

The Voice



Spring in the Desert

To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under Heaven.

Ecclesiastes. 3:1

CHANGE IN MAY VOICE DELIVERY

Please pick up your paper copy of the Voice in the Narthex on the first Sunday of the month. Only permanent or temporary homebound and out-of-state copies will be mailed.

Ministry Care Team

Reverend Deborah Lerner, Senior Pastor
Reverend Alma Aguirre-Olivares, Associate Pastor
Reverend Lee Hirt, Associate Pastor (Part-time)
Esther Vallet, R.N., Parish Nurse

Lay Leader & Staff

Deb Phillips, Lay Leader
Julie Calvert, Accounting
Jodi De Luca, Administrative Secretary
Music Ministry Ken Goodenberger, Director
Bill Moore, Organist/Pianist

Office Telephone: 623-584-2280

FAX: 623-584-1868

Pastor on call for emergencies: 623-584-7642

Prayer Request Line: 623-584-2922

Prayer Request: prayers@shepherdofthehills.org

Hospitalization Notification Procedure

All members and friends of Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church are encouraged to IMMEDIATELY CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (623-584-2280) when you or a loved one are admitted to or discharged from the hospital.

Welcoming Statement

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church affirms the teachings of Jesus Christ by welcoming all of God's children regardless of race, age, gender, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity. Physical or mental ability, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, or any other factor that might separate us from each other. All are invited to join in our shared journey of faith and participate fully in the life of our church.

The Voice published by Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church

13658 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375-3700

Submit articles: church@shepherdofthehills.org

Address corrections: church@shepherdofthehills.org

Article deadline for June issue of The Voice is Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at Noon



Leadership Retreat Follow Up

Thursday, May 16 9:00—Noon

Fellowship Hall Light refreshments

USHER TRAINING FOR NEW USHERS AND THOSE WHO WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND PREVIOUS TRAININGS

TUESDAY, MAY 21 AT 10:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 23 AT 3:00 p.m.

SANCTUARY



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

A Word from the Pastor



Dear Friends,

Our journey through the book “Real Faith for Real Life” by Michael Foss has been very helpful for the classes that gathered each week to share our lives and faith journeys with each other. I hope the messages on Sundays have also blessed those of you who were unable to join a class.

As we have come to the close of this series I wanted to share with you some of the “Signs of Spiritual Growth” that are printed on the last two pages of the book.

These are simple ways to assess whether you are still growing your spirit – something that John Wesley, our founding father, would call “Going on to Perfection.” Another word for it is sanctification – being more and more filled with the love of God and love of neighbor. This is meant to be a lifelong process - a process that does not end when we reach a certain age or stage of life. I find some of Foss’s statements to be especially helpful:

Signs of Spiritual Growth

I find that I am able to trust God sooner in difficult circumstances.

I find that I am able to accept God’s forgiveness and let go of a wrong I have done earlier than before.

I find that I am willing and able to forgive others more quickly and easily than before.

First, I make the decision to forgive.

Second, I act as if the forgiveness has taken place.

Third, my feelings catch up to my decision and behavior.

I accept failure more easily and learn from it.

I find that I am less inclined to try and control others.

I am less judgmental of those who are different than me, or who have difficulties I cannot understand.

I find that I am speaking and listening to God through the day.

I am more frequently and freely generous with my resources – especially my money.

God speaks to me through the Bible.

I have a group of friends with whom I can be spiritually honest and real.

Prayer is my first response to human need.

I like the way Foss has chosen to word these. “I find I am able to trust God sooner...” Accept God’s forgiveness earlier...” Those modifiers speak to my heart, and the truth of my gradual and uneven faith journey. Each aspect of the spiritual life is part of a process that is sometimes also a struggle. I’m so grateful God never gives up on me!

I know I do better at all of this when I strive to live out the marks of discipleship: praying daily, reading the Bible daily, worshiping weekly, serving within the congregation and beyond; gathering regularly with others in small groups to share our journeys; and giving generously.

My prayer is that we will, more and more, do these things both regularly and together, so that we begin to truly understand what we mean each week when we say “I am chosen. I am blessed. I am loved.” — “YOU are chosen. YOU are blessed. YOU are loved.”

