

# Yuma United Church of Christ

An *Intentional* Justice and Peace, Open and Affirming Community  
Where God is Still Speaking



Our Vision Statement

*We are committed to doing God's work through learning God's will.  
Haciendo el trabajo de Dios aprendiendo su voluntad*

Pastor  
Reverend Bonnie McNair

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 9, 2017



**Welcome!** Yuma United Church of Christ welcomes you, whoever you are and where ever you are on life's journey. Our doors and hearts are open to you. **WELCOME!**



Yuma United Church of Christ  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 9, 2017  
10:00 a.m.

Prelude Greg Mulkey

Welcome Dolores Messer

Welcoming Song # 35 vs 3-4 SPP

“No Matter”

Opening Song Matt Murdoch

“One Body”

\* Call to Worship <sup>^</sup> Stephanie Greeley

One: Beloved of God,

**Many: the winter is long past,**

One: the flowers have already appeared on the earth,

**Many: and the time of singing has come.**

**All: Let us lift our voices in praise to our Creator.**

Song On Screen

“Come to Me, O Weary Traveler”

\* Invocation In Unison

**All:** *Author of life, you cast your glory all around us; you invade our sleep; you reveal yourself in ancient stories and the give-and-take of common life. By the power of your Spirit, come to us now, for you have called us to this place. We pray in the name of Jesus—our hope, our confidence—and your beloved Son. Amen.*

Video Nimo, Empty Hands Music

“Planting Seeds – A Song of Life”

Psalter Chris Jones

Psalm 45:11-18 # 650 NCH

Sacred Reading New Revised Standard Version

Hebrew Text Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 *adapted*

*[Abraham’s servant speaking to Rebekah’s family said,] "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'*

"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" — let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'

"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

And they [*Laban (her brother) and Bethuel (her father)*] called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes."

Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Preparing Our Hearts & Minds

Handt Hanson

“Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

Encouraging Our Faith to Grow

Rev. Bonnie

Reflection

Rev. Bonnie McNair

Community Responds

\* Preparing for Joys/Concerns & Prayer:

Taizé Song

“You Are My Hiding Place”

Joys/Concerns & Prayer

Candy Mulkey

\* Response to Prayer

(Sing Twice)

“On Eagles Wings”

Worship in Giving

Erica Messer

Offertory Invitation

One: When Rebekah’s family asked whether she would yield her life to God’s purposes, she answered, “I will.” Every day each of us is challenged by that same question. May the offerings we now bring symbolize our yielding. Let each of us give according to our gifts of time, talents, or finances.

Gifts & Acts of Kindness Received

\* Doxology

(sing once)

\* Offertory Dedication

In Unison

**All:** *Gracious Creator, you have laced our lives with blessing. As we present these offerings, we also tender our lives. Make us your bold and faithful people, willing to go forward in faith wherever you would lead us, that we might be a comfort in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus, by the gift of your empowering Spirit. Amen.*

\* Closing Hymn

# 506 NCH

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

\* Benediction

(In Unison)

**All:** *May the God who brings good from broken desires, the Christ who shares his yoke with us, the Spirit which breathes her wisdom into our hearts be with us, sustain and guide us, as we encounter those who need Your love and compassion this day and every day.*

**All:** *Amen! Shalom! Salaam!*

\* Announcements

Stephanie Greeley

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*Adapted from material written by the Rev. Elsa A. Cook, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, a budding spiritual director and wandering interim minister. She writes liturgies and shares her thoughts on [cookingwithelsa.org](http://cookingwithelsa.org).*

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# Yuma United Church of Christ

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Worship

Pianists

Music Leaders

\* Please stand if you are able.

\*\*Send full worship citation requests to Rev. Bonnie at: [pastorbonnie@uccyuma.org](mailto:pastorbonnie@uccyuma.org)

Greg Mulkey, George Partlow

Stephanie Greeley, Candy Mulkey

## Our Mission Statement

We the fun loving people of the Yuma United Church of Christ seek to be faithful with mind and heart to the example of Jesus.

We aim

- To love and serve all people
- To promote peace and justice
- To be a community that welcomes all people with no exceptions
- To help one another in joy and sorrow
- To cooperate with people from other faith groups and traditions
- To help people overcome their alienation from God and
- To live in harmony with all God's world

Because we love God.

