NOVEMBER
Announcements
34605 N. TOM DARLINGTON RD.
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85266
WWW.DESERTHILLS.ORG
480-488-3384
Desert Hills
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

1 - Worship, 9:00AM & 10:30AM
4 - Men's Bible Study, 7:00AM
Game Day, 1:00PM
Youth Group, 6:00PM
5 - Grief Group, 4:00PM
7 - Men's Bible Study, 8:00AM
Veterans Day Celebration Dinner, 4:00PM
8 - Worship, 9:00AM & 10:30AM
11 - Men's Bible Study, 7:00AM
Game Day, 1:00PM
Youth Group, 6:00PM
12 - Pop-Up Pantry, 10:00AM
Grief Group, 4:00PM
14 - Men's Bible Study, 8:00AM
Surviving the Holidays, 10:00AM
15 - Worship, 9:00AM & 10:30AM
18 - Men's Bible Study, 7:00AM
Game Day, 1:00PM
Youth Group, 6:00PM
19 - Grief Group, 4:00PM
20 - Third Friday at Noon Concert, 12:00PM
21 - Men's Bible Study, 8:00AM
22 - Worship, 9:00AM & 10:30AM
Community Band Concert, 4:00PM
23 - Knit-Wits, 1:00PM
24 - Singing at The Heritage, 1:00PM *OFFSITE
25 - Men's Bible Study, 7:00AM
Game Day, 1:00PM
26 - Thanksgiving, OFFICE CLOSED
27 - Day after Thanksgiving, OFFICE CLOSED
28 - Men's Bible Study, 8:00AM
Tree Lighting, 5:30PM *OFFSITE
29 - Worship, 9:00AM & 10:30AM

Pop-Up Pantry will be held at DHPC
in the Basement for November.

*Tree Lighting is held at the Sanderson Lincoln Pavilion.

*Singing at The Heritage is held at The Heritage
36590 N Pima Rd #3481, Carefree, AZ 85377

Advent Services

SUNDAYS AT 9:00AM & 10:30AM

NOVEMBER 29	Hope
DECEMBER 6	Peace
DECEMBER 13	Joy
DECEMBER 20	Love

Christmas Eve Services

DECEMBER 24

3:00PM	Candlelight Service
5:00PM	Candlelight Service
7:00PM	Candlelight Service (In-person and livestreamed)

Join us in celebrating the birth of Christ this Christmas season!

34605 N. Tom Darlington Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85266
DesertHills.org | 480-488-3384

Desert Hills PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TOY DRIVE

November 1 - November 22

Join us in supporting Purse-Impressions holiday toy drive. This drive supports children living across Maricopa County.

Gifts can be dropped off to the church office or Sundays on the patio.

PURSE-IMPRESSIONS

Desert Hills PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DHPC's 15th Annual

VETERANS DAY Celebration Dinner

November 7, 2026 ★ 4:00PM-6:00PM

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

Richard Cook
United States Army

Laurann Cook
Bureau of Land Management and Army Wife

"God, Family, and the Army"

Join the Walking Beside Ministry for

Surviving the Holidays

The holidays often bring a mixture of memories, emotions, and challenges for those grieving the loss of a loved one. This special seminar offers a welcoming space to find support, understanding, and practical encouragement.

Topics will include honoring your loved one's memories, handling holiday triggers, creating meaningful traditions, finding moments of joy, and building connections with others who share a similar experience.

Saturday, November 14
10:00AM - 12:00PM

Desert Hills Presbyterian Church
in The Rock

This free seminar includes a complimentary workbook for each participant. Registration is requested by emailing admin@deserthills.org

DHPC YOUTH

EVENTS November

GRADES 6-12

WED. NIGHTS — **YOUTH GROUP 6:00PM-7:30PM**

- JOIN US FOR BIBLE TEACHING, WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, AND GAMES EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT IN THE FELLOWSHIP BUILDING