Blessings,
Pastor Deborah

WELCOME 2019 SHUMC NEW MEMBERS



CORINNE BAILIFF



JOHN & PENNI BOUWERS



KEN & KATE DAVIS



ANNE FERGUSON



SANDRA FOELL



JOHN & ELLEN HESTER



RITCHHEY & BECKI
HOLLENBAUGH



BRAD & DIANA MARSHALL



BRYAN MCINTYRE

2019 SHUMC NEW MEMBERS



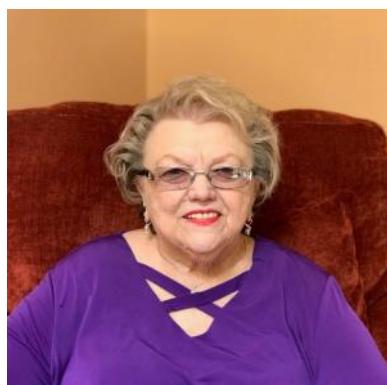
DAN & LINDA MELLON



CORWIN & ARVIE OSTERLOH



JOHN & GAIL POYNOR



BONNIE WESTERN



WILLI WHEELER

WELCOME OUR NEW SHUMC'S ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

JODI DE LUCA



Jodi and her husband, Joe, recently bought a new home and moved to Sun City West.

They are parents of two pugs, Chloe & Zoe, and a rescue cat named Murphy.

Jodi has two grown daughters; one lives in Youngstown and the other one lives in California.

Joe has two daughters and they both live here.

Together they enjoy eating out, playing cards with friends, playing bingo and league bowling.

Jodi also likes to sew, do alterations and make crafts.

Jodi previously worked at Sun City Christian Church and Desert Palms Presbyterian Church and brings 14 years of experience with her.

Jodi commented, "It is a blessing for me to be working in such a friendly and caring environment. I look forward to each new day and the opportunity to meet new people and face the challenges."

Welcome Jodi!



TEA PARTY LUNCHEON

DATE CHANGED TO: MAY 23rd

TIME: 11:30 a.m. COST: \$12 IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

PROGRAM: SINCE WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR, WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO BRING PICTURES OF YOURSELF FROM AROUND 1979 TO SHARE. WE WILL BE HAVING A TRIVIA COMPETITION AND MUSIC FROM THAT PERIOD.

MENU: TEA, ASSORTED FINGER SANDWICHES, DESSERTS & SCONES
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HAT AND BRING YOUR FAVORITE TEA CUP.

NEED A RIDE? CALL BECKY FAY 623-518-9502

TICKETS ON SALE SUNDAYS AT THE KIOSK

AND IN THE OFFICE DURING THE WEEK AS WELL AS A SIGN-UP SHEET TO HELP.

UMCOR TEAM - THANK YOU SHUMC!

The 2019 SHUMC UMCOR Mission Team is especially grateful for all the support we have received from our congregation and the community in receiving funds to send our team to work at the UMCOR West Depot. We have a 10 member team traveling to Salt Lake City in October, and will build disaster kits for UMCOR.

The UMCOR West Depot has requested assistance in sewing shorts which are not a part of an official UMCOR kit, but are used in a vital mission setting here in the USA and Tonga. We are very thankful to the Sew Happy Group and members of our congregation that have been supporting this effort.



2019 UMCOR TEAM: Back Row (L-R): Calvin Slaaen, Rich Barchman, Bryan McIntyre, Ken Peckham Front Row; (L-R): Karen Slaaen, Elizabeth Dodderer, Bev Birdsell, Jean Barchman, Margaret McIntyre, Cathy Peckham

UMCOR - APPLEBEE'S FLAPJACK BREAKFAST



The April 6th Applebee's Flapjack Breakfast was a success for our UMCOR Mission Team.

We cleared \$698.55. Thanks for everyone's support.

Calvin & Karen Slaaen

Pictured: Back Row (L-R) Deb Helgeson, Bev Birdsell, Brad Harrington, Cindy Harrington, Rich Barchman, John McKemie, Colleen McKemie, Calvin Slaaen Front Row (L-R) Karen Slaaen, Jan Zahler, Elizabeth Dodderer, Becky Fay, Jean Barchman, and Patt Prill



THANK YOU FROM UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW would like to thank the congregation for helping us put together 48 Easter Baskets.

