

Circuit Rider

A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale · Nov 2018



We will be having an "Angel Tree" type, adopt-a-family program again this year. Volunteers purchase gifts benefiting select families we've met over the past year in the Brad Riner Assistance Office. Most of these families will struggle to buy gifts for the holidays; we send them home from a joyful family party with two gifts for each child to open at

home: one clothing item and one toy or gift card. Children also get to choose several free holiday books to take home.

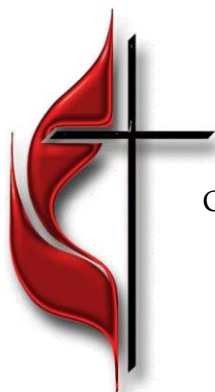
The Angel Tree will be up in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, November 18**. Duplicate paper ornaments will be hung on the tree, listing a gift that the child has requested. Please take the top tag and purchase that gift (\$25 or less) and leave the second tag on the tree. After you shop for the requested item, return the paper tag with the **unwrapped gift to the office by Sunday, December 16**.

The party is on Friday, December 21 from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up to help host fun Christmas activities---cupcake walk, piñata, storytelling, ring toss/bean bag toss, face painting, photo-booth, card-making and ornament crafts and goodies. Another way to help is to bake cookies or desserts and donate them for the party! Any questions, please contact Dawn Horney in the Brad Riner Assistance Office, 623-939-1409 option #1, or email rinerassistance@gmail.com.

UMW Local Organization Celebrates Awards

The 16 women who attended the UMW West District Annual Celebration at Trinity UMC, Phoenix were pleasantly surprised to receive not one but three award certificates for achievements in the last year. The five-star award was awarded for participating in the five channels of giving, revealing faith, hope and love in action. The second award, presented by Paula Sallas, West District Mission Coordinator for Social Action, was awarded for continued programming and enrichment in Living the Charter for Racial Justice. Finally, the Outstanding Local Organization Award was received for the many mission activities continued and/or

(Continued on page 7)



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 12:00 pm

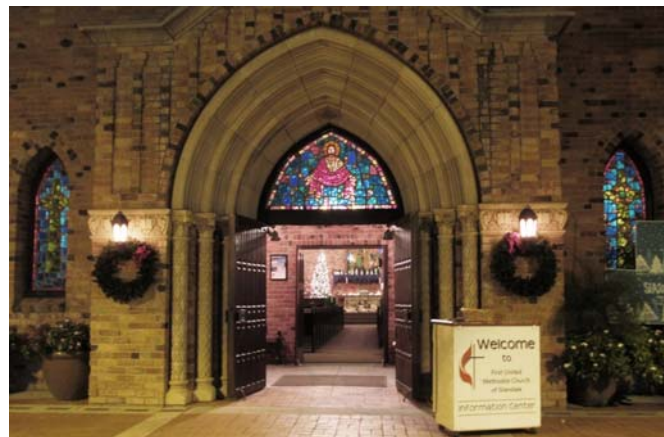
Sunday Schedule

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

Rev. Kim Gladding, Senior Pastor

Glendale Glitters Outreach

Did you notice September and October go zipping by? Now – what a delight – it’s November! In only a few short weeks it will be Advent, and a time to welcome the community into our midst. It is a time to proclaim the good news that God sent His son into the world because He loves us!



Thousands of people will walk through our doors – to see the beauty of our sanctuary, to hear a little history and to find that elusive spirit of God’s love – the true meaning of Christmas. It is an opportunity handed to us because we are adjacent to the City of Glendale’s annual light and holiday display called Glendale Glitters. Beginning on Friday, November 23, we will be opening the sanctuary to visitors every Friday and Saturday night from 6:00–9:00 pm through December 22.

