

The Church of the Red Rocks - United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Faith Community

February 16, 2025

*Congregation standing in body or in spirit

TO PONDER AS WE GATHER

*I do not understand the mystery of grace - only that it meets us
where we are and it does not leave us where it found us.*
~ Anne Lamott

THE WELCOME

Whoever you are or wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

PRELUDE

"In Christ Alone"

arr. Larry Shackley
Alec Wilkes, piano

*** THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Karen Ellingson

O God, we are people blessed with much.

Yet, sometimes we neglect to recognize our blessings.

Help us, O God, to become people of abundance...

...abundant love, abundant giving, and abundant grace.

In this our living, may we recognize God among and within us.

**And from this awareness of abundant love, may we forgive so
that we too may be forgiven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*** THE OPENING HYMN No. 4**

(verses 1, 2 & 3)

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

STEPHEN MINISTRY TESTIMONY

Debbie Wych & Wally Hornberger

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE "Come My Way, My Truth, My Life"

THE PROPHETIC READING

Karen Ellingson

Jeremiah 29: 1, 4 - 7, 10 - 14

ANTHEM

"Here I Am, Lord"

arr. Arnold B. Sherman

PROPHETIC READING

Karen Ellingson

Jeremiah 31: 31, 33- 34

HYMN OF PREPARATION

"Give Me a Clean Heart"

SERMON

"Yet and Not Yet"

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

GIFT OF MUSIC

Fantasy on "Immortal, Invisible"

CRR Handbell Choir, arr. Douglas Floyd Smith

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

"Make a Channel of Your Peace"

arr. Jane Holstein

*** DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, O God, for the opportunity to give and make a difference. Bless these gifts that they might strengthen our church and her ministries. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN

* PARTING HYMN No. 81

(vs. 1-3)

"God Be with You "

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"We Are Marching to Zion"

arr. Joel Raney

*If you wish to celebrate the life of Wendell Ver Ploeg,
the memorial service will begin in a few minutes.*

We want to keep our beloved members and friends in our prayers. Please pray for:

***Davis H. • John & Antonia S. • John M. • Diane VM. •
Helene L • Chuck G. • Elaine G. •***

If you know anyone in need of prayers, please contact the church office.

BIBLE STUDY

Meet the Prophets: It's now every THURSDAY at 1pm

Join Pastor G for a look at the prophet Jeremiah, and how those prophetic writings have influenced the Christian faith.

STEPHEN MINISTRY - ORIENTATION TODAY

The new Stephen Ministry divides caregiving into smaller, user-friendly roles. You can be on the Care Card Team, or the Friendly Visits Team, or be a classic Stephen Minister. A new class begins February 20 and orientation is **today** in Classroom A.

IT'S A BABY SHOWER! (and more)

To give young parents gifts for their infant children is a rewarding experience because we know those diapers and toddler outfits will bring much joy to the family. Immigrant families who come across the border do not have the resources, nor the means, to provide for their children.

In an effort to love our neighbors, a few members from our church have been collecting baby clothes and accessories for migrant families and delivering them to The Welcome Center in Phoenix, run by the International Rescue Committee. At this center, asylum seekers are processed, given guidance and support so they may live in dignity.

For the next three Sundays, we will be collecting donations of baby clothes, diapers and other accessories. Clothing for men (small) is also welcomed. These donations will then be delivered to The Welcome Center in Phoenix. Be part of this joyful opportunity and bring your donations to church. If you have additional questions or if you want to join the delivery team, contact Pamela Moore at gmoore@olyphen.com.

CHURCH COUNCIL RETREAT

Friday, February 28 from 9am to 3pm.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

The theme for the day is "IMAGINE, Together!"

Visitors, before you leave, visit our welcome table and help us stay in contact with you by filling out the Visitor Contact Card.

OUR MISSION

**Through Christian Worship, Education and Mission
we share and celebrate Faith in God with all.**

Wendell Ver Ploeg

April 5, 1933 - January 13, 2025



Wendell was an active hiker, an avid golfer who achieved six holes-in-one, and working with his hands, fixing things with his sons, Randy and Jim. He had a zest for life and a joy that was contagious. He came to the church with his wife of 66 years, Erma, and he became active in the work of the church by serving in the Search Committee, the Congregational Growth Committee and also by driving residents of Sedona Winds to the worship service. Wendell will be missed!

Welcome

Poetic Reading

Remembrances

Gift of Music

"On Eagle's Wings"

Pastor Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

Homily

Closing Hymn No. 237

"I Come to the Garden Alone"

Benediction

Everyone is invited into Painted Cliffs Hall for a brief reception where you may continue remembering Wendell's life.

What's Going On

For more information about what is happening at the church visit our website or subscribe to the Canyon Echo, our weekly newsletter. If you are interested in any of our ministries or programs, contact Jussara Wagner at the church office. Here are a few of things happening this week:

Tue: (18) 11:00am Bible Study at Sedona Winds
Thu: (20) 10:30am Craft Club
11:00am Congregational Care Min. Meeting
1:00pm Meet the Prophets Class (3/4)
3:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Fri: (21) 9:00am Yin Yoga

Have questions or comments? Send us an e-mail at:

info@churchoftheredrocks.com

Visit our website at:

www.ChurchoftheRedRocks.com

Or visit our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/churchredrocks

54 Bowstring Drive Sedona, AZ 86336 (928) 282-7963

Regular Office Hours: Tuesdays thru Fridays from 9am to 4pm

The Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

Settled Pastor

Dr. Ryan Holder

Director of Music

Mr. Alec Wilkes

Pianist

NAU Choral Interns

CRR Choir

Mrs. Suzanne Moore

Musician Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. George Ault

Pastor Emeritus