Adopted April 29, 2007

## Mission Moment

### Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

### Genesis 24:34-38

### Chosen Journeys

If you could hover in the sky over Baltimore as all the delegates to General Synod left for their homes, and if all those delegates were all wearing the same solid color – let's say, blue – and you could watch all the blue-colored people from your vantage point in the sky what would you see? You would see blue trails that spread out and clumped together at airports and scattered again by cars and trains. It would probably look like a kaleidoscope moving and swirling and changing patterns as all the bodies moved then stopped for lunch, changed direction or decided on new routes, until finally everyone was somewhere. The next day, without their blue outfits, they would blend back into the everyday journeys we all take; to work, or groceries, the post office, visiting friends.

What if we always left a wake, or a trail, behind ourselves in the molecules of every place we ever went? Suppose we could shine a black light that would capture all those molecules and highlight them? What would we see? What patterns or light rails do we leave behind between friends, changed jobs, relationships, life choices? Could we look back in time and see the exact spot where we made a choice that changed our life? Would we see from our vantage point in time the other permutations of every choice?

All journeys create patterns and lay new paths. The United Church of Christ turns 60, and in those years it has hit many crossroads, made resolutions and pronouncements. We have restructured and reorganized. We have supported causes of justice and created an ever-widening welcome. We have become more inclusive and more ready each year to be the church. All along the way our molecules have swirled with our travels and stopped at every turning point poised and waiting for the nudge of the spirit or a whisper, or a kick to move us to the next stop and the next turn. As people of faith, we believe that all these stops and turns matter, and from the vantage point of distance – either high in the sky or from years hence – we see an open possibility of all the future journeys and choices ahead of us.

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**Announcements**  
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**Special Offerings:** Yuma UCC supports the **Yuma Food Bank, Crossroads Mission, and Immigration Hospitality Ministry** when women and children are dropped off locally after being detained. Each would appreciate your prayers, financial gifts, labors of love, or donations.

**Please mark your giving envelope** if in addition to your support of the Yuma UCC ministry you will be giving a special offering to any of those above. Yuma UCC thanks you in advance for giving your time, talent, and finances to support the Yuma UCC vision and active mission.

**Taizé & Prayer Service on Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm.** Greg and Candy Mulkey lead this weekly time of Taizé and prayer.

**Sunday, July 16, 2017 Music Sunday.** We will worship through music videos that have touched our hearts. Please send music and links you would like to see and hear to Rev. Bonnie at [pastorbonnie@uccyuma.org](mailto:pastorbonnie@uccyuma.org) by Sunday, July 9, 2017. Greg and Rev. Bonnie will create a musical liturgy that will touch all our hearts as we worship the Speaker, the Word, and the Breath. Please send three songs that are meaningful to you. The songs can be any song that touches your heart and gives you a connection to God.

**Sunday, July 30, 2017 Movie Sunday.** We will worship through the movie “*The Shack*”. Worship will be longer than normal as we will have a time of response to how the movie touched our hearts.

**Sunday, July 30, 2017 “Strengthening the Church” special offering.** This offering is to help build up the body of Christ in the UCC.

**Sunday, August 6, 2017 Communion and Common Union Meal.** All are welcome at the table of grace. Plan on staying for our community meal after worship. Bring your favorite potluck dish to share with others. There is always plenty of food and fellowship.

**Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations.** Please see Erica Messer so she can update the birthday and anniversary lists. Erica will be facilitating a monthly celebration. The celebration will be after worship the last Sunday of the month, in which we honor the important dates in our lives. Thank you Erica.

**Thank you Candy Mulkey for always creating a beautiful Altar.**

**Thank you Greg Mulkey for blessing us with your music ministry.**

**Thank you Erica & Dolores Messer for updating and refreshing the front windows and door.**

*INVITE SOMEONE TO COME, SING SONGS, PRAY, AND HEAR STORIES -  
BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU ON SUNDAY.*

**Spring/Summer Attire:** Casual. Enjoy the spring/summer and stay cool in appropriately cool clothing.



## Encouraging Our Faith to Grow

<http://faithformation/journeys.org>



Where can we see God in the world around us? When we think about that question we can look around and see everything that God has created, including us and our families. Has there been a time when you asked your parents for a gift? Sometimes our parents have us look around to find the gift. We can always be grateful for our parents providing for us and helping us grow. We can see how God gives us gifts in our lives and be thankful.



In the Scripture reading for today Abraham sends his servant to get a wife for his son Isaac. The servant who doesn't have a name, asks God for someone who is kind and thoughtful. Rebekah goes to a well to get water and the servant sees her. She is thoughtful and kind to the servant so he asks her if she would like to get married. The servant talks to her family and they agree that she can marry Isaac, his boss's son. So the servant and Rebekah go to where Isaac lives and she becomes his wife.



Let's pray:

*God of love. Thank you for all of creation. Thank you for the people in our lives who love us. We are grateful for all the gifts you give us, including our parents who help us grow. Amen.*