Get ready now – the season of Advent is almost here. Come help us celebrate and share the good news. Watch the bulletins and the December newsletter for a schedule of concerts and caroling. Did you know you can find all the information on our website? Christine and Rebecca do a wonderful job of keeping us informed and updated. There are so many ways to tell the good news! I am excited and I hope you are, too. If you want to help, talk to Rev. Tom Wick, Genny Riner or contact the church office. May the Holy Spirit lead and guide you. –Genny



Veterans’ Day Patriotic Concert and Luncheon SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018



Luncheon at 12:30 pm

Veterans and active duty military personnel eat free!
Suggested donation for others:
\$5 per person or \$15 per family

Slide Show at 1:30 pm; Concert at 2:00 pm

Join the choirs at Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church in a concert to honor our veterans! The concert program will include a salute to the armed forces and various patriotic tunes, from singers and a guitar ensemble.

**Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church
7201 W. Beardsley Rd, Glendale, Arizona 85308 • 623-572-7334**

In 2 Corinthians 9:11-15, the Apostle Paul reminds us that the blessings of God are intended to bring others to a place where they also praise God. We are blessed to be a blessing! If you are like me, you rejoice with every blessing from God, but quickly forget Paul’s reminder that God’s blessings are intended to lead others to God.

11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion...

13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

We, like God’s chosen people, were set apart and blessed to be a light to the surrounding nations. We, like our ancestors in faith, were chosen and blessed so that we might become a blessing to others. This is true in many aspects of life. For example, if we were blessed with great parents, we bless our children with good parenting. Our children grow up healthy, and as a result, they also raise up healthy children, and become good role models to other children in the community. If we are taught a

positive work ethic and to work as a team, we most likely will pass on those important traits. If we grew up in an environment where criticism was avoided at all costs, and everyone was given the opportunity to contribute something, then we most likely will pass these leadership qualities on to others in the work force. An important part of being thankful for what we’ve learned or received is passing it on to others, so they too might be blessed, and in turn become a blessing to others. The most important way we show our thanks is by passing on the blessings we’ve received.

As we move closer to our Thanksgiving celebration, may

Blessed to Be A Blessing

By Pastor Kim

we consider how God has blessed us, and look for ways to return the blessing to God by being a blessing to others.

On November 4, we will give thanks for the saints of our lives, who passed on many blessings to us. God, as you pour out your blessings on us, show us how to be a blessing to others

Yours on the journey,



Sunday Worship Schedule for November

November 4: 24th Sunday After Pentecost; All Saints’ Sunday

Message: *Living to Give!*

Read: Mark 12:41-44

November 11: 25th Sunday After Pentecost

Message: *Blessed to Be a Blessing*

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:11-15

November 18: 26th Sunday After Pentecost

Thankful! (a message from our youth)

Read: 1 Chronicles 29:14-17

November 25: Christ the King Sunday

Message: *Life-Giving!*

Read: Philippians 2:5-11



FINANCE COMMITTEE

In September, members and friends of First Glendale generously donated \$32,946 to support the operation and programs of our church. This includes monies received for the Brad Riner Assistance Office, Capital Improvement, Missions, and other designated funds. With this amount received, we remain behind the level of income we budgeted to receive at this point of the year. Most of our obligations have been paid, although some items that were budgeted are being delayed until funds are available. As we are now in the last two months of the 2018 year members are encouraged to review their personal finances and if possible give a little extra to help the church with our obligations as we prepare to close our books for the year.

The Finance Committee thanks everyone for their continued support. May GOD continue to bless our church.

—Ted Turner, Chairman
Finance Committee

Update from Nurture

“Be more concerned with what God thinks about you than what people think about you.” —Unknown

The polls on Facebook continue. October’s question was a challenge. What was the original name for 58th Drive? Two possible options were given, both historical Glendale street names: South First Avenue or Meridian Street. Just a reminder, if you have a suggestion for a poll question, please send it to me, Christine, at nurturegfumc@gmail.com.

Our Facebook page is getting new, streamlined, professional looking posts. I was able to get a grant for improving the page. This grant includes professional guidance and I am learning more about how to make our social media even better than before. This does not mean the fun posts will stop; it just means that the look will be slowly changing over the next few months as I learn more. You may have already noticed!

