

Circuit Rider

A publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale

Summer 2018



When All Else Fails

Remember the phrase, "When All Else Fails?" It's a phrase we use when an approach or idea isn't working. Sometimes we say it in frustration and simply give up. Here are a couple examples of a sarcastic use of the phrase: "When All Else Fails, Go Shopping!" Or, "When All Else Fails, Play Dead" (in other words, do nothing!).

Sometimes distance from frustration can help us regroup and approach the same situation with greater openness. This is the intent of the phrase, to try a different approach. Here's a cute digital version of the phrase, "When All Else Fails, ctrl + alt + del..." This one made me LOL, but honestly, there are times I cannot get my fingers on those three keys fast enough, and I hold them down with great force long after my computer has started rebooting. Maybe you can relate?

When All Else Fails, we can allow

frustrations and failures to influence us in negative ways, or we can choose to "Let Go, and Let God!"...another phrase that encourages us to trust more in God than our own efforts. Which brings me to another version of the phrase. "When All Else Fails, God Doesn't!"

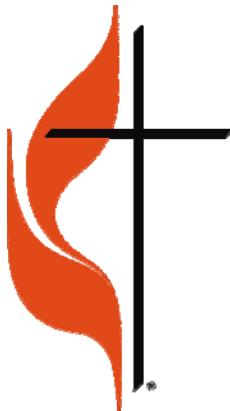
Our vision statement: "Be a Courageous Church, Love Like Jesus, Act For Justice, and Unite in Hope", works well with this version. When I think about Loving Like Jesus, I am reminded that love Jesus has for us never fails and never gives up. The Apostle Paul reminds us in Romans 8:38a...*I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love.*

As we strive to live into our vision to Be a Courageous Church and Love Like Jesus, consider this: When All Else Fails, Love! This is the kind of love God

shows us! After performing a series of miraculous healings (in Mark 5), Jesus returns to his home town. There where he had grown up, Jesus tries to do the same: heal, encourage, preach and teach. But the people who know him expect much less and he is unable to perform the same miracles among them. Mark tells us that Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith (Mark 6:6a). As we courageously respond to Christ's call in the coming year of ministry, let's pray that When All Else Fails, We Continue to Give God Our Best!

Striving to Love Like Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Kim".



First United Methodist Church of Glendale

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; 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

The UMW books can be found in the Fellowship Hall, in the main hallway across from the kitchen. The Christian Book Shelf collection is in the Fireside area of Fellowship Hall.



BOOK REVIEWS

UMW Selection:

"Detained and Deported—Stories of Immigrant Families Under Fire"
by Margaret Regan

An eye-opening look at our country's treatment of undocumented immigrants (often unknown that they are). "On any average day over 35,000 immigrants are detained in some 250 detention centers; only 9 are owned and operated under the feds. The rest are inadequate rural county-run jails in need of income and massive—and lucrative—private prisons like Eloy, run under contract by ICE."

There they are in crowded conditions, underfed and cold. Families are torn apart, individuals shipped across the country and, if released to return to Phoenix, they have no funds to do so. They are dumped across the border often to try and return to their families and jobs. A must read book.

CBS Selection: "New Moon Rising" by Eugenia Price.

A Civil war novel of faith and courage; reads as a stand-alone novel, or as a sequel to "Lighthouse." History, adventure and romance are contained in this enjoyable book.

Youth Selection "John Wesley" by May McNeer & Lynd Ward

An easy to read story of a childhood in a large, poor family. John's father was a minister and actually went to prison for unpaid debts. John was very intelligent and further expanded his schooling through scholarships, eventually deciding to become a minister. He traveled to United States but returned to England to establish the foundations of the Methodist Church.

Summer Worship Schedule

July 1: 6th Sunday After Pentecost

"Seeking the Spirit of God"

(Paul and Judy Cleaveland)

Read: Romans 8:12-14; John 3:7-12

July 8: 7th Sunday After Pentecost

"When All Else Fails, Give God Your Best" (Rev. Kim Gladding)

Read: Mark 6:1-6

July 15: 8th Sunday After Pentecost

"When Heaven and Earth Meet: God Will Be Glorified" (Rev. Kim Gladding)

Read: Ephesians 1:9-14

July 22: 9th Sunday After Pentecost

"Where God Lives"

(Rev. Kim Gladding)

Read: Ephesians 2:17-22

July 29: 10th Sunday After Pentecost

"When God Sends a Friend Request"

