

Circuit Rider

A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale

May 2017



New Faces in Our Church!

We are thrilled to announce that we have not one, but two new people who have joined the First Glendale Office Team. Christine Jones is the new Director of Nurture, and Dawn Horney is the new Brad Riner Assistance Office Administrator. Please welcome them both!

Christine:

I will be working in and around the office for 20 hours a week: working with



Christine Jones—
Director of Nurture

the education team, supporting the youth leader, facilitating the YA program, promoting involvement of children, youth, families, and young adults, liaising and supporting school/church relations, and with pretty much anything that comes my way! Before working for First United Methodist Church of Glendale, I worked as a teacher, traveling around

the world with my family. When I moved back to Arizona, I started volunteering in the church office. You can also find me upstairs during the 9:00 service helping with the visuals. I love that every day is different with lots of new and exciting activities to keep me busy. I understand that no two days are ever the same and I look forward to this challenge.

Dawn: I have been a member of First Glendale for 5 years; my family attends the 11:11 service. I have enjoyed serving on the Education Committee,

as a Lay Servant, coordinating VBS, leading the pilot Puppet and After School Ministry, coordinating the Family Christmas Eve Service, etc.

I'm a teacher by trade and currently lead a den of Tiger Scouts and volunteer teach once a week in the homeschooling community.

Thank you for the opportunity to meet needs in the community



Dawn Horney— Riner
Office Administrator

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First United Methodist Church of Glendale

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Email: rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com · Web: www.glendalefirstumc.com

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00 am—3:00 pm; Friday 9:00 am—12:00 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



Teacher Appreciation Sunday, May 21

Do you know who teaches our children and youth on Sunday mornings – or who volunteers in our nursery? Have you ever attended an adult class on Sunday morning, or a short term class or workshop? No? Then come to the 9:00 or 11:11 am worship service on Sunday, May 21 when we will be recognizing the leaders in our education program. Perhaps you would like to bring a note of thanks to our teachers, or stop by and sign a poster that will be available before and after services.

Save the Date! Upcoming Family Activities

The City is hosting band concerts in Murphy Park during June and July. Concerts are on Thursday evenings, starting at 8:00 pm. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on and enjoy our community band programs. A special concert on Sunday, July 2nd will be a special patriotic music concert for the 4th of July weekend.

Are you up for a nice summer stroll? Historic Downtown Glendale will once again host a summer scavenger stroll through downtown Glendale on June 9th. This third annual event will be between 4:00-8:00pm beginning at the Glendale Visitor Center. Search for clues and win prizes with a grand prize drawing to end the night.

Free Admission to the Aquatic Center. There will be a special Opening Day dedication in honor of late former councilmember Phil Lieberman on June 3rd at 9:00 am at the Rose Lane Aquatic Center followed by an early opening and free admission.

We are looking for some volunteers to help put together some family fun nights during July for families to come and enjoy. Contact Christine Jones if you would like to help plan these activities or write a note on your church registration card and put it in the offering plate. Would you be willing to provide a snack, or plan some games, perhaps sing some songs with karaoke?

Family Camp is coming! Mark your calendar for October 6-8, 2017. Family camp will be at Lynx Lake between Prescott Valley and Prescott. We've reserved the family/group campground again and invite everyone to come join us for a cool time in the pines! Watch for more information upcoming in your newsletters and/or bulletins!



Counting the Moments and Days?

There are times when we wish time could stand still and other times we long for time to move faster. It depends on the chain of events, and even more on how we receive them. One of the longest summers of my life took place during college days, while I was a camp counselor with troubled adolescents. I would have a cabin-full for 18 days, and one day to recover before the next group. During that summer, I learned to worry less about the passing of time and focus more on finding moments of joy and success. It's a lesson I've returned to many times since then, particularly when I am in the midst of challenging circumstances.

In the first chapter of the Book of Acts, we are told that the risen Christ ascends to heaven, leaving the disciples to carry on the mission he began. We are told that the disciples first ask Jesus if now was time that he would restore the kingdom to Israel. (Acts 1:6) Jesus reminds them that the God's timing was not something they needed to worry about. Rather, Jesus says, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my wit-

nesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8) I know it was the Spirit of God that gave me the presence of mind (and heart) to be a witness to those troubled youth. Instead of counting the moments and days I had left, I was able to love and care for these youth with outrageous behaviors. It was truly amazing when there were small changes in their behavior.

We are called to be witnesses of the power of God's love. The less we stop counting the moments and days, the more God is able to empower us to be witnesses of Christ. Instead of counting the days we must endure something, try thanking God for every opportunity to be witness of Christ's love.

