

Circuit Rider

A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale · September 2015



A Full-Size, 2016 Calendar Highlighting Our Church, Our Members, Our Activities, Our Birthdays, and Our Anniversaries

Don't miss this opportunity to get the coolest calendar in town! Our FUMC calendar will contain 13 months (December 2015 – December 2016), with two pages for each month. The upper page will contain pictures of the church and various activities we do throughout the year (council meetings, work days, mission work, camps, VBS, Christmas programs, etc). The lower page will be the traditional calendar grid with holidays, , birthdays and anniversaries marked on the corresponding day. This is a fundraiser for the Capital Fund, so we will also include advertisements from our local businesses.

Something that makes our FUMC calendar especially unique is that church members can have their birthdays and anniversaries (month and day) marked on the appropriate day within the calendar, e.g., June 29th, Pastor Kim's birthday. Each entry will cost a \$5 donation (fundraiser, remember?). A \$10 donation will buy 3 entries. What a great way to remember special days of friends and family!

The major fund-raising part of the calendar will be the sale of ads to businesses. We will be selling full-page ads for \$300, half-page ads for \$160, and quarter-page ads for \$85. We

will also have business card-sized ads for \$50.

To sell the ads we can't rely completely on the over-worked, undermanned Capital Campaign Committee. We will need to enlist the aid of all of the church members. We need you! We will have brochures and order-forms available in September that you can use to sell an ad. Who will buy an ad? Anybody and everybody. A local restaurant, your insurance agent, your dentist, the funky antiques store, your house painter, the neighborhood handyman;

(Continued on page 5)



First United Methodist Church

7102 N. 58th Drive · Glendale, AZ 85301

Phone: 623.939.1409 · Fax: 623.236.9284

Email: rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com · Web: www.glendalefirstumc.com
Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00 am–3:00 pm; closed Friday at 1:00 pm

Sunday Schedule

8:00 am (Lay-led Communion) • 9:00 am Worship • 11:11 am Worship
10:10 am Sunday School Classes for all ages

Rev. Kim Gladding, Senior Pastor

Come and Feel the Love!

The Chancel Choir resumes singing at the 9:00 am Sunday Worship Service on the 13th of September. Rehearsals begin on August 26 at 7:00 pm in the choir room.

Every year, as anticipation grows about the number of singers who will show up, I feel more and more concerned about how to bring the music ministry to worship. I know that everyone has a strong appreciation of the Chancel Choir (and Echoes of Praise at the 11:11 service) but every year, our numbers decrease. With decreasing numbers, it becomes more difficult to select anthems and special music.

For the last couple of years, I have appealed for singers completely understanding that joining the choir is a huge commitment. However, joining in the music ministry of our church brings huge rewards also. There are so many verses in the bible that mention the importance of creating "a joyful noise" for the people. Each season, our choir raises a loud voice in praise of our God, not only on Sunday mornings but also on



Add YOUR Voice

specials days and occasions throughout the year. Does the sharing of our music and talents enrich your the worship experience for you? If it does, and I can't imagine it doesn't, will you consider dedicating time to this activity? I don't expect everyone who joins the choir will be available to sing every Sunday. But can you make plans to sing with us when you are available? We can be flexible!

Membership in the church is not a requirement to join the choir. If you know of someone that is looking for a fellowship opportunity to share with others around a musical activity, suggest joining our choir. We don't discriminate, we appreciate!

This year I will ask the more seasoned choir members to

mentor and guide less experienced singers so that we can welcome all interested people, whether they have a musical background or not.

In conclusion, I hope that you will continue to offer your prayers, expressions of thanks and good wishes to those wonderful people that work so hard to make your Sunday morning worship experience meaningful for you. Thank you for your support.

—Larry Del Rae, Director of Music

The Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm in the choir room (church office building) and sings on Sundays at the 9:00 am Traditional Worship service. For more information, contact Larry Del Rae at ldrae@cox.net or 602-390-4624.

It's easy to say, "I'm a Christian." It takes much more courage and discipline to act like one! To say it another way, the *Walk* is so much more important than the *Talk*! Striving to love, as Jesus loves, will warm more hearts than simply saying: "Jesus Loves You!"