Some of those baskets were given to "A Mighty Change of Heart," an organization that helps children who are transitioning into foster care. The rest were taken to Valley View Food Bank where they were added to food boxes given out during Holy Week. We hope you enjoyed doing this project with us. We know you made some children very happy!

UMW would also like to thank our church family for making our Spring Bake Sale a great success. Because you bought our goodies and donated extra funds, we netted \$516.00. All these proceeds will go to the mission work of our organization. We are thankful for your continued support and for the support and blessing of our pastors. We could not do it without you!

Blessings, Sandy Bradley, UMW President

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN THANK OUR CONGREGATION 2019



The United Methodist Women here at Shepherd of the Hills thank you for your continued support of our Mission Candle Fund. It is your way of being able to honor an event while helping us do our mission work, and we feel the recognition of this mission is an important part of each weekend service.

Each time you light the Candle to celebrate and remember an occasion or a special person or persons in your life, the funds you give for this go directly to the mission work of our Unit.

The Mission Candle recognition began in 1995, a vision of Sybil Brockman and Roberta Kaye. Since 1995, you have helped us donate \$68,956.03 to various charities and mission projects locally, nationally, and internationally.

Last year in 2018 you gave \$1,132.00 and United Methodist Women donated \$1,000 to the following organizations:

Red Bird Mission Conference, StreetLightUSA, Sunshine Angels, UMOM, DOVES, and Justa Center

If you would like more information about these charities and missions, please ask a UMW "Team Member." If you have an idea about a mission you would like us to sponsor, please let us know. There are so many in need today!

The United Methodist Women of Shepherd of the Hills are truly grateful for your continued support of these special mission projects.

Jan Bosio,
UMW Treasurer

PARDON OUR MESS! WE ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION!



In April we converted from a very old and no longer supported version of Shelby, a church management system, to ShelbyNext, the latest and greatest model. As with any data conversion, we are discovering ways that this move was successful and ways that it was not so great. It will take us some time to work through the many changes and offer the same functionality we had before.

Please pardon our mess, and grant us grace, as we slowly discover amendments we must make to our practice to continue doing what we have always done.

Rev. Deborah Lerner

Documented Asylum Seekers Help



Since the sermon by Rev. Billy Still, a number of SHUMC members heard a presentation by Lutheran Social Services at Lord of Life Lutheran Church regarding these asylum seekers. Several United Methodist Churches are now involved in providing care to these persons.

These documented asylum seekers are persons who have completed an initial interview with ICE. They have been determined to have met ICE criteria to hold an Alien Card. This card declares that they are in the United States legally. These persons must have a sponsor that has agreed to support them and get them to another ICE interview within 10 days of being released by ICE here in Arizona.

In most cases the sponsor is a relative living somewhere in the United States. When these asylum seekers are dropped off at the bus depot by ICE, they have no clothes, food, money or transportation to get to their sponsor and have their ICE appointment. The UMC churches are housing the asylum seekers one or two nights until transportation can be arranged to get them onto their sponsors. Prior to leaving, they are able to shower, given some clothing, meals and other items identified that they will need for their trip.

At a joint meeting of the Mission Committee, Church & Society, and Opening Minds Group, it was decided to provide needed items identified by one of the UMC churches in the West Valley. During the month of May, the Mission Committee with the support of Church and Society and Opening Minds Group will be collecting rice, beans, granola bars and pre-packaged snacks. The churches providing care also need volunteers to assist with preparation of meals and playing with the children. More information about volunteer opportunities will be provided later. You are encouraged to support D.A.S.H. SHUMC's effort to assist our sister UMC churches in this effort.



