

# Circuit Rider

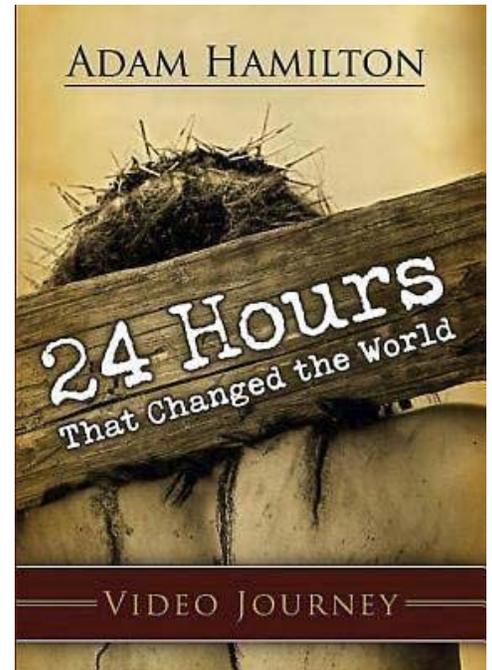
A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale



## **All Church Lenten Study— 24 Hours That Changed the World**

Join a churchwide Lenten Study offered throughout the season of Lent, “24 Hours That Changed the World.” This inspiring DVD study by Adam Hamilton delivers solid scholarship describing how the day of Christ’s crucifixion unfolded. There are 7 sessions, beginning the first week of Lent and ending the week after Easter.

Pastor Kim will lead a group on Tuesday evenings from 6:00–7:30 pm. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall (stage section). Each session will begin with sharing a light meal, followed by a short video introduction which will lead into discussion of a chapter of the book. An introduction to the study will be offered March 5, during the Mardi Gras celebration.



The study will also offered at the Sunday Morning Prelude service (8:00 am) in the Fellowship Hall, and we may have several other sessions, depending on demand. If you want to participate in the study, call the office (623) 939-1409, or email [rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com](mailto:rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com)

## **Lura Turner Homes' High Tea**

“Around the World” is the theme for Lura Turner Homes’ 21<sup>st</sup> annual High Tea, Saturday March 2 at noon. It’s at Cross Roads UMC, 7901 N. Central Ave, Phoenix. Entertainment is by Heat Wave, an acapella quartet. Tickets are \$35 for adults; \$25 for children 12 and under. All proceeds go toward Lura Turner Homes for Adults with Developmental Disabilities, which has been serving Phoenix’s special needs adults since 1965. To RSVP, please call LTH at 602-943-4789.



## **First United Methodist Church**

7102 N. 58th Drive • Glendale, AZ 85301

Phone: 623.939.1409 • Fax: 623.236.9284

[www.glendalefirstumc.com](http://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**

## UMCOR Sunday (One Great Hour of Sharing)

For nearly 60 years, United Methodist congregations have been taking part in a special offering, laying the foundation for UMCOR's ministry of relief and hope. The donations UMCOR receives through this offering, along with other undesignated gifts made throughout the year, cover the costs of doing business. Gifts like yours make it possible for UMCOR to use 100% of all other contributions on the projects our donors specify, instead of on administrative or fundraising costs.

**Your communion offering on March 3, 2019 will support UMCOR.**

Courtesy Photo: Matt Brodie

# UMCOR SUNDAY

(Formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Your gifts to the UMCOR Sunday offering lay the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to share God's love with communities everywhere.

"The homeowners are really excited, and that makes us feel very happy and blessed."  
—MATT BRODIE, MISSION VOLUNTEER, SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**UMCOR**  
Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

Please make check payable to your local church or give online at [www.umcgviv.org/giveUMCOR](http://www.umcgviv.org/giveUMCOR)  
Text "UMCORSUNDAY" to 91999.

## Coffee Hour Hosts

We have made some changes to the Coffee Hour schedule for 2019. The following is the updated list for March and April.

- Mar 3:** Koinonia/Wayseekers
- Mar 10:** Youth
- Mar 17:** UMW—Lydia Circle
- Mar 24:** United Methodist Men
- Mar 31:** Missions
  
- Apr 7:** OPEN
- Apr 14:** UMW—Esther Circle
- Apr 21:** United Methodist Men (Easter Breakfast)
- Apr 28:** UMW—Lydia Circle

There are still some dates needing to be filled—if your group or committee would be willing to host one coffee hour, or one additional coffee hour, please call Rebecca in the office at 623-939-1409, or see Rosie Miller.

