

Circuit Rider

A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale

February
2019

Celebrate Our Sanctuary's 90th Birthday

Sunday, February 3, 2019

Bishop Robert Hoshibata Preaching

On Sunday, February 3, 1929, people came to the little farming community of Glendale from near and far to celebrate the dedication of a beautiful new house of worship in the center of their town. On Sunday, February 3, 2019, we will gather again to celebrate the 90th birthday of the sanctuary and re-dedicate it to the glory of God's work. Our resident Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata will preach at the morning services and lead us in the re-dedication. Following the 9:00 am service, there will be a reception in Fellowship Hall to honor the occasion and we encourage those who normally attend the 11:11 am service to come early for refreshments and fellowship.



This month, over 150 million Americans will tune in to the big game! There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal.

Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. **Drop \$1 (or more) in the soup pot as you leave worship on January 27.**

All donations will benefit the Brad Riner Assistance Office Food Pantry. Our youth are developing hearts for giving that can last a lifetime. Please support their efforts.

First United Methodist Church

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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



As we step into the second month of the year, there are many opportunities for celebration. On February 3, we will gather in our current house of worship for the 4,680th Sunday. That's 90 years of Sundays, (February 3, 1929 – February 3, 2019).

On that Sunday, we will remember the past, giving thanks for those who responded to the call of Christ. Because of their commitment, our church has remained vital for more than a century. We will celebrate present day opportunities for ministry and mission, listening, as did our ancestors, for Christ to lead; and we will re-dedicate our beautiful 90-year old sanctuary to the glorious purposes God will show us in the years ahead. We will not have communion during worship on February 3, but will have Communion Sunday on the following Sunday, February 10.

On that evening, (February 10, 5:00 pm) married couples attending First United Methodist Church and/or any couple that was married in our sanctuary are invited to renew their marriage vows. This weekend coincides with the Glendale Chocolate Affaire weekend, a prelude to Valentine's Day. Our Sanctuary will be open during the weekend for anyone to stop for quiet moments of reflection or prayer. This is an opportunity to show our gratitude for God's love and those who have loved us unconditionally.

The month of February is also Black History Month. This is our opportunity to remember and lift up various African American leaders who have advanced our country and world with their gifts of leadership, talent and service. I hope that each of us will take advantage of the many opportunities in this month, and as we do, give thanks to God who continues to call us into the future. I am grateful for you and pledge myself in the ministry of Christ in the coming months of 2019.

Yours on the journey,



Ponderings from Pastor Kim

Celebrations



Worship Schedule for February

February 3: Sanctuary Re-Dedication, 90th Anniversary

*Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata, Desert Southwest Conference
Reception following the 9:00 am service*

February 10: Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

*By the Grace of God, I Am What I Am (Rev. Kim L. Gladding)
Read: I Corinthians 15:1-11*

February 17: Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany, UMW Sunday

*Radical Blessings (Christine Jones)
Read: Psalm 1, Luke 6:20-23*

February 24: Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany

*Crazy Love (Rev. Kim L. Gladding)
Read: Luke 6:27-38*

Sweetheart Sunday, February 10
Renew Your Wedding Vows at 5:00 pm

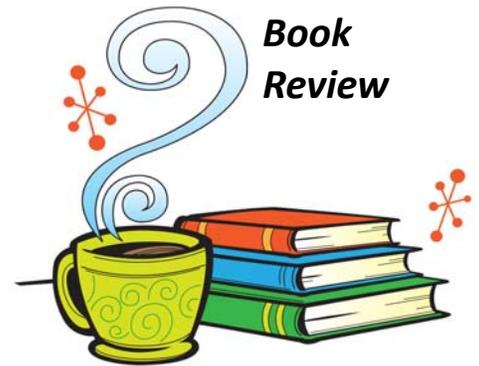


In honor of the countless couples that have been married in our sanctuary during the past 90 years we've designated Sunday, February 10, "Sweetheart Sunday" and would like to invite any couples in our congregation (or those who were married here in the past) to renew their vows in a service of renewal at 5:00 pm in the sanctuary. If you've never had a church wedding or had the opportunity to renew your wedding vows in a sacred setting we invite you to be a part of this event. Following the service in the sanctuary (which will be decorated for Valentine's Day) there will be a light reception in Fellowship Hall. Watch the Sunday bulletin for details, or to place your reservation call the church office at 623-939-1409 or e-mail rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com.