Striving to let go with you,



Worship Schedule for May 2017

Sunday, May 7

4th Sunday of Easter/Native American Awareness Sunday
Guest Preacher

Sunday, May 14

Fifth Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day
Read: 1 Peter 2:2-9

Message: *Cornerstone or Stumbling Block?* (Paul Cleaveland)

Sunday, May 21

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Read: Acts 17:22-31

Message: *Religious in Every Way...* (Rev. Kim Gladding)

Sunday, May 28

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Read: Acts 6:1-11a

Message: *Will You Be a Witness?* (Rev. Kim Gladding)

Church News and Notes

For more information, contact the church office 623.939.1409 or rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com

MINGUS CAMP REGISTRATION

We haven't received any requests yet for camp scholarships. If you plan to attend summer camp at Mingus, and would like some financial assistance, be sure to let Rebecca in the office know!

You can still register online, or bring your registration forms to the church. The church has funds set aside for scholarships, but they are limited. If your registration is late, we will not pay for late fees.

For more information, contact rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our regular Sunday School teachers like to take a break over summer so we are in need of some volunteers to cover for them during June, July and August. If you would like to help with this important ministry of our church, please contact Lisa Sanchez, our new Education Chairperson. You can volunteer for a month, the whole quarter or two Sundays or whatever fits

your summer schedule. Come meet some great folks helping our kids learn about the Bible and what it means to be a Christian. Think back to your days in Sunday School- give thanks for your Sunday School teachers and be grateful for the opportunity to pass on that legacy to our children at Glendale 1st!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is scheduled for June 5-9. Our theme is Maker Fun Factory! We will meet in the evening for opening activities and a light meal and then proceed to a rotation of learning stations, including story time, science activities, games, etc. Then we head back to the Fellowship Hall for closing activities. VBS is open to all ages. Come one, come all and plan on having a great time - see you there!

If you want to be part of the adult Bible study at VBS, contact Judy Cleaveland by phone or e-mail so she can make sure she has enough books ordered.
(sunsjudy@cox.net)

Jeanne Rumbold is coordinating meals for us again this year. If your committee would like to help with a meal this year, please contact Jeanne.

SMALL GROUP MEETING AT GLENCROFT

The small group at Glencroft will continue to meet every Thursday. The group, now known as "Methodists and Friends," is led by Pastor Kim and Genny Riner, and meets from 1:00-2:00 pm on the second floor of the South Tower at Glencroft.

Join us for some spirited discussion and Bible Study. If you want more information, contact the office 623-939-1409, Genny Riner or Pastor Kim.

GLENDALE PD SHRED EVENT 8:00 – 11:00 am, at TARGET

10404 N. 43rd Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85302
Far SW Parking Lot

All shredding onsite donated by "SHRED-IT."

Five (5) Bankers Box Limit per Household...due to demand, event may conclude if trucks are full. For more information contact: Doreen Anderson, Glendale PD, 623-930-4044

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

We are moving our church page on Facebook! If you "liked" our current page, there is a link on that page to the new one.

From the Desert Southwest Conference...

The Future AZ Justice For Our Neighbors is a ministry of hospitality that will welcome immigrants by providing affordable, high-quality immigration legal services to low-income immigrants, engaging in advocacy for immigrant rights, and offering education to communities of faith and the public. We have already received financial support of three United Methodist organizations.

- The Inn Project – \$20,000
- The Desert SW Conference Board of Church and Society – \$1,000
- Peace with Justice Grant – \$5,000

Adding these to the donations from over 30 households and congregations, the total received for the first four months of our existence is approaching \$32,500. We are rapidly moving towards our goal of \$115,000.

You will hear much more about Future AZ Justice For Our Neighbors in the coming weeks and learn ways you can get your congregations involved with:

- keeping up the momentum of our fundraising efforts;
- volunteering with hospitality at our future clinic site, Santa Rosa United Methodist Church in Tucson;
- spreading the word about the Future Arizona Justice For Our Neighbors.

Together, we are moving forward. May our brothers and sisters be blessed!

With joy,

—Chris Spencer

President of the Board of Directors of the Future AZ Justice for our Neighbors

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928-970-1329

New Faces

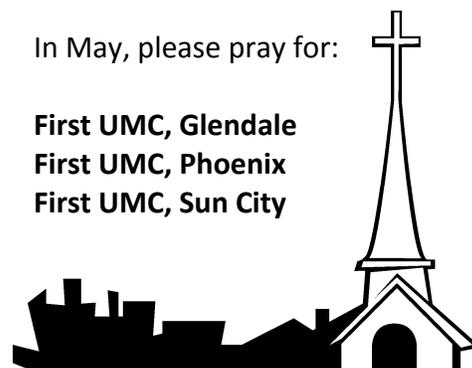
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with the resources channeled through the Brad Riner Assistance Office. I have had a couple days of training, organizing and updating the assistance office; we reopened on Tuesday, April 18. We will have new operating hours: 11:00 am -2:00 pm on Mondays and Tuesdays; or Tuesdays and Wednesdays during weeks with a Monday holiday. If you would like to help make sack lunches Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday mornings or help during operating hours—please let me know. We could use donations of pasta sauce and noodles for the remainder of April. Prayers and donations always appreciated!