If we have open dates that are not filled, we will try “Doughnut Sundays” where we will purchase doughnuts and sell them for 50-cents each.



Our lives are filled with interruptions. Some are large and cannot be ignored, while others are easily discounted as unimportant. Even social isolation does not keep life's interruptions at bay. Though interruptions are a fact of life, we continue seeing them as an annoyance. Jesus shows us another way to greet interruptions. In the fifth chapter of Mark, Jesus is interrupted by several situations that delay him from his routine. Each time, Jesus stops, listens and then he responds. Jesus sees interruptions as opportunities rather than annoyances. In the ninth chapter of John, Jesus' disciples interrupt him, asking, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus responds:  
<sup>3</sup> "Neither this man nor his parents sinned... but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup> As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me." (John 9:1-4a) Instead of an annoyance, Jesus accepts interruptions as opportunities to display the works of God.

What if we choose to see interruptions as opportunities to show the goodness of God? Of course, we'll need help to change this perspective; I know this from

personal experience. After an interruption or two, on a busy day, I begin feeling frustrated, and as more come my way, I begin to feel overwhelmed.

Throughout the season of Lent, we'll be encouraged to change how we perceive life's interruptions. In Interruptions: a 40-day Journey with Jesus by Jacob Armstrong, we'll be given an opportunity to invite Jesus into every aspect of our lives, especially in those interruptions that are a part of life. I hope you will set aside time each day to read the Scripture and

## ***Interruptions: Annoyance or Opportunity?***

***by Pastor Kim***

Armstrong's reflection in his own life to gain a new perspective on the interruptions of your life (this may feel like an interruption!).

The Sunday worship messages throughout Lent will follow the theme of Armstrong's book.

Yours on the journey,



### ***Worship Schedule for March 2019***

- March 3: **Transfiguration Sunday**  
*Shake, Rattle and Roll!*  
 Read: Luke 9:28-32, 37-40
- March 6: **Ash Wednesday** (12:00 pm and 7:00 pm)  
 Read: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10
- March 10: **First Sunday in Lent**  
*Interruptions: Annoyance or Opportunity?*  
 Read: Mark 5:21-34
- March 17: **Second Sunday in Lent**  
*The Most Important Interruptions...*  
 Read: Mark 10:46-52
- March 24: **Third Sunday in Lent**  
*Interruptions We Can't Ignore!*  
 Read: Mark 2:1-12
- March 31: **Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
*Jesus Interruptions...*  
 Read: John 4:4-23

## ***From the Office of Nurture...***

Happy March!

Let me begin by saying that February was an exciting month. There were so many events to help celebrate the 90 year re-dedication of the sanctuary. It all began with the visit from Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata. Did you get the chance to chat with him in the fellowship hall after the service? He is so fun to talk to.

This was followed by Sweetheart Sunday and the wonderful renewal of vows ceremony. I was there with my family and we had a wonderful time. 19 loving couples took part in the ceremony. My husband and I were one of those couples, and took the opportunity to celebrate 23 years of marriage. It was a wonderful experience and I am so glad we could share it with everyone.

Then came United Methodist Women Sunday, and I was very happy to give my sermon on Radical Blessings. A lot of people were asking me about the name before I even got started. The truth is, Pastor Kim came in to tell me he was doing a sermon on Crazy Love. I looked at my bible, a rather well annotated study bible, and read "Jesus' teachings were radical. He blessed those who were poor, who hunger, who weep, who were hated and ex-

cluded." That is how I came up with the title Radical Blessings for my UMW Sunday sermon. Thank you all again for the opportunity to share the love of God with you.

### **Vacation Bible School**

The Education Team is already planning VBS for this year. It is just around the corner; June 10 through June 14, 2019. This year, we will be doing ROAR. VBS is a week-long event with games, music, and lots of fun. Dinner is at 5:30 and VBS begins at 6:00pm. As always, our VBS is available free for members of the congregation or the community, though donations are welcome. ROAR is all about helping kids discover a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life, as we explore the bible on an African adventure. The dates were carefully chosen by the Education Team to ensure that everyone who wanted to attend Church Camp would be able to do so.

