

Circuit Rider

A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale



125 Years of Mission and Ministry

2019 will be a year of celebrations for our church! The first will be the 90th birthday of the sanctuary on Sunday, February 3, 2019. Way back in 1928, a beautiful house of worship was built by Methodists in the little farming town of Glendale, Arizona. On Sunday, February 3, 1929 people came from near and far to celebrate the dedication of the new sanctuary. Ninety years later, on Sunday, February 3, 2019 we will gather to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Sanctuary and re-dedicate it to God's work.

We will also have some community open houses this winter: Saturday, January 12th (during Glendale Glitter and Glow) and Saturday and Sunday, February 9 and 10 (during the Chocolate Affair).

Then, on Sunday, October 6, 2019, we will celebrate 125 years of mission and ministry in Glendale. On October 4, 1894, Rev. J.A. Couch was appointed to form a Methodist Church in Glendale and became pastor of a small group of Methodists meeting under a brush arbor at Myrtle and Grand Avenues. We will gather to give thanks for the church and the 125 years of mission and ministry that have taken place since.

At age 90, the sanctuary needs some restoration and to help make this possible, the committee will be looking at historical preservation grants and fund-raising activities throughout the year.

—Your 125th Celebration Committee



The clergy and staff at First United Methodist Church would like to thank all of you for your thoughtfulness this Christmas season. Your generosity is overwhelming. Thank you very much!



First United Methodist Church

7102 N. 58th Drive • Glendale, AZ 85301

Phone: 623.939.1409 • Fax: 623.236.9284

www.glendalefirstumc.com

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

Glendale's Hometown Christmas Parade

After a hiatus of a few years, our church participated in the 2018 Glendale Christmas Parade. We had one truck with Pastor Kim and John Mbasi playing the guitar and drums, cranking out Christmas Carols (Linda Triolo driving), and a real-life manger scene in another truck (the Dennison family, with Robin McKnight driving). Ted Turner drove the church van, and had lots of passengers enjoying the ride. Lisa Sanchez and her Little League group were the entry just behind the church.

This could not have happened without a lot of volunteers, so thank you to everyone who worked on the entries, rode in the parade, loaned their vehicles, etc. However you helped, we thank you. It was a great time.

Special thanks to Genny Riner and Rev. Tom Wick, who had the vision, the will, and the drive to get the church back into our hometown parade!



The Big Red Tub

We are still collecting items for the Justa Center in the "big red tub" in Fellowship Hall. The Justa Center is an outreach center for homeless seniors in Phoenix.

In the month of October, the Justa Center, with your help, placed 30 elderly homeless in apartments. Six of these happy residents were veterans. Four van-loads of furniture, household goods, and clothes have been given so far. Remember, what you don't need, they do!

There is a special need for towels, blankets and other household linens, so clean out your linen closet and fill the big red tub!



Worship Schedule for January 2019

January 6: Epiphany of The Lord

Following the Star: Choosing Another Way Home...

Read: Matthew 2:1-12

January 13: First Sunday After Epiphany/Baptism of The Lord

Following the Star: Trusting the Spirit

Read: Acts 8:14-17

January 20: Second Sunday After Epiphany

Following the Star: Serving the Best to the Last and the Least

Read: John 2:1-11

January 27: Third Sunday After Epiphany

Following the Star: Believing in Jesus...

Read: Luke 4:14-21

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ifty years ago Jim Strathdee published the song, "*I Am the Light of the World*." The first verse and chorus transport us from Christmas into the season of Epiphany:

Verse 1: *When the song of the angels is stilled.
When the star in the sky is gone.
When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home.
The work of Christmas is begun!*

Chorus: *I am the Light of the World
You people come and follow me.
If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be*

***Ponderings from
Pastor Kim***

Follow the Star...