Enroll in Fry's Community Rewards to Support the United Methodist Women

Did you know you can support UMW just by shopping at Fry's? It's easy when you enroll in Fry's Community Rewards! To get started, sign up with your VIP Card, and select United Methodist Women of First Glendale. Once you're enrolled, you'll earn rewards for your chosen organization every time you shop and use your V.I.P Card! Visit <https://www.frysfood.com/topic/new-community-rewards-program> to enroll. If you have questions, contact Rebecca in the church office.



Book Review

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

UMW Selection:
"Femmevangelical"

In this book, the author Jennifer Crumpton presents a powerful message describing how we can uphold society as God meant for it to be, "a place of dignity and freedom, where all people are equal and take their rightful place." She encourages the readers to "act with intention and vision to establish a new culture that is respectful, safe, and full of unrestricted opportunity to live into our leadership and purpose, no matter what form that takes." With included devotionals, reflection questions, and moments of meditation, this is a book for any women who is seeking to better understand her own relationship with God.

—Christine Jones

Update from Nurture

Welcome to the New Year!

To begin, I want to thank everyone who has shared the Facebook Events posted for our church. When you share an event, you are helping to promote our actions as well as to share the opportunities for sharing God's love with the world. So, thank you.

I also want to give a big thank you to the Education Team. I don't know how many of you attended, but it was a wonderful, funny, and happy program. The children did a wonderful job with the performance. They pre-recorded the words so that it would be easy for everyone to hear, which meant they could really focus on their acting. They did such a good job and there were so many children performing!

I would like to invite you to consider participating in a devotional study or class, or teach one if you are so called. We have a lot of different studies in the office, and you are invited to come look them over if you are interested in hosting a class. You can also borrow one for personal use.

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Mingus Mountain Camp will offer the first ever Winter Family Camp February 16-18, 2019 (President's Day Weekend). Bring your family and friends to experience a touch of the winter season, enjoying a starry night sky or the warmth of a crackling fireplace during cold evenings among the great ponderosa pines of northern Arizona.

For this event, registration begins by reserving one of our rooms, and then registering the number of people attending. Families can reserve a room for themselves, or may choose to join with friends and share a cabin or a retreat room (providing one family completes the registration process for all individuals):

\$160 - Retreat Cabin Room: Each retreat cabin has indoor bathrooms and six rooms. Each room has five beds (two bunk beds and one single) and reserve for \$160 for the two nights.

\$150 - Rustic Cabin: Rustic Cabins are heated, individual cabins with 9 beds (4 bunk beds and one single) each, but do not have indoor bathrooms. (Bathroom facilities exist at LaPointe Hall and the Dining Hall.) Plus the per person charge to cover the cost of the six meals provided during the weekend: 18+: \$30; 5-17: \$20; <4: free

(So, for example, a family of four can join us for the weekend for \$260 (\$160 + 2x\$30 + 2x\$20); or two families can register together to share a Rustic Cabin and join us for less!)

For questions about the event, contact Dina Reid, our office assistant, by phone - (602) 266-6957 – or email – dreid@dscumc.org.

For more information online, or to register, visit:

<http://www.dscamps.org/family-winter-camp.html>

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.

Update from the Finance Committee: Year End Results, New Chairman

In December, members and friends of First Glendale generously donated \$52,949 to support the operation and programs of our church. This is \$16,700 more than our November donations. This includes money received for the Riner Assistance Office, Capital Improvements, Missions, Staff Christmas gifts, and other designated funds. Your generous stewardship enabled our church to fully support the connected Methodist church throughout the world by making all 12 apportionment payments for 2018.

For the entire year 2018, income from all sources (including, for example, rental income) totaled \$475,397. Total expenses totaled \$458,761 which includes \$51,914 spent for apportionments and \$95,158 spent by the various designated funds (again the Riner Assistance Office, Capital Improvements, Missions, Camp Scholarships, Flowers, WOW, Heifer Project, UMCOR, Youth, Glendale Glitters, the Staff Christmas gifts, and a few others). As you can see, with revenues and expenses near the half million mark, FUMC is a large and somewhat complicated organization, served by Pastor Kim, seven part-time staff, and a plethora of volunteers. It takes a lot of work by a lot of people to keep the gears turning and the expenses paid. Thank you to everyone who volunteers to keep our church going and growing.