Imagine yourself in a relationship where you are told daily that you are loved. Yet, this person treats you poorly, ignores your needs and demands that you comply with their every wish. In time, any of us would begin to question the genuineness of this friend or partner's love. The same holds true in our faith. We may claim to believe in God, but unless our life and actions line up with what we say we believe, we will be seen as hypocrites. Would a company that sacrifices already dwindling employee benefits to give management more excessive bonuses earn the right to promote themselves as a Christian company?

In the book of James we read: "*My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have*

faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith can't save anyone, can it? Imagine a brother or sister who...never has enough food to eat. What if one of you said, 'Go in peace!...Have a nice meal!'? What good is it if you don't actually give them what their body needs? In the same way, faith is dead when it doesn't result in faithful activity." (James 2:14-17)

Years ago, I remember chuckling when passing a billboard showing a muscle bound man sporting a white moustache. The short phrase on the billboard: *Got Milk?* was the dairy industry's attempt to get more adults drinking milk. I don't know if they succeeded in their mission.

The mission of Christianity, should we decide to accept it (*can you hear the Mission Impossible theme song?*) is to make more disciples of Jesus Christ, which in turn will change the world into a more loving, hospitable, grace-filled place. It will take a lot more than Christians smiling and singing: "*Jesus loves me, this I know*"... Don't get me wrong, I love that song! But we must, as Jesus said, care for *the least of these*, who Jesus claims to be

Got Faith?

By Pastor Kim

family. (Matthew 25:40)

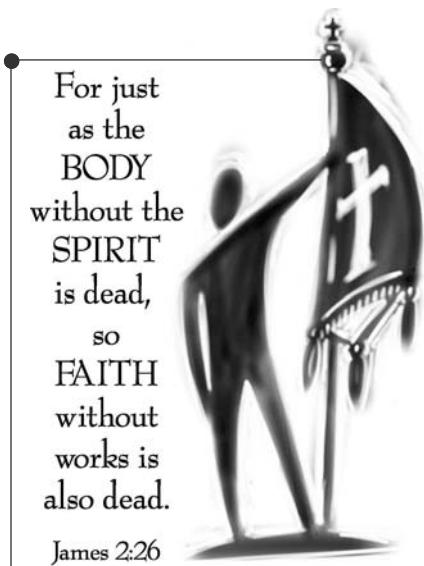
We even are told to *love your enemies...and pray for those who persecute you!* (Matthew 5:44)

In essence, the faith we claim to have must result in faithful living. Try to worry less about falling short of being like Jesus...we will! And never forget Jesus' response when living out our faith feels more like a *mission impossible*: "*For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.*"

Striving, with you, to live faithfully,

—Pastor Kim

For just as the BODY without the SPIRIT is dead,
so FAITH without works is also dead.
James 2:26



News and Notes

For more information, contact the church office 623-939-1409, or rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com

New Member Class (United Methodism 101)

Pastor Kim will be leading a new version of our membership class, United Methodism 101. He is using a new book, "Living as United Methodist Christians," for this class, which will have a new format of 1-hour weekly sessions during September.

The classes will be held on Thursday nights in the library (in the church office building) from 7:00-8:00 pm, September 3 – 24.

If you are interested in pursuing church membership, or just would like to learn more about being United Methodist, please register by calling the office at 623-939-1409, menu option 2, or email rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com.

Adult Bible Studies

I want to thank all who attended the Adult Bible Study during VBS. The book "I Am Revealed" was full of scriptures and inspired thoughts. We had stimulating conversations, and I learned a lot about the Bible stories that I already had read but the author was able to shed new light on them. In all, 21 adults attended the study. I want to thank Ken Weaver for substituting for me the last night when I attended Mission U for UMW. Teaching Bible studies help me to grow closer to God, and your participation makes our fellowship stronger!