RUMMAGE SALE UPDATES

The rummage sale is important for a number of reasons and we certainly couldn't be so successful each year without the work of our volunteers. One of those volunteers is Sand'ee Spears who is in charge of books. Books come in regularly – more frequently than all the other donations. Sand'ee works throughout the year organizing the books so that when the rummage sale rolls around, she and her assistants can get the books displayed and setup appropriately. Sand'ee appreciates her regular assistants who work throughout the sale process and we thank them: Mary Jane and Ed Banfield, Mary Ann Kinser, Sharon Eggebrecht, Don Middleton & Donna Grove. Sand'ee needs help throughout the year both with organizing and moving the boxes. So the purpose of this part of the update is to make a plea for that help and support. If you think you might be interested, please contact her at 623-546-6775 or me at the contact info below.

As stated last month, Sort & Pack Dates are **May 3, Sept. 6, Oct. 4 and Nov. 1**, which means you can drop off items in the Fellowship Hall or the containers the week prior. So for the first date, you can drop off 4/29 – 5/2. If those dates do not work for you, the containers will be open the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month for items to be dropped off.

The other important rummage sale dates are: **set up 11/1-11/2, 11/4-11/6 and sale 11/7-11/9.**

Just a reminder that the items we can't accept are tube TVs, full size appliances, day or hide a beds, large entertainment centers, very heavy/bulky items, and items that are stained or torn. A good rule of thumb to think about is, "if you wouldn't give it to a friend, then don't give it to the rummage sale."

We have three volunteers who are taking requests for pickups and they are: Marian Hamman, 623-243-7666 or marianhamman@hotmail.com; Mary Ann Harris, 623-544-7135 or mah31rlh@gmail.com; Betsy Maple, 573-231-5877 or lochlady@yahoo.com. Feel free to contact any one of them and they will provide more details on the process.

Any other questions or if you want to volunteer, please contact Pat Burke at 623-748-3751 or patburke48@gmail.com.

Pat Burke, Chair

LET US PRAY
By Carol Hilder



DEAR JESUS

They come, oh Lord Jesus,
to see your sweet face;
the children you love and favor with grace.

We ask You, Lord Jesus,
to keep them from harm
and wrap them,
forever,
in Your loving arms.

AMEN

In Memoriam

Brown, C. Richard 4/24/2019

Caldwell, Bonnie 4/24/2019

Grant, Betty 4/04/2019

Ryan, Lillian 4/03/2019

Urich, Mickey 4/06/2019



TRUSTEES FOOTPRINTS

Trustees Going Forward: One Step At A Time

The Chapel fire alarm system is progressing. The bidding process is complete, a contractor has been chosen, and the cost is under budget. There is an engineering review process and two levels of code authority to satisfy. It will likely be several weeks before installation takes place. **Thank you to the Imagine 40 More Years Campaign for making this possible.**

A new Chapel audio system and video projector will also be installed in a few weeks to improve the overall Chapel worship experience. Planning has been going on for the last year or more with the goal of providing more understandable sound and improved VEW experience. Funding comes from designated funds.

The beautiful new flower garden is in place around the electronic sign thanks to master gardener Kelly O'Neal and mom, Patty. It is another reflection of caring and pride in our Church campus.

Many other projects are in progress as we prepare for summer and beyond.

Thanks be to God for our many blessings and the faith to respond, not just hold on.

Mike Hicklin, Trustee Chair



TAI CHI Classes starting 5/14

Series of seven Tai Chi classes - Cost \$35

Intermediate Class - 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Beginner Class - 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Classes held in Fellowship Hall - Sign up in the church office

SHUMC SUMMER MOVIE FUN 2019

Starting JUNE 12, free movies will be shown at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall on select Wednesdays. Free snacks will be served. All are welcome so bring your friends and neighbors for summer movie fun in a cool environment.



THE GREATEST SHOWMAN is the movie for JUNE 12. Hugh Jackman leads an all-star cast in this bold and original musical that follows P. T. Barnum as he rose from nothing to create a mesmerizing spectacle.

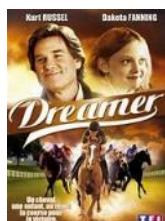
On JUNE 26 the movie is MRS. DOUBTFIRE starring Robin Williams and Sally Field. Mrs. Doubtfire is a delightful doting housekeeper who is actually a well-meaning divorced father trying to spend more quality time with his children.



A DOG'S WAY HOME will be shown on JULY 10. This movie chronicles the heartwarming adventure of Bella, a devoted dog who embarks on a 400 mile journey home.



