

SCW Christian Church Dedicates Site

By Chet Lacy

The Sun City West Christian Church, marking its two years of existence, formally dedicated a 3.65 acre site for future church facilities at 151st Avenue and R. H. Johnson Blvd., Sunday, on Jan. 30, following regular 10 a.m. worship services.

The dedicatory service was conducted by the Rev. Erskine E. Scates, minister of the church, on the site, located on the southeast corner of the intersection. The property was purchased recently from the Del E. Webb Corporation.

Some 75 members of the congregation attended the services of dedication. Plans for construction of facilities will be announced at a later date.

Church

Continued on Page 2



The Rev. Bob Hanson, retired, of Sun City (r., under sign), visits with Gene Carter, chairman of the Sun City West Christian Church, just before burying a canister of historic papers at last Sunday's dedication of the new site for the church at 151st Ave. and R.H. Johnson Blvd. The Rev. Hanson was the original minister at the church when it was first organized two years ago. Photo, Chet Lacy



Principals presiding at the dedication of a new site for the Sun City West Christian Church at 151st Ave. and Johnson Blvd. last Sunday were (l-r) Jim Ayers, church treasurer; Darnell Eggleston, chairman, future development; Gene Carter, chairman; Doyle Woods, past chairman; the Rev. Erskine E. Scates, minister, and Carl Husk, social chairman. Photo, Chet Lacy

Christian Church Dedicates Site

Continued from Page 1

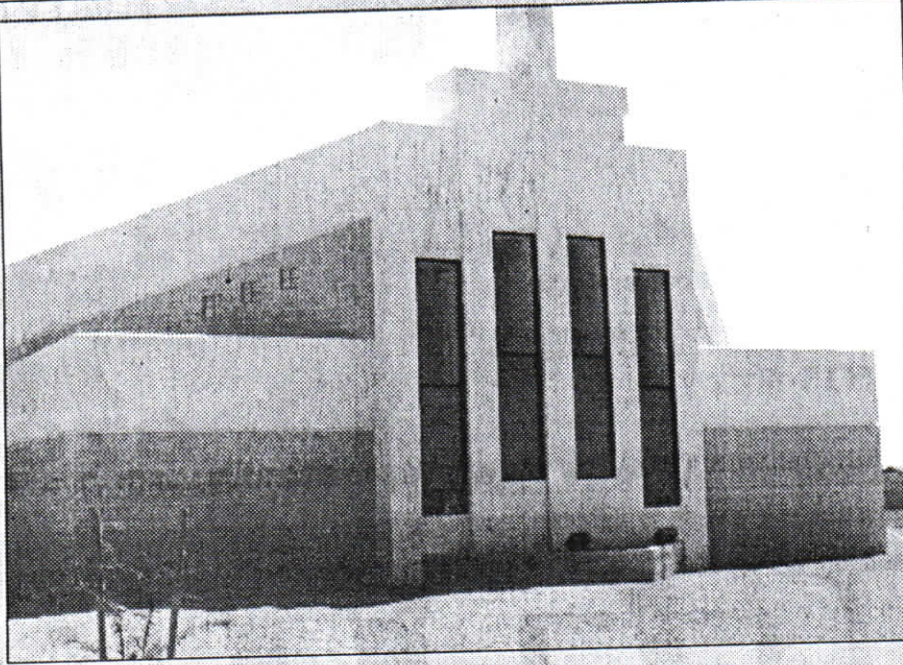
Among the participants in the dedication were Doyle Woods, past chairman; Gene Carter, present chairman; Darnell Eggleston, chairman, future development, with prayers of consecration led by Bailey Shake, Jim Ayers, and Bob Hanson.

A memorial canister was buried on the site. It will later be placed in the cornerstone of the new Worship Center. Among the items in the canister were scripture portions from Matthew 16:13-19 and I Corinthians 3:9-

11; a recent directory of members and friends, and a special scroll signed by all those present.

Sun City West Christian Church first began worship services the first Sunday of January, 1992, and meets presently for worship at 10 a.m. in the Community Services Center at 14465 R. H. Johnson Blvd., across from the Kuentz Rec Center. Services are preceded by Bible School at 9 a.m.

The Rev. Scates was called by the congregation to serve as minister on April 1, 1992.



Sun City West Christian Church, located at 151st Avenue and R.H. Johnson Boulevard, will officially open its new church during an open house planned June 22.

HOUSE OF WORSHIP

SC West prepares to welcome newest church

By CHRIS RASMUSSEN
Independent Newspapers

Sun City West has a new church where all Christian worshippers are welcome, regardless of their religious denomination.

Located at the intersection of 151st Avenue and R.H. Johnson Boulevard, Sun City West Christian Church opened its doors for the first time earlier this month.

The church will introduce its new facility during an open house planned for 4 p.m. June 22.

"We have an informal worship service with an emphasis on singing and teaching," says Pastor Erskine Scates.

He says the worship singing is a blend of familiar hymns and contemporary praise music. The church's instrumentalist is Judy Moreland of Whittman.

Mr. Scates, the church's pastor, has lived in the Sun Cities since 1992. He began his career as a

minister at the age of 20.

"The main point of our church is to provide an open-minded, Bible teaching environment where people can feel they can make a home for themselves," Mr. Scates says.

The church began to form in 1991 with Bible studies held in the meeting rooms at the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center.

The worship center presently can seat 240, but Mr. Scates says the church plans to expand to accommodate 480 with two more buildings in the future.

The church sits on a 3.64-acre site purchased from Del Webb Corp. for \$250,000.