(Rev. Tom Wick)

Read Ephesians 3:14-19

Aug 5: 11th Sunday After Pentecost

"Living Small" (Lyle Clark)

Read: Colossians 1:9b-12

Aug 12: 12th Sunday After Pentecost

"Be An Example" (Rev. Kim Gladding)

Read: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Aug 19: 13th Sunday After Pentecost

"Seize Every Opportunity"

(Rev. Kim Gladding)

Read: Ephesians 5:15-20

Aug 26: 14th Sunday After Pentecost

"Fulfill Your Promise Again"

(Rev. Kim Gladding)

Read:

I Kings 8:1,6,10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Update from Nurture

Summer is in full swing! Have you been enjoying the polls on Facebook with unique questions about our church history? June's first question was about the settlement of Glendale. In 1891, Mr. Burgess A. Hadsell advertised to invite families to move to the 'Temperance Colony of Glendale'. There were restrictions placed on new settlers—which of these choices was, in fact, a restriction? 1) No Saloons or 2) No Libraries?

The second June question discussed the church newsletters. The First United Methodist Church of Glendale has had a church newsletter for a long time, but they have changed names over the years. This question may be a real challenge! What was the name of the newsletter in 1962? The choices are: 1) The Methodist Bulletin or 2) Tower Tidings. The answers to both questions will be at the bottom of this column. Just a reminder, if you have a suggestion for a poll question, please send it to me at nurturegfumc@gmail.com.

Now, on a sad note, you may have seen that the sign on the corner of Glenn Drive and 58th Drive was damaged by vandal-

ism. This means no further sign messages until we can get the sign repaired.

On a positive note, Vacation Bible School was a wonderful experience for so many people, both young and old. You may have noticed the strange ship and anchor near the altar; these are part of the VBS experience, which we wanted to share with all of you. If you had fun with VBS, consider participating or volunteering for next year. For more information on VBS, see pages 4 and 5.

Finally, I will continue to post quotes and a bible verses on the Twitter and Facebook during the summer. If you have a favorite bible verse or quote

you want to share with the congregation, just send it to me at nurturegfumc@gmail.com and I will add it to the list.

God bless you and keep you safe on your travels!

—Christine Jones

The answers to the polls: First, According to the advertisement from the Arizona Weekly Gazette in 1892, there could be no saloons or gambling houses, no drunken brawls, no jails, and no paupers. In fact, all deeds carried a clause prohibiting the manufacture or sale of alcohol. Don't you love history?! Second, the name of the church newsletter in 1962 was the "Tower Tidings." The Methodist Bulletin was from much earlier, in 1928.

A Note from the Justa Center

Thank you for your generous donations! Between January 1 and April 30, we were able to move 93 seniors experiencing homelessness into their own housing. In addition, we have provided all furniture including move-in kits (bedding, kitchen supplies, coffeemaker, toaster, pots, pans and utensils) as well as cleaning supplies and other items. This could not have happened without your generosity and your blessings!"

Lets keep filling the BIG RED TUB that is on the stage each week and if items are too large, call 623-937-4682 and they will be picked up. Thank you and may you have a "tub" full of blessings!



Made for a Miracle—Reviewing the 2018 Adult VBS Study

Did you know that you were made for a miracle? Did you know every miracle requires two components, divine action and human responsibility? Did you know in order for a miracle to take place, we must act with God?

During Vacation Bible School, the adult class took a dive into the wonders and challenges of helping to make a miracle happen. I had the honor of leading this class with Judy Cleaveland. The study we did was called [Made for a Miracle: From Your Ordinary to God's Extraordinary](#) by Mike Slaughter. After the first session, we asked that everyone read the chapters before coming to class. This allowed us to focus on the discussions and activities during class time.

This was a very active class! We participated in creative artistry, drawing and writing in response to discussions. There were many group activities, and every night we had to get up and move. This was also a very thought provoking class. We discussed, we shared insight, we shared miracles in our own lives.

On Monday, we focused on discovering our identity and life purpose in Christ. Tuesday, we discussed the cost of a miracle, and how choosing to follow God's call is not easy. On Wednesday, we explored the nature of love and reflected on participation in the miracle of God's love. Thursday, we discussed the power of faith and spent a lot of time examining the scriptures. Friday was all about the power of

prayer and the miracles of health and healing. Through it all, we found the strength in each other to help ourselves move forward in God's plan, to be ready to say "Here I Am, Lord" and do what is needed to take an active role in making miracles happen.

