Susie Hathaway – health issues.
- Judy Atchison – her husband Bill recently passed away
- Gil and Virginia Burkel have asked for prayers for their sister-in-law Elizabeth Thomas involving some recent health issues.
- Barbara Montgomery has asked for prayers for continued healing.
- Marvin Blough – pray for healing.
- Kirk Reed – prayers for healing and treatment.
- Ina Smalzer - prayers for restored health while in the hospital
- Opal Weaver - needs prayers for health and strength
- Diane Lopes - asks for prayer or visits
- Margie Quintero - Maggie Campos' sister, that she has a successful knee surgery and recovery
- Sheri Anderson's mother – recovering from eye surgery
- Ruth Carlson – improved health
- Catalina High School staff, administration and students- This is a trying year.
- Craig Boston - specifically for healing of his upper right heart chamber and surrounding area
- Delia Ramirez is requesting pray for rapid and full healing from toe-surgery
- Dani Peterson, Phil Schafer, and Schafer's family have all come down with Coronavirus
- The Siefers Family, struggling with grief from the loss of their son
- Dr. Richard & Carol Livingston to have a safe trip to Italy and back.
- Christine Hathwell – for improved health
- Kathy Shindel – health and mobility improvement

If you would like to add a prayer request to the list, please call the church office: 520.327.4296 or email: newsletter@catalinamethodist.org Also - if you would like a prayer request removed, please let us know

GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS!



Come to Catalina's new weekly musical mediation! Listen to your favorite Christmas music sung and played by Director of Music Dr. Benjamin Hansen in the chapel every Tuesday from 12:30 to 1:00 during Advent. Requests will be taken! Contact ben@catalinamethodist.org for more information.
Dr. Benjamin Hansen

NOT USING SOCIAL MEDIA???

DID YOU KNOW???

ON THE WEBSITE, CLICK ON THE FACEBOOK LOGO TO ACCESS. ALSO CLICK THE YOUTUBE LOGO FOR CURRENT VIDEOS!

Especially fun are the Tues. night story times on FaceBook with Pastor Melissa (click on "VIDEOS" ON THE LEFT)

catalinamethodist.org

tithes & offering
Worship the Lord in Giving

GIVING ONLINE: Click "GIVE" button at catalinamethodist.org and follow the instructions to register and make single or recurring donations.

TEXT GIVING: Text a dollar amount including \$ sign (e.g., \$50) to 520-441-8592 and follow texted instructions to register. After registration, simply text the amount (e.g., \$50) to make additional donations. You will receive an e-receipt.

IN PERSON EACH SUNDAY AT 10:00 IN THE SANCTUARY

BY MAIL: 2700 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85716

MINISTRY UPDATES

Missions/Church and Society

by Doug Wingert

Primavera Men's Shelter – Our last date of the year for cooking and serving hot meals at the Primavera Men's Shelter will be Saturday, December 25th. Yes, on Christmas day. We have a volunteer team, led by Todd Eanes, ready to go and they plan a very special menu for the men who are in residence at the shelter. Thanks again to all the guys who have helped with this effort in 2021.

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen – Our final date for purchasing and delivering groceries for hot meals for Casa Maria in 2021 was on November 20th. I know many of you have asked about making sandwiches for Casa Maria. We look forward to scheduling Catalina volunteers for cooking and serving and sandwich making, hopefully in early 2022. Stand by.

Catalina Snack Packs - Those who are in need now come to Catalina during office hours and request a snack pack from one of the office staff. We distribute approximately 25 snack packs and bottled water each week for the homeless and hungry folks in our church neighborhood. A big thanks to the several volunteers who make this happen.

Food Drive – We will continue to collect non-perishable food for the Interfaith Community Services (ICS) Food Bank through the end of December. Collection bins are located in the Sanctuary narthex and in the church office. In addition to non-perishable, non-expired food, the ICS also has many requests for food for pets. So, if you happen to have some surplus dog or cat food, that also would be welcome.

Packathon – Many of you will remember the annual Packathon events that were initiated by a few dedicated volunteers at Catalina some years ago and grew into a very large, successful outreach that involved a number of other congregations. Our last event, in October, 2019, resulted in numerous volunteers packing 50,000 meals in just one Sunday afternoon. As you can guess, the pandemic put a temporary hold on our Packathon efforts. We are hoping for another Packathon event in 2022. Nothing is certain yet, but stand by for more information.

Angel Tree – Once again, Catalina's congregation has demonstrated its generosity of time and finances by providing 140 Angel Tree Christmas gifts for the children of parents who are in the prison system. (see update p. 4)

LIVE NATIVITY SCENE – MONDAY, DEC. 13TH

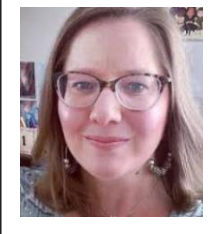
Thanks to all who organized our live Nativity scene last Monday. It was a beautiful evening for church family and the neighborhood!



Singers: (L-R) Ben Hansen, Juan Flores, Abi Juganaru and Emily Drum

Nativity scene: (L-R) Lori Campbell, Christiana Colby, Bob Kuhn, Bob Golden, Sheri Anderson, Kent Batty and Scott Campbell





Catalina,

I love this time of year in the church, as we approach the birth of the Christ Child and are filled once again with the awe and wonder of this gift of love that God has given to each and everyone of us. I love the way someone's face lights up when they encounter God through the story of the birth, through the visual of the nativity, through feeling and knowing that Christ is coming into the world today and every day.