SUNDAYS — **MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS 9:00AM**

- STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8: CLASS IN THE CAFE OFFERED DURING 9AM SERVICE

Special Event

WED. 11/18 — **FRIENDSGIVING! 6:00PM-7:30PM**

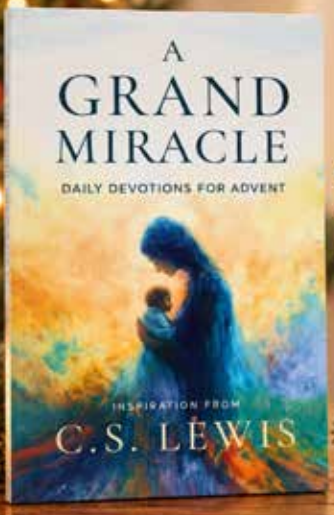
CELEBRATE A SEASON OF THANKS TOGETHER! FRIENDS ARE WELCOME, BRING A SNACK OR DESSERT TO SHARE. MEAL AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

NO YOUTH GROUP 11/25
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

TIME TO SIGN UP!
Winter Camp
Jan. 15-17
Emmanuel Pines.
Use the QR code to RSVP/receive more info.

PARENTS: JOIN DHPC YOUTH SLACK!
EMAIL YOUTH@DESERTHILLS.ORG FOR THE LINK

A GIFT FOR OUR *Congregation*



A Grand Miracle

Prepare your heart for Christmas with this special daily Advent devotional, featuring Scripture, inspiring words from C. S. Lewis, and reflections on the wonder of Christ's birth.

Adult Discipleship is pleased to provide a complimentary copy to our congregation. Pick up your copy and journey with us through the season of Advent!

Poinsettia ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE!

As we prepare for the Advent and Christmas season, we invite you to contribute toward the beautiful poinsettias that will adorn our sanctuary.

Envelopes for poinsettia donations are in the pews. Your gift may be made in honor or memory of a loved one; your name and theirs will be printed in our Christmas bulletin.

Each plant will be $15.00

Donations will be accepted
BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1
through
NOVEMBER 29, 2026.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the season with beauty and joy!

CAREFREE ANNUAL

TREE *Lighting*

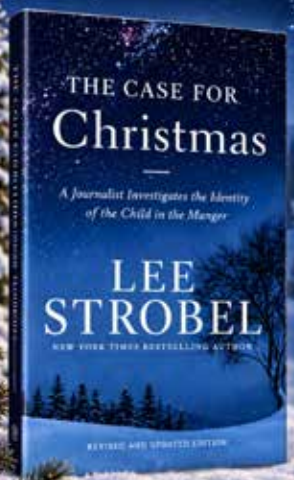
Join us at
Sanderson Lincoln Pavilion
5:30 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

for the tree lighting,
featuring the DHPC Handbell Choir
and Youth Saxophone Quartet.
We will be reading the Christmas Story.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP
INVITES YOU TO A FOUR-WEEK

Advent Study



The Case for Christmas

Together, we'll explore the evidence surrounding the birth of Jesus and reflect on the significance of Christ's coming as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM
November 29, December 6, December 13 and December 20

No purchase is necessary to participate in this class. To register, call the church office at 480-488-3384 or email admin@deserthills.org.

WOMEN'S

Advent

BIBLE STUDY

Join Kathleen Harris for a three-week Advent Bible study as we journey together through *A Grand Miracle*, using the free devotional provided to our congregation.

Mondays, November 30, December 7 & 14 at 6:30PM on Zoom

Thursdays, December 3, 10 & 17 at 10:00AM in The Rock

RSVP to Kathleen at kharris@deserthills.org or 602-741-3429.

Grab your devotional on Sundays or stop by the church office.

Sounds of the Season

Experience the magic of Christmas
with a spectacular musical performance featuring the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, and an array of orchestral and small ensemble musicians.

Join us on the patio after
for a petting zoo, Christmas cookies, hot cocoa, ornament decorating, cookie decorating, and Rhythm Is Life Steel Pan Band!

DECEMBER 6
AT 3:00 PM
FREE EVENT

Desert Hills
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
34605 N. Tom Darlington Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85266
480-488-3384

Presented by Walking Beside Ministry

Candlelight Service for Reflection and Healing

Are you feeling sadness, loss, or grief this holiday season? Come fellowship with us in this spiritual service of healing that encourages and offers hope as we celebrate the peace of Christ's healing love.