The class also chose one of the Annual Conference mission projects to support. After careful consideration, we chose to support Arizona's Justice for our Neighbors project, and we raised \$76 towards that wonderful cause. I really enjoyed leading this study. If you are interested in taking a class like this one, or even leading one, let us know. Thank you for this opportunity.

—Christine Jones,
Director of Nurture

Angels in Our Church

At each memorial service, there are angels who direct people to seats in the sanctuary and hand out programs. Later, they remove flowers and mementos to the Fellowship Hall for display. The luncheons are served by a group that move tables, chairs, spread tablecloths, arrange flowers, often buy, arrange and serve the food, clearing, storing the remaining food, doing dishes and then returning chairs and tables to the original places. Tablecloths and dishtowels are collected to take home to be laundered. There are only a few of these "angels" doing this and they need help. To share in this ministry, contact Rebecca in the church office. You are needed!

A VBS Reflection by Pam Jackson

As I sit on my bed listening and singing along to my "Shipwrecked" CD, I find myself reflecting on the week of Vacation Bible School. This year I led the music videos and games with my faithful sidekick (and niece), Annaka.

The first night we did a water game. The children had to pour water from a cup over their shoulder into a second cup. The object was to have the most water in your cup at the end of the game. The team with the most water in their cup was the winner. The second game of the night was an obstacle course. Our obstacle course was made up of hula hoops, ropes, a pool noodle and sponges. In our groups at the closing, we had to share with our group one cool thing about ourselves. The one cool thing about me is I love to write Faith Journeys, which I base off the sermons.

The openings and closings were done by Pastor Kim Gladding (aka PK) and Fil Thorn (aka Clark). Fil and Pastor Kim both dressed up as pirates for VBS. Thank you to my mom, Helen Jackson, who made the costumes.

On Monday, Kim did a cool experiment with ice cubes. Annaka and I also made some new friends. The Bible Point for day one was "When You're Lonely, Jesus Rescues." Our Bible Point for day two is "When You Worry, Jesus Rescues." Our game was the obstacle course, a game of ship to shore, and a game with the parachute. Our parachute game included making things bounce. We added ropes, two plastic crabs, and sponges.

Pastor Kim, the children, Annaka, and I all got into a game of ball using Pastor Kim's in-

flatable globe at the end of VBS. The experiment for the night was watching PK spin around as fast as he could without falling. I was more energetic with the videos. I even tried hula hooping with the children and the adults.

The third night of Shipwrecked was extra special for me because I could not think of a better way to spend my 49th birthday than with my church family. The Bible Point was when you struggle, Jesus rescues. Our nightly games included the popular obstacle course, four corners, free fun, and the parachute games. The nightly experiment was sea glass. Annaka and I talked about a time when we were in a storm. The fourth night Bible Point was "When you do wrong, Jesus rescues." We had fun at games because I let the children pick them. The day five Bible Point was "when you're powerless, Jesus rescues." We had another night of free time at games. This time I added marbles.

I would do VBS again in a heartbeat. Annaka and I both had a blast leading the games and music videos. We also both want to be crew leaders in 2019.



Don't miss the going away potluck for Paul and Judy Cleveland on **Sunday, July 1, after church, at 12:30, in the Fellowship Hall.** We will miss them! We want to thank them and wish them well.

Fun Times at UMW General Assembly 2018

It all began as soon as the plane landed in Columbus at about 5 a.m. on Friday, May 18. Gladys, who was sitting in front of me all along, was staying at the same Hilton as I, so we shared a taxi. It was still quite dark. I knew that our Desert Southwest Conference West District president, Cheryl Buchholtz, would be in the room already. Sure enough, as soon as I called, she answered and said to come to room 510. I got to the room promptly but there was no answer after several knocks. I called her again to confirm and she was embarrassed to say that she had given me the wrong number—I should come to room 650. I was very glad that no one came to open the other room! I did not have to be embarrassed about waking a stranger. Luckily that was the only glitch of the 3-day meeting.

The quadrennial General Assembly, themed “The Power of Bold,” was held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center with the community gatherings in the enormous Hall B. Later, the six thousand women broke down into smaller groups of about twenty to attend the pre-registered workshops in various conference rooms. This was an opportunity to learn about the many missions of UMW and to meet other women from around the United States and from the far corners of the globe: Korea, Japan, Tonga, Liberia.