Epiphany, sometimes called the Season of Light, invites us to move from the wonder of Christmas to a posture of following Jesus. You've heard the story of the three Magi, who come searching for the promised Messiah. They ask King Herod, "*Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star... and have come to honor him.*" (Matthew 2:2, CEB)

The season of Epiphany, in the United Methodist Church, extends from January 6 (Epiphany) to the day before Ash Wednesday. There are many traditions to celebrate the season of Epiphany, including eating "*King Cake*." In some traditions, a small plastic baby Jesus is hidden in or underneath the cake, and the person who gets the piece of cake revealing the Baby Jesus receives various privileges and obligations. (History of King Cakes. New Orleans Showcase. Eliza Barclay: *Is That a Plastic Baby Jesus in My Cake*, National Public Radio from 2012-2-17). Like Christmas, Epiphany points us to something more than a tradition. It reminds us honoring the Baby Jesus is much more than hiding a little Baby Jesus in a cake. I'm not knocking the King Cake thing... in fact it sounds fun; but Epiphany is so much more. It is our opportunity to renew our commitment to following the star we've been wondering about in the season of Advent and Christmas.

The Magi were so moved in the presence of the newborn King of the Jews, that they altered their lives and went home another way. Epiphany calls us to do the same! Our lives will change in a way that better reflects or follows the life and teaching of Jesus. In "*Light of the World*," Strathdee claims the real work of Christmas is finding the lost and lonely, healing broken souls, feeding hungry children, freeing prisoners, changing the hearts of the powerful and bringing hope in every task we do. Epiphany is such an opportunity for us. We, like the Three Kings, must do more than eat cake and get a prize. We are invited to pledge ourselves, again, to honoring Christ in every aspect of our lives. In the words of another Hymn I have come to love:

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus!

(I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, The United Methodist Hymnal, #206.)

Yours on the journey,



Church News and Notes

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

Lura Turner Homes 9th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, January 26, 2019
Madison Baptist Church
7202 North 12th Street, Phoenix

Dinner Seating Times:

4:00-5:30 pm and 6:00-7:30 pm
\$20 for adults
\$10 for children 12 and under

The evening will feature
entertainment by Diamondbacks'
organist Bobby Freeman
and his wife Charlene.

All proceeds benefit the special
needs men and women who live at
Lura Turner Homes for Adults with
Developmental Disabilities.

Reserve Tickets at 602-943-4789 or
maxm@luraturnerhomes.org

Kitchen Sinks...an Important Note from the Trustees

Did you know there are three kinds of sinks in the kitchen? We have a large, divided stainless steel sink known as the **Scullery Sink**, two small stainless steel **Prep Sinks** and one white porcelain **Hand Washing Sink**.

The **HAND WASHING SINK** is exactly what the name implies. It is a sink that is meant for the washing of hands before handling food. If you are volunteering to help prepare or carry food, you should always wash your hands and gloves are available if you are going to be touching or serving food or utensils. The hand washing sink should be your first stop in the kitchen.

The **PREP SINK** is a restricted use sink. The prep sink is only used in the preparation of food. The prep sink should NEVER be used as a drain for left-over liquids. The prep sink's primary purpose is to keep food safe. Prep sinks help prevent cross-contamination and act as an out-of-the-way place to wash vegetables, rinse food, drain colander items, and anything else that requires food to touch water. Did you know that prep sinks require special cleaning? We have to use sanitizing solution to periodically wipe down their prep areas. While cleaning surfaces with soap and water gets rid of any leftover food particles, sanitizing combats unsafe pathogens that may still remain and fester on those surfaces.

Finally, the **SCULLERY SINK** serves as the kitchen's main sink. The scullery can be used for cleanup of pots, pans, dishes, and whatever else. Typically, the cleanup sink is placed slightly away from the cooking and food storage areas of the kitchen. It is where the leftover coffee and lemonade are meant to be poured. The scullery sinks are also the back-up if the commercial dishwasher breaks down.

If you are spending time in the kitchen to help with coffee hour or one of the many other events, be sure to take the time to use the correct sink for the correct purpose. Thank you.

Update from the Finance Committee

In November, members and friends of First Glendale generously donated \$36,224 to support the operation and programs of our church. This includes money received for the Assistance Office, Capital Improvement, Missions, and other designated funds. As of this writing, we have made 8 of 12 apportionment payments and with the offerings received in early December we should be able to remit more.