To register for VBS or sign up as a volunteer, please visit our VBS website, <https://vbspro.events/p/events/glendalefirst>. We would like you to sign up early so we can better plan for food.

Because it is important to have Adult volunteers for VBS, and

because I want to help with VBS too, Adult VBS will be the week before ROAR: June 3 through June 7th from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. I will be leading a group study, "Living the Five," which focuses on The Great Commandment and The Great Commission. I am really looking forward to doing this study with you. I hope you will come.

### **Lenten Study**

I will also be leading a Lenten Study with Linda Hardesty, Adam Hamilton's [24 Hours that Changed the World](#). Dates and times are still to be determined.

Finally, I want to give a reminder that there is a Library in the Fellowship Hall. In the closet to the left of the Koinonia/Wayseekers class (Fireside Area) 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

## Report from the United Methodist Women

We have had a busy 2019 thus far. On January 26, Glendale UMW hosted the West District Leadership Development training. As the new Glendale UMW president, I had the privilege and honor of welcoming 80 local UMW presidents, vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers and various other officers to our church. We conducted individual sessions for each office. I serve as the district coordinator for "Educating Members for Mission" and was glad to have six Educating Members for Mission sisters attend and participate in my training class: **Jeanne Rumbold** from FUMC Glendale, **Pat Ormond** from FUMC Sun City, **Judy Houdek** from Lakeview UMC, **Barbara Krisell** from Liberty UMC, **Leona Zastrow** from New Song UMC, and **Mary Ann Kinser** from Shepherd of the Hills UMC. We each shared our experiences and ideas for mission and reported on what our groups had done for mission. The weekend before that, my West District Officer sisters and I traveled to Yuma to conduct the same training there.

February 17 was our United Methodist Women Sunday. Christine Jones gave an excellent sermon. I did the Good News for Children in the 9:00 and 11:11 services and visited the 8:00 service briefly to tell about United Methodist

Women. I heard Christine's sermon twice and enjoyed it greatly both times. I also enjoyed seeing United Methodist Women taking up the offering and serving as greeters.

Also on the 17th, we started selling tickets for our upcoming Mardi Gras dinner and jazz concert, a fun fundraiser for the restoration of our sanctuary. The Mardi Gras (which means "Fat Tuesday" and precedes Ash Wednesday) will be Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 6:00 pm.

United Methodist Men are also supporting this event. We want every man, woman and child, plus their friends, to come enjoy this fun time. We will be serving gumbo, fried chicken and king cake. Live jazz music will be provided by Tristan Lauzon and friends. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$7 for children under

twelve, and can be purchased after the 9:00 service on the Sundays before March 5. Look for Treasa Birchett, our UMW treasurer.

We also are planning a May 4 luncheon to benefit Maggie's Place, which helps needy pregnant and parenting women by offering a warm and welcoming community, a safe place to live and learn, and on-going services to help them become self-sufficient.

I am proud to be associated with the UMW and the United Methodist Church and the good work they do all over the world, proud of what God has done and will do.

—Linda Triolo, President



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

- **Christ Community UMC, Avondale**
- **City Square UMF, Phoenix**
- **Community Church of Buckeye**

## ***Update from the Finance Committee***

In January, members and friends of First Glendale generously donated \$33,047 to support the operation and programs of our church. This is nearly \$20,000 less than our record-setting December donations, but is more in line with our average monthly giving. This includes money received for the Brad Riner Assistance Office, Capital Improvements, Missions, Brick-by-Brick, Youth Fund, and other designated funds. We also made our first apportionment payment for 2019 in January which is earlier than we usually do.

Also in January, Church Council approved the budget recommended by the Finance Committee. For the year of 2019, we are budgeting total income (for the General Fund) of \$358,416. This is slightly less than what we collected in 2018, but it is better to err on the side of caution. Total expenditures for 2019 are expected to be \$379,947; this is about \$20,000 less than what we budgeted for 2018. The budget items were reduced where our 2018 actual expenditures were less than what we had budgeted in 2018 (but still allowing a cushion). The Trustees also recommended removing the position for a part-time maintenance worker and moving half of the savings into the General Maintenance & Supplies line item. The increase there will go to cover additional outside contractors which the Trustees will bring in for a specific job or repair. One gamble we made was not increasing our electricity budget. We are currently running a deficit of about \$460/month to APS, but we anticipate the solar energy project will pass its last inspection and finally be online shortly.