Each year, the Central West District prays for all the churches and ministries in its jurisdiction for one month.

In May, please pray for:

First UMC, Glendale
First UMC, Phoenix
First UMC, Sun City



United Methodist Mothers

Women of the Bible are rather fascinating and memorable. The Old Testament has such unforgettable personalities as Eve, Sarah, Jochebed, Miriam, Naomi, Ruth, Tabitha, Lydia and Esther. Many of these women were symbols of motherhood, faithfulness, and compassion.



The story of baby Moses is actually about three women—Jochebed, Miriam and Pharaoh's daughter (unfortunately nameless)—who worked together to save his life.

Of course, their success was part of God's greater plan. God's plan was not only to save a baby but to stop a genocide and to liberate the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt. However, the success of these three women is an example of the miraculous results apparent when women work together to save individuals and communities.

United Methodist Women is all about women working together. This is not only in sponsoring our annual teas but also in various missions: spiritual growth, social action and education. In a recent visit to the Wesley Health Center at Golden Gate Community, Phoenix, we saw how UMW is providing health services to children, women and families. A highlight was the presentation by Betty Mathis, Executive Director of the National Mission Institution of UMW. She told us of the pioneer Wesley Health Center built on 10th Street in downtown Phoenix in 1950. This was part of our Ubuntu journey.

Ubuntu is an African word which is difficult to translate. *Ubuntu*: "I am human because you are human." Yes, we are all human, and when we work together we enhance our humanity by witnessing love and struggles, sharing challenges and opportunities, exchanging ideas and skills. In the country with which I am most familiar (Kenya), there is the concept of *Harambee*, literally, "pulling together" as in a tug-of-war. Communities unite to build schools, construct shallow dams, or pay hospital fees. These two examples support the proverb: "It takes a village to raise a child."

In American history books we learn about another woman, Harriet Tubman, who saved herself and others from slavery in the 1840s. She became active in a movement that created safe houses for runaway slaves. She was responsible for saving 70 families on the Underground Railroad. After the Civil War, Tubman worked with other activists and humanitarians to secure voting rights for women. She was often called the "Black Moses" because she saved so many people.

United Methodist Women are united Methodist mothers. UMW are constantly striving to nourish others as we work together, fellowship together, and care for our families and communities.

"Then the Lord told him: 'I have seen the deep sorrows of my people in Egypt, and have heard their pleas for freedom from their harsh taskmasters.'" *The Living Bible*, Exodus 3:7.

—Eva Ndavu, President UMW, FUMC, Glendale

Ever feel like you're stuck behind the 8-ball?

We all have that lost feeling sometimes—like no matter what we do, we just can't win. Not an image you expect to see in a church newsletter, is it? Well, I just wanted to get your attention.

We are introducing a new program here at First Glendale, well, sort of. Actually, this program has been going on for a long time, but we are giving it a name – the 8-BALL. This is our new name for the 8 o'clock service that is held in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday. I hope that this name evokes an old-time image of a "Ball", where worship is a joyous affair – celebrating our love for the Lord's Word and our desire to share in His Communion Table. Specifically, it is an acronym for 8 o'clock Biblical Applications with the Lord's Supper, Laity-Led – the 8-BALL.



Come join us; share your story, share your spirit, share in the open table – and start your Sunday with the 8-BALL!

—Lyle Clark



Mission u (yes, that is a small, lower case *u*) is coming up soon for those UMW who want to transform their beliefs into action and service. This educational seminar is held annually at various venues in the UMW Conference. This year Mission u for both East and West Districts will be in Scottsdale during the weekend of July 28-29. For the first time there are three scholarships available for young women and for anyone who has not attended Mission u

previously. Applications for scholarships, however, are due **May 15** and must be signed by the applicant and your UMW president before being sent to the District president. If you are at all interested in attending this worthwhile event, please see your local UMW officers for application forms. There will be more information about Mission u in the next Circuit Rider newsletter.

—Eva Ndavu, President UMW, FUMC Glendale

We would like to honor the grads in our congregation Sunday, May 21. Please send the name of the graduate, a photo, and the information about the school, major, and future plans. Email to rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com. Thank you!





Register for Vacation Bible School, June 5-9, 2017!
6:00-8:30 pm
FREE Dinner at 5:30 pm



See our website, glendalefirstumc.com for the registration form and more information.



Deadline for the summer issue is May 16. Your items for the newsletter should be submitted to the church office by 3:00 pm. email: rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com fax: 623.236.9284

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