When our boys were 5 and 8 I asked them, "Where does Jesus live?" And Colby responded almost immediately, "in our hearts!" Which definitely makes a pastor mom proud. But then Zachary said, "Wait a minute. Does that mean there's a million little Jesus' in the world?"

Awe and wonder. The simplest question can lead to the most profound of answers. Does that mean there's a million little Jesus' in the world? It is my hope that as we approach the birth of the Christ Child this year that we come with the awe and wonder that reminds us that Jesus is always present, all around us in a million little ways.

It is also my hope that we don't lose that awe and wonder once Christmas Day has come and gone. Everywhere we go, everything we do, we do with Jesus in our hearts. And that my friends, is the true gift of Christmas.

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Melissa

ANGEL TREE UPDATE



Thank you, Catalina! Through your generosity, we have provided two gifts *each* to 70 children of incarcerated parents. Callers called caregivers to see what the children in their care would like for Christmas; one clothing gift and one toy gift. Twelve volunteers wrote out 140 angel tags to hang on the tree. Each tag had a message from the inmate to their children and the desired gift listed. Catalina folks chose tags to shop and shopping we did! Gifts were returned and wrapped with help from our youth group. They will all be delivered to the caregivers by today. The caregivers are always so grateful for the gifts on behalf of the inmate. A Christmas card is sent to each inmate letting them know that their request for gifts for their children have been purchased and delivered. The whole purpose of the Prison Fellowship ministry of Angel Tree is to keep the established relationship between the inmate and their children.

Thanks, Catalina. Another successful Angel Tree year.

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS Dec. 19, 2021 – Jan. 1, 2022

Dec. 19 Micah 5:2-5a

Dec. 20 Luke 1:46b-55

Dec. 21 Hebrews 10:5-10

Dec. 22 Luke 1:39-45

Dec. 23 Isaiah 9:2-7

Dec. 24 Psalm 96 and Titus 2:11-14

Dec. 25 Luke 2:1-20

Dec. 26 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Dec. 27 Psalm 148

Dec. 28 Colossians 3:12-17

Dec. 29 Luke 2:41-52

Dec. 30 Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

Dec. 31 Psalm 8

Jan. 1 Revelation 21:1-6a and Matthew 25:31-46

WORSHIP WATCH PARTY – SUNDAY DEC. 26, 2021

Join us in the Fellowship Hall the Sunday after Christmas at 10:00 am for a worship watch party. Bishop Grant Hagiya, our new bishop, and the annual conference are putting together a worship service for churches to use to give their staff a well-deserved break after all they've done these last two years.

The link for the service will be available for you to watch at home, but you can also join us in person at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall that day. Children and children at heart are invited to wear their pajamas, adults can don their Festive Christmas Wear as we drink hot cocoa and coffee, eat breakfast treats, and celebrate Christmas together. We hope to see you there!

**CATALINA
BREAKFAST CLUB**
Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022
8 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Summer Mission
in Oklahoma City
Andrew Colby



*invite a friend and enjoy fellowship
and nice breakfast for \$ 3.00!*



TODAY-DEC. 19 - Nativity Room (E18)
Stop by and pick up your Nativity that you paid for.
***Special Thank you to the Knight and Morrison Family.
Nativity Scenes generously provided by Roy and Mabel
Knight***

WORD PLAY



~ No matter how hard you push
the envelope, it will still be stationery

~ A dog gave birth to puppies by the side of
the road, and was cited for littering

~ A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France
would result in Linoleum Blownapart

~ Two silkworms had a race. They ended up in
a tie



News Flash: The Missions Team would now like to begin collecting canned and boxed, (non-perishable), food for the Interfaith Community Services Food Bank. (ICS). This is Southern Arizona's second largest food bank and the need is great. Food collection boxes have been placed in the Sanctuary narthex and in the church office. (Please, no perishable or expired food). You can learn more about ICS at www.icstucson.org. Thank you for your generosity in helping to meet the needs of the hungry in our community during the upcoming holiday weeks ahead.

YOU ARE FEARFULLY...AND WONDERFULLY MADE

As we head into 2022 we will kick off the year with a sermon series based on books by Nancy Tillman. Over the course of 6 weeks we will look at who we are, who God created us to be, and how we live as ourselves in the world. Invite others to come and join us as we explore what it means to be created in the loving image of God.

January 9, 2022	"On the Night You Were Born"	Genesis 1
January 16, 2022	"I'd Know You Anywhere"	John 21
January 23, 2022	"Wherever You Are My Love Will Find You"	Matthew 6.25-34
January 30, 2022	"You're All Kinds of Wonderful"	Ephesians 2.10
February 6, 2022	"You're Here for a Reason"	Jeremiah 29.11
February 13, 2022	"The Crown On Your Head"	1 Peter 2

Catalina Methodist Church
2700 E. Speedway Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85716

December 24, 2021
Sanctuary @ 6:00 p.m.
contemporary format
@ 8:00 p.m.
Traditional format

Christmas
Eve
SERVICE

Music from
Handel's Messiah
Christmas Message