Most of you know that Paul has taken a year off from teaching the Koinonia/Wayseekers class. I taught for a while, and Paul & I both attend this class. We have gone to this class for 20 years, and people come and people go. Ted Turner and Ken Weaver have been teaching and have done an excellent job of helping us to learn more about the Bible and keep our fellowship strong in class. Paul and I have appreciated their willingness to step in and allow us to participate as class members. Maybe you have felt the desire to step up and lead in this way or other ways in our church. Do not hesitate to say Yes! if God is asking you to be a leader and not just a follower. God's blessings are waiting for you!

In Christ's name
Judy Cleaveland



Retirement Celebration

Lucy Fricker, the administrator of our Brad Riner Assistance Office, has announced her retirement as of the end of October. There will be a potluck celebrating Lucy's time here at First Glendale—more than ten years! Watch for more information in the bulletins and next month's newsletter.

**Got Drugs? Safely
Dispose of Them!**

**Saturday, September
26, 2015
10 a.m. until 2 p.m.**

**Glendale Adult Center
5970 W. Brown St.
North Parking Lot Area**

The Glendale Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration are providing residents an opportunity to safely and conveniently dispose of expired, unwanted or unused pharmaceutical substances and other medications. Controlled, non-controlled and over the counter substances will be accepted.

*Glass containers, inhalers, intravenous solutions, injectable and syringes CANNOT be accepted due to potential hazards posed by blood-borne pathogens**

*For more information about this event, contact:
Officer Jeff Horsley 623-930-4029 or Officer Andy Lynes
623-930-2554*

Calendars *(Continued from page 1)*

pretty much anyone who has a business card--including all of the businesses in the downtown area of Glendale, and even businesses further afield.

Don't worry about selling too many ads. We can insert additional pages in the calendar to contain as many ads as we sell. (That would be a nice problem to have!)

The deadline for submitting ads or events will be Sunday, November 1, 2015. Calendars will be ready for distribution on December 1, 2015. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact anyone on the Capital Campaign Committee (David Mosley, Olive Norris, Yvonne Zeliff, Ted Turner, and Shelley Mosley) or Rebecca Curless in the church office.

In order to cover the cost of printing the calendar, we will be charging \$10 for each calendar (less than what a typical commercial calendar costs). At that price, we hope every family in the church will buy two or three calendars. We will also be selling the calendars during Glendale Glitters weekends and at every other opportunity.

Again, please know that all of the proceeds will go towards the renovation of our beautiful, but aging 87-year-old sanctuary. Hopefully you will find the calendar a useful and wonderful part of your church life! ♦

Online Giving Again Available

First UMC is pleased to announce that online giving is again available on our website, www.glendalefirstumc.com. Online giving (or e-giving) is a convenient and safe way to make donations to the church. Just click the "donate now" button on the home page, and you will be directed to a secure, encrypted website to complete your credit card transaction.

If you have any questions, contact the church office at 623-939-1409, menu option 2 or rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com.

Report from Mission U

This was my first time attending Mission U and how thankful I am that I did. It was another time to share with my UMW sisters. I attended the class called Happiness. The book we used was *Created For Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God* by Cynthia A. Bond Hopson and Sarah Heaner Lancaster. The leader was Rev. Camille Pentsil, Senior Pastor at Zion UMC in Las Vegas, Nevada. She was able to make the book come alive. There was a chapter in the book called "John Wesley's Theology of Happiness." In this chapter he says, "Inward holiness is not sufficient by itself. Our love must be expressed, so it must lead to outward actions. If we truly love God, we will do things that bring us closer to God."

One of the things that brings me closer to God is attending UMW events. That even includes meetings where decisions need to be made to have these great times of spiritual renewal. I am a member of Esther Circle and I love fellowshipping with these women. We love

Worship Schedule for September 2015

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| September 6: | Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
<i>Got Faith?</i>
Read: James 2:14-17 |
| September 13: | Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
<i>The More You Curse, the Less You Bless!</i>
Read: James 3:1-12 |
| September 20: | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
<i>Demand Less, Understand More!</i>
Read: James 3:13—4:3 |
| September 27: | Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
<i>Pray More, Suffer Less!</i>
Read: James 5:13-20 |

meeting so much that we still meet in the summer months and have breakfast at different restaurants. How connected are you with your UMW sisters? I encourage you to get more involved with the women at church. Joining a circle is a good way to get connected. We are a connectional church, so women get connected!

