

Good Shepherd United Church of Christ Church History Timeline

1990

Spring

Green Valley Residents Royal and Iloe Meyer meet with United Church of Christ (UCC) Southwest Conference Minister Carol Keim about the possibility of starting a UCC congregation in Green Valley.

September 2

First church service held on Del Coronado Apartments with Reverend Ray Plumlee serving as Interim Pastor and Ed Sippel as organist

September 16

Church services moved to Pima Savings Bank

October 31

First meeting of the newly formed Church Council

December 2

Congregational Meeting to officially form a church. Thirty charter members

December 31 – 13 members

1991

February 21

Congregational Meeting approves church's Articles of Incorporation

1992

April 5

Church services move to 191 Esperanza Blvd. (Green Valley Plaza, Old Green Valley Post Office)

November

Proposal submitted to UCC Southwest Conference and the Board of Homeland Ministries to help support a permanent, full-time minister

1993

January

Search begins for a permanent senior pastor

April 18

Good Shepherd receives official Ecclesiastic Standing as a church member in good standing with the UCC Southwest Conference

June

- 73 members
- Reverend David Buss call as interim pastor for three months

September

UCC Southwest Conference and the Board of Homeland Ministries begins providing financial support to hire a permanent minister

September 26

Reverend James S. Scovil begins serving as Senior Pastor

1994

January

Church begins the process of looking for a permanent site for the Good Shepherd Church

March 20

Reverend James C. Scovil officially installed as Good Shepherd's Senior Minister

April

- Rev. C. Arthur Bradley appointed Minister of Visitation
- UCC Board of Homeland Ministries approves a loan for the purchase of land for a new church

May 17

Special Congregational Meeting approves the purchase of 5.6 acres on La Canada Blvd. for \$254,000 as the future building site for Good Shepherd Church

1995

May

Sunday worship moves to Jewish Temple/Community Center at Temple Beth Shalom in Green Valley

May 3

Church Council approves the hiring of Bennie M. Gonzales as the architect for Phase 1 of the planned Good Shepherd Church building

1996

January

Church Council approves loan request of \$400,000 to be provided by UCC Southwest Conference and Board of Homeland Ministries and to embark on a Capital Campaign of \$700,000 for funding to construct the new church facility

1997

June 29

Ground breaking for the new Good Shepherd Church facility

August 21

Reverend James Scovil announces his resignation as Senior Pastor effective November 23

October

Search Committee for new senior pastor is convened

December

Reverend Dr. C. Arthur Bradley called as Interim Senior Pastor and begins work December 1

1998

April

Reverend Dr. C. Arthur Bradley resigns as Interim Senior Pastor and Reverend Sue Martin is invited to serve as Interim Pastor

June 14

Congregation calls Reverend Randal John Mayer as its new Senior Pastor to begin work in September

July 19

Last worship service at Temple Beth Shalom

July 26

First service in the new church, 17750 South La Canada Road, Sahuarita, Arizona

August 2

First "official" church gathering in the new church building

1999

May

Reverend Hal Fray called as Visitation Minister for New Member Development

2000

September 3

Church of the Good Shepherd celebrates its 10th Anniversary

2001

First performances of the Javarita Coffee House

2003

Church establishes annual Progressive Theology Forum

2005

Spring

Green Valley/Sahuarita Border Samaritans Founded
- First Border Issues Conference Held

2006

- Church purchases its first vehicle to support Desert Border Samaritan efforts
- Church announces its second Capital Campaign to raise funds for a church building addition

2008

Church votes to become an Open and Affirming United Church of Christ Congregation

2009

1st building addition completed

2010

Sahuarita Community Food Bank established at Good Shepherd UCC Church

2013

Church votes to begin a third Capital Campaign to add a second addition to the church

2016

- Construction of second building addition completed
February 28 – Good Shepherd Church celebrates 25th Anniversary of its founding