In the spring of 1996 a building fund was initiated and 85 members and friends gave approximately \$250,000 over the next 16 months toward the new facility. First Christian Church in Sun City donated \$20,000 towards the construction.

See ■ CHURCH, Page 12

■ CHURCH

From Page 1

The new facility was designed by Richard Reece and construction was by Arthur Porter Construction Co. of Glendale.

Although the church will hold an open house later this month, Mr. Scates say the church will hold its formal dedication later this year when vacationing residents return.

There will be a 10 a.m. service before the 4 p.m. open house. The open house will be followed by a "Concert of Praise" featuring The Ambassadors Quartet, the church

choir, and soloist Liane Lee.

Leaders of the church include Jim Ayers, chairman of elders; Don Martin, chairman of the steering committee, which forms the various ministries of the church; Gene Carter, chairman of the building committee; Sharon Scates; leader in women's ministry.

The addition of Sun City West Christian Church brings the total number of churches in Sun City West to 13.

Sat., June 21 and Sun., June 22, 1997 A3

SCW Christian Church opens doors to new era

Staff report

Sun City West Christian Church has quadrupled its membership since it opened in 1992 with 22 members.

On Sunday, the congregation of 90 hopes to greet many curious visitors as it opens its new building to the public.

Worship services will be at 10 a.m., with a tour of the building at 4 p.m. and a concert of praise featuring the Ambassadors Quartet, the church choir and soloist Liane Lee at 6 p.m. The church is located at 20803 N. 151st Ave., Sun City West.

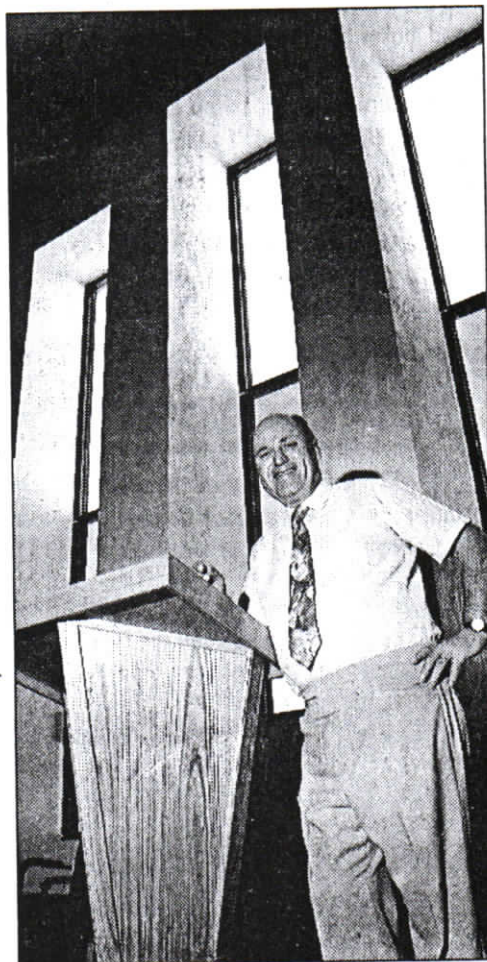
Services, which began in the new building June 1, will continue to be a blend of familiar hymns and contemporary praise music coupled with an in-depth focus on Bible teaching.

"There won't be much change as far as our service is concerned," said Jim Ayers, chairman of elders. "We just have a much better location. We are much more visible having a building rather than a rented room. And now we will have a greater appeal to the surrounding community. In time, we hope to expand our present facility."

The church's roots began in 1991 with Bible studies in rented meeting rooms at the Sun City West Foundation in the 14400 block of R.H. Johnson Boulevard. The first Sunday morning worship service was on Jan. 5, 1992, under the direction of Pastor Robert Hanson, who has since retired.

Erskine Scates and his wife, Sharon, took over the church in April 1992. Within two years, a 3.64-acre site was purchased from the Del Webb Corp., and last spring, a building fund was initiated.

Two more buildings are planned for the site. Already, there is parking



Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

The Rev. Erskine Scates stands at the pulpit in the sanctuary of the new Sun City West Christian Church. The lectern was designed by Scates and built by Gafford Jackson, Victor Schott and Bernie Zoppoth in the wood and metal shops at Kuentz Recreation Center.

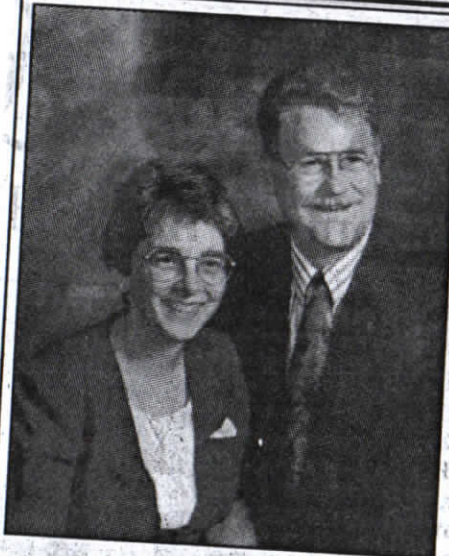
for 250 cars and seating for 240 in the main building.

For information, call 214-6340.

Sun City West Christian Church

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

January 29, 2003



Submitted photo

New pastor

Sun City West Christian Church welcomes Dr. Wayne Dykstra as its new pastor. Dr. Dykstra and his wife, Pat, will be moving to Sun City West on Jan. 31, and his first Sunday in the pulpit will be 10 a.m. Feb. 2. The Dykstras hail from the Salem, Ore., area and presently minister in Prineville, Ore.