The year of 2018 was a reasonably good year in that we were financially able to retain all staff positions, and pay down our one debt. This debt is from our reserve fund and is the result of money borrowed to complete the remodeling of the Fellowship Hall kitchen. This small remaining debt is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

(Continued on page 6)

West District Day of Learning, February 2, 2019

The Day of Learning is a time to connect as the people of God, to learn and grow, and to become better equipped to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Plan to attend and engage with clergy and lay colleagues from the West District. Rev. Rob Rynders will be our keynote speaker. He will be presenting "Creating and Maintaining Communities of Faith for the 21st Century: Learnings from The Orontes Project." You can choose from three locations to attend:

- Trinity UMC — 3030 S. 8th Ave, Yuma
- Mountain View UMC — 901 S. 12th Street, Cottonwood
- Dove of the Desert UMC — 7201 W. Beardsley Rd, Glendale

Workshops Offered (select two):

Further Discussion with Rev. Rob Rynders ** Join our keynote speaker for a more in-depth discussion.

Behavioral Health – Caring for Others/Caring for Ourselves – Rev. Joshua Warner **

Mental health is important. It affects how we feel, act, deal with stress and relate to others. Our Wesleyan heritage calls us to take care of our whole being including our physical, spiritual, and emotional well-being. In this interactive workshop, participants will learn some basics about mental health, how to help others and ways to respond to persons in crisis in the church and in the communities where we live.

Discipling Systems – Rev. Dave McPherson **

If the purpose of The UMC is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world," then we first need to know what a disciple is. And once a church knows, then how does a church "make" disciples? This workshop will look at "membership" and "discipleship". The workshop will also explore the processes Jesus and John Wesley used, and how to create a process for your church today.

Congregational Care Ministries – Rev. Leah Bergstrom

Are your people complaining that no one cares and that no one ever visits anymore? A model will be presented on how to organize a Care Team to reach out to the needs of your homebound members and to others going through tough times. This is an inexpensive yet effective plan to empower lay people.

Going Green – Julie O'Neal

Learn easy steps to reducing your waste in the home, at church, and in the community. These steps include reducing plastic products; composting; recycling; eliminating product packaging and more. There will be time for Q & A.

Not My War – Rev. Tina Marie Rees

Have you ever found yourself in an unending conflict that you swore you would do anything to end ... but just couldn't find the way? The Anatomy of Peace offers us a sure path out of the wars we find ourselves caught in, but first we must learn to see how we feed the spirit of war so that it remains alive. Learn how it can truly be "not your war."

**** Available at Mountain View UMC-Cottonwood and Trinity UMC-Yuma via live stream & live chat.**

Lunch will be provided to all in attendance and is included in your registration fee. You must register for this event at <https://dscumc.org/2018/12/west-district-day-of-learning/>

We offer FREE childcare and lunch for registered infants and children of all ages and abilities. Contact Carla at 602-798-8236 to register for childcare before January 25.

United Methodist Women

January 12 All officers should register for Leadership Development Day (January 26)

January 15 UMW EB 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall

January 26 Leadership Development Day

February 3 FUMC Sanctuary 90th anniversary

February 7 UMW General Meeting, Installation of Officers, 6:30 p.m.

February 9-10 Open House at FUMC

February 17..... UMW Sunday, sign up for individual participation.

March 2 UMW Fat Saturday

As I hand over the gavel (we don't really have one) to Linda Triolo, I would once again like to stress my confidence in her as our new president. At the same time I would like to take this opportunity to honor and express my gratitude to Olive Norris, Margie Connell, Erma Garling, Irma Wilson, Kay Reed, and Blanche Richards for welcoming me with open arms into the fold of UMW. These women have been and continue to be invaluable mentors to all of us, especially in their ceaseless service to UMW, the church and community. Others include Jeanne Rumbold, Sally Dixon, Jane McCutcheon, Genny Riner, Vesta Roper, Rosella Seesholtz, Azzie Turner, Linda Biggar, Kathy Epp, Katherine Holt, Helen Jackson, Lois Miller, Lila Smith, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Kim Thorn, Donna Veigel, and, of course, "the Miller girls," Becky, Karleen, and Rosie. Each of these women have assisted me succeed in the tasks at hand and to grow in faith. There are others, in fact too many to mention.