December 21, 2026
5:00PM-6:00PM
Desert Hills Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Center

Please join us for a complimentary light supper following the service. RSVP at the Community Life table or call the church office at 480-488-3384.

34605 N. Tom Darlington Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85266

Have you ever wondered what the liturgical calendar is?

It is a structured way for the Church to remember and celebrate the life of Jesus Christ throughout the year, helping the congregation focus its worship on major themes of the Christian faith. It breaks down the year into specific seasons, each with its own special focus and often a corresponding liturgical color. This calendar has two recurring cycles of extraordinary time, which commence with a period of preparation and anticipation and culminate in a season of celebration. One cycle spirals around incarnation and the other around resurrection. The first, the Christmas Cycle, begins on the first Sunday of Advent. The liturgical color is purple or violet.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
LATE NOVEMBER- EARLY DECEMBER

Advent

CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 25

EPIPHANY
JANUARY 6

Christmas Time

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Ordinary Time

ASH WEDNESDAY

MAUNDY THURSDAY

GOOD FRIDAY

Lent

PALM SUNDAY

EASTER SUNDAY

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Easter

Pentecost

TRINITY SUNDAY

Ordinary Time

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

The Christmas Cycle

The Christmas cycle refers to the seasons of Advent and Christmas. It also marks the beginning of the liturgical year. Advent is a four-week season and a time of preparation and anticipation of Christ's birth and his second coming. The first Sunday of Advent begins on the Sunday closest to November 30 and ends on Christmas Eve (December 24). Christmas Time is a joyous celebration of the Nativity of Jesus Christ and his manifestation to the world. It begins on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and ends on the Sunday after Epiphany. While the liturgical color for Advent is purple or violet, the liturgical color for Christmas Time is either white or gold. Each week of Advent focuses on one of four key themes: hope, peace, joy, and love. These themes are often represented by three purple candles (hope, peace, and love) and one pink candle (joy) on an Advent wreath, with one candle lit each Sunday leading up to Christmas. A fifth white candle, representing Christ, is often placed in the center and is lit on Christmas Eve or Day. The first week focuses on the hope of the Messiah's coming and the hope Christians find in Jesus. The second week centers on the peace that Christ brings to the world and the importance of seeking inner peace and peace with others. The third week celebrates the joy of the season, stemming from the birth of Jesus. The final week focuses on the selfless love of God through Christ and encourages people to embody love in their own lives and relationships.

The Origins of Christmas

What is Christmas? It is three words: God in flesh, or four syllables: incarnation. The Christmas cycle focuses on preparing for and celebrating the coming of the Word, Jesus Christ. There are two major theories concerning the origins of Christmas. The first theory proposes that Christmas is the result of the transformation, or Christianizing, of a pagan festival, the "Birthday of the Unconquered Sun." This was celebrated on the winter solstice (December 25), marking the day the sun completed its southward journey and began traveling northward with the promise of more light. Roman documents contained a list of martyrs' anniversaries, which noted "December 25: Christ, born in Bethlehem of Judea." Some believe Christians appropriated this holiday to celebrate the birth of Christ, when the "Light of the world" entered. The second theory is based on a computational analysis. Many early Christians believed that great figures, like Jesus, were conceived and died on the same day. According to the computations of a mixture of the Jewish, Julian, and Gregorian calendars, Christ's death was either on March 25 (Western churches) or on April 6 (Eastern churches). By counting nine months forward, Christ's birth was computed to have occurred on December 25 or on January 6. Therefore, if Jesus died on March 25 (Good Friday), He would have been conceived on that same day, leading to a December 25 birthdate.

Epiphany

During the Christmas Cycle, we celebrate the divine entrance of the Savior into the world. Twelve days after Christmas, January 6, we celebrate Epiphany, the revelation of the Savior to the world. This transition from the Nativity story in the Christmas Cycle is marked with the visit of the Magi and then to Christ's public life and mission. While the feast of Epiphany initially marked Christ's physical birth to the world, it was later linked to Jesus' baptism in the Jordan and to his first miracle, the changing of water to wine at the wedding feast in Cana. The liturgical color is white for the feast day and then green, representing growth and the subsequent transition to ordinary time for the season.