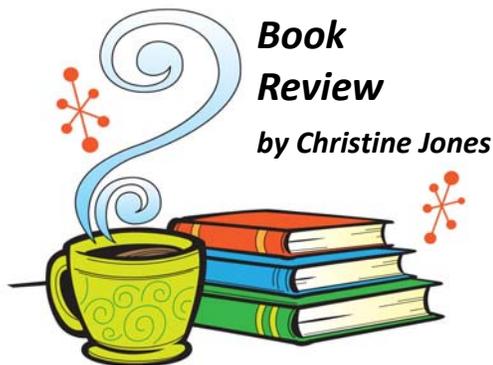
The astute reader will note that our budgeted expenditures exceed income by \$21,531. This, of course, is not good. But also recall we started 2019 with over \$10,600 in the checking account. This is about half of the deficit. And also recall that I said we were a little pessimistic on the income side, so I believe that we are close enough to balancing to call it a good budget. We will carefully track both income and expenditures during the year, and we will be making adjustments where necessary.

A final note regarding budgets: We do not make a budget for any of the designated funds. These funds are controlled by a designated person or group, e.g., the Riner Administrator or the Board of Trustees. They are tasked with monitoring their fund balances and using the monies appropriately for their ministries. The Finance Committee also oversees these funds and ensures proper safeguards are in place for handling the money.

In February I received a number of kind remarks commending me on the financial article in the Circuit Rider. Thank you all very much. I'm pleased you liked my "too much information" approach, but I firmly believe 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, no matter how big or how small, 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



**Book Review**

by Christine Jones

**NOTE:**

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

**UMW Selection:**

**“The White Umbrella: Walking with Survivors of Sex Trafficking”**

By Mary Frances Bowley

“The White Umbrella” is a bit of a difficult read. I was drawn to the book because of the presentation we had at the Special Speaker Series in 2017, where a representative from the Arizona Attorney General’s office spoke about Human Trafficking. This book presents the stories of sex trafficking victims from the perspectives of the victims, as well as the counselors, teachers, support personnel, and volunteers who are working to help. This is a powerful presentation of information that makes the reader want to get involved and find ways to stop this horrible abuse. In the book’s own words, “One girl put it eloquently this way: ‘I’m only asking for a consistent, authentic, and intentional relationship, along with the time to prove that your life is what it seems and your intentions are pure. I need those things to be congruent, and you can’t show me that overnight.’” This book selection is not easy to read, but worth learning more about.

—Christine Jones

**PROMUSICA**  
ARIZONA  
THE COMMUNITY CHORALE & ORCHESTRA OF NORTH PHOENIX

**THE ARIZONA PREMIERE PERFORMANCE**

**The John Muir Musical in Concert**  
Conducted by **Patti Graetz**

Music and arrangements by acclaimed Phoenix composer Craig Bohmler of *Riders of the Purple Sage* opera fame and script and lyrics by Tony-nominated playwright Mary Bracken Phillips plus Arizona award-winning actors Rusty Ferracane, Trisha Ditsworth, Tommy Strawser and Matt Newhard.

**March 22, 23 & 24**

**\*GLENDALE | Friday, March 22 @ 7:00 p.m. | E. Lowell Rogers Amphitheater in Murphy Park**  
**PHOENIX | Saturday, March 23 @ 7:30 p.m. | North Valley Christian Academy**  
**SUN CITY | Sunday, March 24 @ 3:00 p.m. | American Lutheran Church**

---

**For tickets and information:**  
**visit PMAZ.org or call 623-326-5172**

Adults: \$22; Seniors (65+) and Military: \$20; Students (16-22 years) \$12;  
Children 15 and under are free

\*March 22 is an outdoor performance free to the public funded by the City of Glendale’s Centerline Arts and Cultural Initiative.

2018 / 2019

### Upcoming Lay Servant Training in Glendale

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the most significant lay leadership development programs already available within the United Methodist connection. Through this system of equipping and empowering, lay servants have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples.

After taking the Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course, there are a wide variety of Advanced courses for continued study and training. There is an upcoming training session locally; March 15 & 16 at Dove of the Desert UMC in Glendale. Courses offered:

- Basic Course: Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries
- Called to Preach
- Justice in Everyday Life



Register online: <https://dscumc.org/secure/lay-servant-ministries-training-03-15-2019-glendale/>

Deadline for the April issue is March 11. 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

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