The next few years will provide considerable challenges for UMW. Locally, the church and congregation celebrate our 90th and 125th anniversaries in 2019, certainly opportunities to support the trustees in their efforts to renovate and preserve the church that we all love. On a larger scale, UMW is committed to four priority social justice issues of economic inequality, climate justice, mass incarceration and criminalization of communities of color, and maternal and child health. God's work is never done.

My responsibilities have not ended but have shifted to other church committees and missions, particularly as vice-president of the West District UMW. In addition, I will be serving on the Human Relations Commission of the City of Glendale. Somehow I hope also to find time to travel, God-willing.

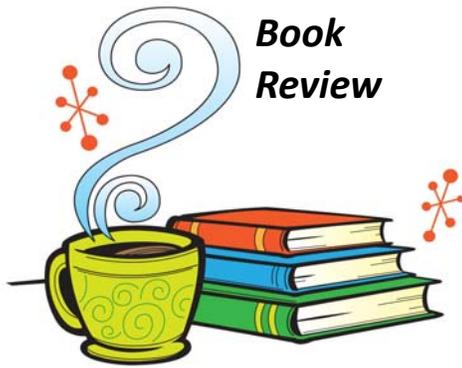
—Eva Ndavu for Linda Triolo (President)

Finance Committee Update *(Continued from page 4)*

At the end of 2018, I will be leaving the finance committee after having served in various capacities since 2010, and the last 3 years in the position of Chairman. I offer many thanks to the members and attendees for their support of the operation of this church. My replacement will be David Mosley, who has served in the position of Co-Treasurer for the past three years. He comes with my recommendation and I am sure that he will do a good job in this position.

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

—Ted Turner, Chairman of the Finance Committee



Book Review

The UMW books can be found in the Fellowship Hall, in the main hallway across from the kitchen.

UMW Selection: "Good Health, Good Life: 12 Keys to Enjoying Physical and Spiritual Wellness" by Joyce Meyer

In this book, the author Joyce Meyer presents her 12 keys to moving to a healthier life. Her suggestions are practical, easy to follow, and demonstrate the importance of including God in a plan for a healthy life. From healthy eating and exercise to de-stressing and thinking positively, these keys to good health are a good starting point for anyone who is considering making a move to improve their health this holiday season. With the New Year and healthy resolutions on the horizon, this may be a great book for you.

—Christine Jones



Transform a life, and your own

Lindsey only held her newborn daughter for 5 minutes before she was rushed to the OR with post-delivery complications. 10 red cell and 8 platelet transfusions saved her life so she could watch her kids grow.

"The simple act of donating can have such a huge impact in the lives of the people it saves. Every day, blood donors give people a second chance at life – people like me."

Mayor Weiers' Blood Drive

Wed., Jan. 9, 2019

7:30 am ~ 3:30 pm

Glendale Civic Center Annex Bldg.



Contact Ali Walechi-Brooks at 623-930-2467 or visit www.BloodHero.com (Sponsor Code: Weiers).

The Thunderbirds would like to thank you with a voucher for a free one-day admission ticket to the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

With support from:



For more information or to schedule a donation, call 877-25-VITAL or visit us at vitalant.org
Find us @vitalant:





Thank you!

Heartfelt thanks to all who volunteered to host for the Glendale Glitters outreach. It is a difficult in our busy lives to find time for any extra activities; but this is an important outreach ministry. Many people were blessed to be able to sing and praise God during the concerts and caroling nights. It was a wonderful Advent season!

**Our offices will be closed on January 1 in observance of New Year's Day and
January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

Deadline for the February issue is January 15. 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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