On JULY 24, the movie is RATATOUILLE. This delightful animated comedy takes place in one of the finest restaurants in Paris where a determined young rat dreams of becoming a renowned French chef. Fun for the whole family.



DREAMER starring Kurt Russell and Dakota Fanning is the movie for AUGUST 7. A horse trainer and his young daughter are determined to help an injured racehorse in an uplifting story that celebrates dreams, second chances and the importance of family.



On AUGUST 21, the movie is MARY POPPINS RETURNS starring Emily Blunt and Lin-Manuel Miranda. Cameo performances by Meryl Streep, Dick Van Dyke and Angela Lansbury are SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS.



THE SANDLOT is the movie for SEPTEMBER 4. Full of family fun, this movie follows a group of neighborhood kids on their magical summer adventures.



GREENBOOK is the movie for SEPTEMBER 18. Inspired by a true friendship that transcends race and class, this movie takes place in the 1960's south where the friends are confronted with racism and danger as well as unexpected humanity and humor. They are forced to set aside differences to survive and thrive on the journey of a lifetime.

SHUMC SUMMER MOVIE FUN 2019 - CONTINUED



The OCTOBER 2 movie is PLACES IN THE HEART starring Sally Field, who won an Academy Award for her performance. The emotionally, gripping story centers around Edna Spalding (FIELD) and her unending struggle against extraordinary hardships in Depression-torn Texas in the 1930's.

TOOTSIE is scheduled for OCTOBER 16. Dustin Hoffman stars ~ with Jessica Lange, Teri Garr, Dabney Coleman, Charles Durning, Bill Murray and Geena Davis in a heartfelt classic that set a new standard for laugh-out-loud comedy.



Thank You to SHUMC for Mary's Place Art Supplies

Thank you for your generous gifts to dementia clients at Mary's Place. They will enjoy using their artistic talents and spending time with others. The following gifts were donated:

Acrylic paint tubes 49
Foam sheets 40
Foam shapes 48
Sketch pads 490 pages
Activity pads 180 pages
Markers 170
Various paint brushes 40
Colored chalk 15
Various sizes of canvas 30
Pastel chalk 36
Construction paper 192 pages
Rub-on paint 3 boxes

Craft glue 4
Colored pencils 138
Stickers 900
Palettes 6
Glitter glue 24
Tempura paint 24
Watercolor paint 24
Tracing pad 80 pages
Glue 14 tubes
Glue gun 1
Highlighters 4
Coloring books 113 pages
Crayons 156

Fuzzy sticks 36
Gel pens 24
Group coloring sets 96 pieces
Wooden block stencils 48
Easels 6
Craft paper and supplies,
pompoms, googly eyes,
watercolor pencils

The Mission Committee thanks you for making life fun for people with dementia.



IMAGINE 40 MORE YEARS CAMPAIGN PROGRESS AS OF
APRIL 15, 2019

PLEDGES-133 DOLLARS PLEDGED \$179,776

DOLLARS RECEIVED \$141,490

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church

13658 W. Meeker Boulevard

Sun City West, AZ 85375-3700

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER
PROMPTLY**

THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE MAY 2019

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturdays 4:00 p.m., "Sweet Hour of Prayer" - in the Chapel

Sundays, 9:00 a.m. "Spirited Traditional Worship" - in the Sanctuary

Sundays, 10:45 a.m. "Informal Praise Worship" - in the Sanctuary

Coffee Hour between Sunday services in Fellowship Hall! Come Join us.

Worship Services

May 4-5	I Am Going Fishing! John 21:1-19
May 11-12	Living as Easter People: Living in Awe Mother's Day Acts 2:42-47 Psalms 23
May 18-19	Living as Easter People: Making Room Acts 11:1-18
May 25-26	Living as Easter People: Who Is the Holy Spirit? Memorial Day Weekend John 14:11-19 25-27
June 1-2	Living as Easter People: What Does the Holy Spirit Do? Acts 1:1-11
June 8-9	Living as Easter People: How Can I Be Filled With the Holy Spirit? Pentecost Acts 2:1-21