May God bless you and may your happiness overflow to others!

—*Judy Cleaveland, District Spiritual Growth Officer*

UMW September Meeting

The ladies have been on a break for the summer, but regular circle meetings will resume in September; the September unit meeting will be the **School of Missions Retreat** on **Saturday, September 12**.

The meeting will start promptly at 9:00 am; we will begin serving refreshments at 8:00. We should finish around noon. If you have any questions, need a ride, etc. please contact Connie Weaver at 602-380-3771.

Youth Page

Lake Pleasant Tubing and Swimming

Join us Sunday, August 30, 3:00-7:00 pm for our first kick off event of the new combined monthly youth group with other Central West District churches.

We're launching with a fun time of boating, swimming, and tubing at Lake Pleasant.

This first trip is focused on helping our youth to connect, so we ask that friends *not* be invited this time. We will encourage guests at future activities.

\$5.00 each includes a hot dog dinner (don't let cost stop anyone). There is a \$6 entry fee to the park for each car, so plan on car pooling.

More details coming soon with directions to our meeting 'beach' near Scorpion Bay Marina on the west side of the lake.

Have a boat or know someone with a boat? The more boats, the more fun for the youth.

First Glendale Youth Group will meet in the church parking lot at 2:00 pm. Contact Karen Render at karen_render@yahoo.com or Pastor Kim for more information.



Upcoming Youth Events At-A-Glance

We've mapped out a few months and encourage youth to plan future gatherings.

Aug. 30, 3:00-7:00 pm Lake Pleasant Tubing set up by Spirit of Hope and Spirit Song UMC

Sept. 26, service opportunity, UMOM Walk at the Phoenix Zoo

Sept. 27, 4:00-6:00 pm - Karaoke Night and info about next summer's mission trip @ Spirit of Hope UMC

Oct. 24, service opportunity, Paint-a-Thon, ages 16 and older

Oct. 25, 4:00-6:00 pm - Volleyball Night @ First Glendale UMC

Nov. 22, 4:00-6:00 pm - Making Gifts or Cookies to give out at caroling in December @ Mission Bell UMC

Dec. 20, Caroling: TBD

District Events:

January 16, 2016 30-Hour Famine

February 13-15, 2016 Winter Retreat at Mingus

Conference Events:

February Camping Retreat at Mingus

It is now time to begin our regular Children's Sunday school classes. Registration will commence with our annual **RALLY DAY** on **SEPTEMBER 13, 2015**. Join the teachers during the Coffee Hour after the 9:00 am service to:

- Pick up a registration card for each of your children and fill out while enjoying refreshments. Give the card to your child to give to the teacher when it is time to go to class.
- All the teachers will line up the children to take them to the classroom for a short lesson and introduction to the new curriculum from Cokesbury called DEEP BLUE.
- All classes will then meet back in the Fellowship Hall for the first of the monthly Puppet Show from our Lighthouse Players. Part of the presentation will introduce the biblical theme for that month.



To better facilitate our children's Sunday school time each Sunday we will follow this same schedule of meeting the teachers for Coffee Hour. The teachers will then bring the children to the classroom. Please do not bring your child to the classroom prior to Coffee Hour. If your child has not finished the treat, then he/she may bring it to the classroom when it is time to line up. We are asking that all children join their teachers in Fellowship Hall when it is time and not come to class late. Thank you!

Deadline for the October Newsletter is September 11. Your items for the newsletter should be submitted to the church office by 3:00 pm.
Email: rebecca@glendalefirstmethodistmc.com
Fax: 623-934-4591

NON-PROFIT ORG	U.S. POSTAGE
P.AID	Glenendale, AZ
Permit No. 22	

7102 North 58th Drive
Glendale, AZ 85301-2434

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First United Methodist Church
7102 North 58th Drive
Glendale, AZ 85301-2434