From a financial point of view any year which ends with a positive balance is a great year. The year of 2018 was a great year! Doing the math, we ended with a positive \$16,636. Roughly \$10,600 was kept in the general fund to give January a good start, and the remainder was held amongst the various designated funds.

Looking ahead to 2019: Our stewardship campaign is completed. The amount pledged is about the same as in 2018, but a handful of 2018 pledgers did not turn in pledge cards for 2019. Nevertheless, we expect those members to continue their support of the church. The Desert Southwest Conference meanwhile, using a formula that looks back at how well we did in 2017, raised our apportionments for 2019. Also, by the time you read this, we will have adopted the 2019 budget for the general fund. (The general fund usual represents about 80% of all revenues and expenditures.) Next month I will highlight the 2019 budget.

Although I have worked on the financial side for many years, this is my first year as chairman of the Finance Committee. Ted Turner, the Finance chair for the last three years, has set a very high bar for anyone succeeding him. I hope I can fill his shoes, and serve as well as he did. My own personal philosophy is to give out “too much” information. This is your church, and you have the right to know how we are doing financially at any time. So, if you have any questions regarding the finances of the church, I strongly encourage you to ask. You will get your answer.

May GOD continue to guide and bless our church.

—David Mosley,
Chairman of the Finance Committee



Christmas Party Thank You!

We had our 2nd annual Riner/Mosley Children's Christmas Party on Friday, December 21 from 2:00-4:00 pm. We had 67 guests, 9 volunteers and 1 Santa Claus in attendance. There were games, crafts, lunch, a piñata, free book giveaways, and photo opportunity with St. Nick.

Between the generosity of our church, and the members of Dove of the Desert UMC, we were able to send home gifts for 13 families/55 children. There were many hugs, thanks and even tears of joy.

We appreciate each one of you who helped with buying presents, donating funds, volunteering to wrap gifts or make the party such a success.



A visit with Santa Claus



Assembling Hygiene "Giftpacks"

We were also given a very generous donation of backpacks and hygiene items for the homeless. Our friends at Aries Special Needs Day Program came and assembled these special gifts; we handed out 21 "giftpacks" to our clients on Tuesday, December 18. Thank you so much for the team effort!



Each year, the West District prays for all the churches in its jurisdiction for one month. In February 2019, please pray for:

- **Ajo Federated Church**
- **Calvary UMC, Phoenix**
- **Chino Valley UMC**

Update from Nurture

(Continued from page 4)

Some of the studies that have caught my eye this month include: Max Lucado's "3:16" with DVD; Adam Hamilton's "The Journey" with DVD; and Mike Slaughter's "Made for a Miracle" with DVD. For those of you who still have a VCR, I would love to have someone review the "Becoming a Contagious Christian" or the "Ancient Secrets of the Bible" series.

These studies are a great way to help keep Jesus central in you life. I have one borrowed now, and I know I will learn a lot from it.

On that note, if you have read a really good book and want to share it with the congregation, remember that there is a Library in the Fellowship Hall. The closet to the left of the Koinonia Way-seeker's class (Fireside Area in the Fellowship Hall) is a contemporary library of donated books from which anyone can borrow. If you aren't sure where they are, just ask Fil or Kim Thorn or any of the Wayseekers, they will point you in the right direction.

God bless you and keep you safe.

—Christine Jones

Mardi Gras Dinner & Jazz Concert



The United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men groups are planning a Mardi Gras dinner and jazz concert, Tuesday, March 5, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will eat at 6:00 pm, and the music will start at 6:45. This dinner is open to anyone (men, women, children) who wants to have fun and raise money for much needed repairs on our historic sanctuary. Tickets will be sold in advance, \$12 for adults, \$7 for children. Tristan Lauzon, the young music teacher in our choir, will provide the live music. More details will follow; plan on a fun time!

Note: Our offices will be closed on February 18 in observance of Presidents Day.

Deadline for the March Issue is February 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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