JOIN US FOR

Dining Together

Dining Together.
Grow Together.

Everyone belongs at the table– families, singles, young, seasoned, and everyone in between!

Choose the gathering that fits you best:
- Dining Out – Brunch/Lunch
- In-Home Dinner
- Dining Out – Dinner

Let's share food, fellowship, and friendship.
Pull up a chair—there's a place for you.

Sign up by Dec. 15!

Questions or want more information?
Contact Linda Steiner at 612-840-7049, ljsteiner@att.net or Karlene Wonderlich at 515-708-2279.

ACCESS CONTROL TO OUR CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS — Part Two

Last month we covered the basics: our campus is private property, our security team is always alert, members can help by reporting concerns, and we call the police when needed. This month: how our newly updated alarm and camera systems help keep DHPC safe.

Our alarm system, our control

Our security company used to control how the alarm worked. Now we manage almost everything ourselves, from programming the system to getting text or email alerts when doors open, close, or are left open, and when the system is armed or disarmed.

Cameras across campus

Our cameras capture activity across the campus. Recently, a team member noticed a visitor settling in for the night. The person was asked to leave, and the recording was saved to protect everyone from false claims. If the person returns, the footage goes to the police. Recordings are erased on a set schedule.

Coming soon

The office entrance will soon unlock automatically during business hours and require a numeric code after hours. If you're here 8:00AM to 5:00PM, you likely won't notice. Keys are being phased out, and some exterior doors will be rekeyed because not all keys were returned. The new system will also make locking doors during Sunday services easier.

How you can help: Please use the **office entrance** for the Sanctuary/Admin building and the **main patio door** for the Fellowship Center. If you need an exception, just let us know.

Questions or concerns? Contact Richard or any member of our security team. Richard Cook, 714-270-8119 or bgstaff@desertHills.org.

Pop-Up Pantry

Join us on Thursday, November 12 at 10:00AM in the DHPC Basement.

We are in need of:

-Small-size Liquid Dish Detergent

-Small-size Liquid Hand Soap

-Kleenex (on-the-go packs)

-Bar Soap

HELP REBUILD OUR CHAPLAINCY for the Homeless

Since 2004, the Chaplaincy for the Homeless has been a mission project of Desert Hills Presbyterian Church.

After a challenging season, our nonprofit status has been fully reinstated, and we are excited to begin rebuilding a strong foundation for the future.

We need your help!

Board Treasurer

Do you have bookkeeping, accounting, or financial experience? We are looking for someone to serve as Treasurer and help organize and strengthen the Chaplaincy's finances.

The board meets the third Thursday of each month, 4:00PM at DHPC.

Board Member Marketing & Communications

Help us tell the Chaplaincy's story, increase awareness of the ministry, and connect with people who may want to support its mission.

Bible Study Volunteers

Help share God's Word and build relationships by leading or assisting with Bible studies for our homeless neighbors.

Can be at various locations Monday - Friday 1 Hour Sessions

Interested? **Contact Elder John Thurston**

480-220-6685 john.thurston39@gmail.com

NEED A Hand AROUND THE HOUSE?

The Service Deacons Ministry is here to help members of our congregation with small household projects and maintenance needs.

Whether it's replacing a light bulb, pruning a shrub, or installing a grab bar, our Service Deacons are happy to assist where help is needed.

This ministry is one way we seek to care for and serve one another in Christ's love.

SERVICES WE CAN HELP WITH:

- Replace air filters
- Replace smoke detector batteries
- Replace light bulbs and fixtures
- Minor painting projects
- Shrub and bush pruning
- Tree planting
- Minor plumbing repairs
- Minor electrical projects
- Furniture moving
- Install small appliances
- Hang pictures or artwork
- Install safety or grab bars

For safety reasons, we cannot perform work requiring permits or projects involving high ladder work.

TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE OR LEARN MORE:

Pete Peterson 602-615-3640 OR Joe Zylwitis 724-650-4821