Experience Hall A was where we went to receive our boxed lunches and learn about the many support groups, advisory groups, and partners of UMW. There were booths, vendors, fair trade marketers, bookstore, Ubuntu Networking library and over 50 others. Exhibitors came from Guatemala, Africa, Appalachia, Claremont School of Theology, Latin America, Scarritt Bennett Center, Cokesbury and many other places. It could take an entire day to fully experience all that was available.

Many of us found our way to the Park Street North Market for our evening meals. This was located only a few blocks from the Convention Center and offered a culinary and cultural treat. The market is arranged on two floors with the first floor housing many vendors who sold everything from Mediterranean salads and pita bread to ravioli to pizza. Customers walk up to individual shops, order, pay, and then carry the food upstairs to the mezzanine floor with many small tables or outside to a veranda with picnic tables. From the second floor we could see over the railing down onto the shops and chefs, and we also had good views of the surrounding streets. Some of the ladies went back for desserts while I purchased some fresh muesli for breakfast the next day.



West District President Cheryl
Buchholtz and VP Eva Ndavu

A highlight of General Assembly was the group singing. A booklet of songs and hymns was provided and words also appeared on the massive screens in the main hall. The music was infectious and everyone sang gloriously. But the musicians and band leader were so engaging that no one could resist. Many

(Continued on page 7)

UMW General Assembly 2018

(Continued from page 6)

thanks to Patrick Evans who led many of the group sing-alongs. He is currently in his home state heading up music at the University of Alabama, after spending decades at Yale. Band members included Lynn Braun, Shannon Johnson, and Lydia Smith. Of special note were the tap dancers Alexandria Bradley and Dolores Sanchez. Other music and dances were performed by women from Tonga, Japan, and South Korea.



Linda Triolo, Vice-President, and Eva Ndavu, President, at General Assembly

Women who arrived a day early took part in the Ubuntu day of service to the community of Columbus. Over six hundred women took part in these activities which included working in the vegetable garden with children at Lincoln Park Elementary School or helping to sort donated clothing for the Free Store at the United Methodist Church for All People. Some women worked in the Community Kitchen at the UMC for All People, serving a noon meal to all who gathered there. Over two thousand UMW joined others in a rally at the capitol to demonstrate support for a living wage for all workers. It was service in action for these visitors to Columbus and a great opportunity to know more of our sisters in faith. Our own West District treasurer, Michele Justice, participated in an environmental clean-up activity.

Another highlight of this experience was the generational conformations. Clearly, there were the Baby Boomers, Millennials, Generation Xers and members of the Great Generation. It was especially rewarding to meet and interact with the young women who will be benefiting from all the efforts being put into Legacy 150. Of special note were climatologist Katharine Hayhoe, activist Tamika D. Mallory, Muslim commentator Linda Sarsour, and Rev. Hannah Adair Bonner from the Wesley Foundation of Tucson, Arizona.

On Saturday night women put on their dancing shoes for the party at the Regency Ballroom of the Hyatt. This social bonding was just as important as our social justice and mission work. The fun times there and generally helped build a foundation for the hard work we plan upon returning home to our local organizations. Certainly it was a joyful event and perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me as the next General Assembly will be in Orlando in 2022.

Members can hear more about the Assembly when Eva Ndavu and Linda Triolo present their stories for the UMW annual retreat (Re-View) on September 8, in Fellowship Hall, 9:00 am.

—Eva Ndavu, President, UMW, FUMC Glendale

The Gospel in Glass

One of the first things a person notices when entering the sanctuary is the beauty of the stained glass windows. Captured in each window is an experience or teaching of Jesus or a Biblical truth that comes alive when struck by the first morning light. *The Gospel in Glass* is a forty page booklet that features a full color picture of each window, accompanied by a devotion. Many were written by members of the congregation. The booklet also contains a directory showing the location of each window, a brief history of the church and Judson Studios (creator of the windows). Each family is to receive a booklet at no charge that may be picked up beginning Sunday July 1. Additional booklets may be purchased for a \$5 donation to cover printing costs. Be sure to pick up your copy of *The Gospel in Glass* this week!



Deadline for the September issue is August 10. Your items for the newsletter should be submitted to the church office by 3:00 pm.
Email: rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com
Fax: 623.236.9284

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Glendale, AZ
Permit No. 22

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