We now have 95 followers on Facebook and 43 followers on Instagram, and our tweets have been viewed 3,671 times in just the month of September. For those of you who are not tech savvy, that just means that we are getting the word out about our wonderful services and activities. I am rather excited because I know we are sharing positive, encouraging messages of hope and love with the community around us.

The Education Team is planning for the Christmas Program, and I am excited to say that this one looks like it will be a lot of fun. You should also keep your eyes open for the family activities that are happening each month. For example, the Education team hosted a Pumpkin Painting family activity in October. There was also a family movie night. Family movie nights will continue once a month and snacks are sold to raise money for the general fund.

God bless you and keep you safe as we move into winter.

—Christine Jones, Director of Nurture

The answer to the poll: First United Methodist Church was located at North First Avenue and Avenue “A” in the 1920s and 30s. North First Avenue later became 58th Drive. 59th Avenue was known as Central in the 1940s, but was also called Meridian (at least according to AZ Central’s article about The Spicery).

Thanksgiving Boxes for the Riner Assistance Office

Thank you for your support over the past 12 months. Through donations and grants we have been able to serve 2,353 people, a 27% increase from the total served in 2017. Our Riner Office volunteers have made and handed out 1,782 sack lunches to homeless and needy folks as well as 785 emergency food bags and 263 family food bags. We have provided utility assistance to 210 households.



If you would like to help provide a Thanksgiving meal for 4-8 of our neediest families, please consider donating money, a \$25 grocery store gift card or bring in any of the following:

- Canned or Jarred Gravy
- Bagged Potatoes
- Boxes/Packets of Mashed Potatoes
- Boxed Jello
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Cranberries
- Canned/Bagged Sweet Potatoes
- Bagged Mini Marshmallows
- Bagged or Boxed Rolls
- Store-bought, Boxed Pies

Donations can be put in the collection box in the narthex, or brought to the church office by Sunday, November 11. For all you have done and all you continue to do to support our mission to homeless and needy, thank you!

—Dawn Horney

Family Movie Night
Friday, November 9, 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall



UMW Christmas Tea

The annual Christmas tea is just around the corner and will be early this year: Saturday, December 1 at 2:00 pm. There will be a special holiday tea menu and lots of door prizes. Entertainment will be by the Driftwood Quintet, currently the Glendale resident classical woodwind ensemble. They are highly acclaimed. Tickets will be on sale in November; \$12 for adults, and \$7 for children 12 and under. Don't miss this wonderful holiday fellowship event!

From the Worship Team...

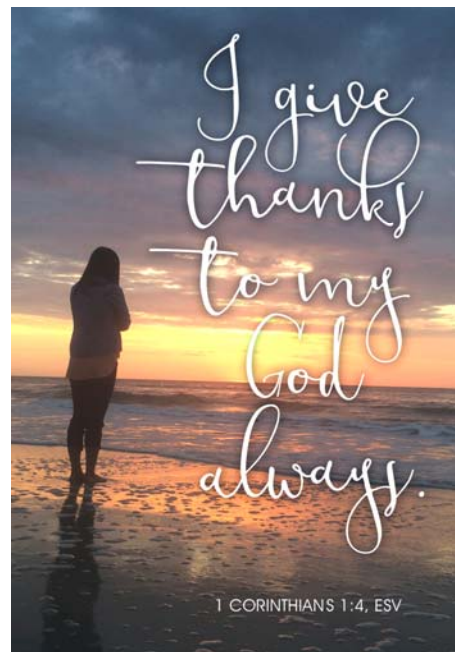
I want to thank all of those folks who filled in for me during my long absence during the summer. I was able to be with my family to share in the grief of my mother's death. My parents attended First Glendale when they spent the winters in Arizona, and enjoyed visiting with everyone during coffee hour.

There are many behind the scenes jobs that need to be completed for our worship services, so having people step up and assume responsibility for all the tasks is very meaningful.

The Worship Team has started planning for the Christmas season. We will once again

offer a Hanging of the Greens service (presented entirely by the youth). We strive to include the youth in as much as possible because they are our future. We will again be decorating the church on the Friday after Thanksgiving at 9:00 am. We need as many volunteers as possible. We always have an enjoyable time, so please consider joining us.

The Worship Team is considering how to fill in the large void that was left when Paul Cleaveland moved to Iowa. He was the permanent liturgist and is greatly missed. We have asked several members of the congregation to join the newly formed liturgy



group to provide this needed service. Updates will be provided on this group.

Our work continues, so from Carol, Karen, Larry, Pastor Kim, and Linda we thank you all for your continued support.



We Give Thanks to God! Thanksgiving Potluck Sunday, November 18

All are invited to attend our church's Thanksgiving celebration potluck that will be held on Sunday, November 18 at 12:30 pm. Bring a side dish and/or dessert to share. Turkey will be provided.

Signup sheets will be in Fellowship Hall on Sundays in November to RSVP and indicate what dish you might bring. Volunteers are needed to help cook turkeys on Saturday, November 17; call Jeremiah Staats at 623-204-3650, or the church office if you can help with this. Servers will be needed, as well as a cleanup crew.

The Angel Tree will be up during the Thanksgiving dinner for anyone who would like to take a tag and donate a gift to a child.

Let's give thanks for all of our many blessings!

UMW Awards

(Continued from page 1)

initiated in 2017. Whereas we are very grateful to the District for this recognition, we nevertheless confirm that it is our calling to serve and we do so humbly and without ulterior motives.

Christine Jones, Eva Ndavu and Linda Triolo joined our West District sisters in faith to attend the annual Desert Southwest Conference celebration on October 27 at Desert Spring UMC in Las Vegas, Nevada. This was another opportunity to share experiences with other women and get new ideas for future events.

In November, Eva Ndavu will lead a Bible study on the four faces of Mary. This is based on the scripture themes underlying the 2018 UMW General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. The theme for that event was "The Power of Bold," and the study will look at Mary's need to be bold as mother, wife, friend and migrant. This event will take place at 11:00 am (immediately following the Memoir Class) on November 9 in Room 101. All are invited.

Another look at Mary will be presented at the Esther Circle meeting on November 13. Phoenix Art Museum docent, Sherry Koopit, will give a slide show featuring images of Mary in art through the ages. This promises to be an en-lightening program. Refreshments are served at 9:30 am, and the program will start at 10:00 am

Remaining your sister in Christ,
—Eva Ndavu, President

Operation Christmas Child—Our Shoebox Ministry!

The Missions Team is gearing up for their Christmas Project: Operation Christmas Child. This year we plan on doing 96 boxes, which will be 16 for each age group. This will cost us about \$2,000. You can help by donating to this project. We have found that it works better if we buy the items that go in the shoe boxes, since there are restrictions on what can be put in the boxes.

We will be packing the boxes on Thursday, November 15th at 6:30 pm in the fireside area of the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to join us! If you would like to sponsor a box, the shipping is \$9.00. We are also having individuals trace their handprints inside the lids of the boxes and ask the children who receive these to place their hands on our print and pray with us. These will be available during Coffee Fellowship each Sunday if you would like to



participate. Last year our boxes went to Mexico and Haiti. It is great to know that even though we cannot send a missionary to these places, we can still send the message of Christ to children around the world. What a great way to send joy to children who might be receiving a gift for the first time in their lives. We appreciate the all help we have received in years past.

—Gail Dameron

Advent Readers Needed

The worship committee is looking for volunteers to light the Advent wreath and read a short litany during Sunday worship services in December. At least two people are needed for each service.

Contact Linda Hardesty or the church office for more information. Thank you!



Deadline for the December Newsletter is November 12. Your items for the newsletter should be submitted to the church office by 3:00 pm.
email: rebecca@glendalfirstumc.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