

Circuit Rider

A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church of Glendale



Food, Vendors & Face Painting

Saturday, November 30th
3:00 - 8:00 pm

First United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall

Booths are still available: \$10 for outside groups,
free for church groups. Contact Karen Render
at karen_render@yahoo.com.



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

Charge Conference Scheduled for November 25

Our Charge Conference date has been set for Monday, November 25th at 7:00 pm. We will celebrate another year of ministry, set priorities and objectives for the coming year, embrace our ministry budget and confirm our leadership for 2020.

As a member of our church, you are encouraged to fully participate by attending the charge conference. This year, one of the agenda items is a move to the single board model of governance. Many United Methodist churches are going to a streamlined form of congregational governance, which is a more effective use of our time and resources today. Annual Conferences everywhere are encouraging this development as they see the advantages of lean, more strategic church leadership. The idea is to have efficient, accountable church leadership while getting more people involved in mission and ministry instead of committees.

Those chairing a team, board, committee or council will need to submit your yearly ministry report. These reports are due in the church office by November 15; if possible, email them to rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com. You may also fax your report to 623-236-9284. If you need a copy of last year's report, please email Rebecca.



in 2020 to enable our church to continue the journey God has charted for us.

Fall is the harvest season, so it is appropriate for us to count our blessings and to make plans to dedicate the first fruits of our labor to the work of God in this community. Thank you!

Our fall stewardship campaign has begun, with a theme of **“Embracing the Future.”**

We hope you will be inspired to make a commitment to use your gifts and talents

Coffee Hour Hosts

Below is the Coffee Hour schedule for the next two months:

- Nov 3:** Koinonia/Wayseekers
- Nov 10:** The Miller Family
- Nov 17:** OPEN
- Nov 24:** No Coffee Hour;
Thanksgiving Potluck
- Dec 1:** Youth
- Dec 8:** UMW–Lydia Circle
- Dec 15:** Craft Group
- Dec 22:** UMM
- Dec 29:** Missions

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 do **“Donut Sundays”** where we will purchase donuts and sell them for 50¢ ea.



With November comes the opportunity to give thanks and show our joy for the blessing of family, friends and time together! Like the movement of time, this opportunity comes, even if/when we are not ready for it, or do not feel particularly thankful. Perhaps we've been living with more challenges than we can manage. Maybe our energy and resources are spread dangerously thin. We may feel exhausted from medical treatments or reeling from a new diagnosis. There may be some challenges in important relationships, or we may be living with grief after the death of a loved one. Still, the op-

portunity to give thanks and show our joy will come. What shall we do? What can we do? What will we do? Whatever might be going on in our lives, we are given the opportunity to express our gratitude for the good things! In November we have such an opportunity to show our thanks and express our joy for the good things in our lives.

November has been designated as our annual stewardship campaign. We have celebrated 125 years of Faith, Hope and Love, and now we cast our gaze and our hope toward the future min-

Giving Thanks... Let Your Joy Be Known!

By Pastor Kim

istry and mission of First United Methodist Church. In the first chapter of Ephesians, the Apostle Paul reminds the Jesus' followers that the Holy Spirit was God's *down payment on our inheritance, which is applied toward our redemption as God's own people.* Our redemption brings honor and glory to God, Paul writes.

Life can be challenging, and yet, we are blessed in many ways, particularly by the love and grace of God. Jesus faced the greatest challenge of all, giving himself fully and completely, out of love for us. The opportunity is coming our way to give thanks and show our joy! Sandy and I will join you in prayerfully considering our *down payment* (in the form of a pledge) for the 126th year of ministry and mission through First United Methodist Church of Glendale. I know it will be an amazing opportunity to live the Faith, unite in the Hope and share the Love God continues to pour out on each of us.

Pledging myself to God along with you,




November

Worship Schedule

November 3: 21st Sunday After Pentecost; All Saints' Sunday

Message: *God's Down Payment*

Read: Ephesians 1:11-14

November 10: 22nd Sunday After Pentecost

Message: *Endurance and Faithfulness*

Read: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4

November 17: 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

Message: *Work Hard, Work Together, Never Tire of Doing Good!*

Read: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-9, 13

November 24: Christ the King Sunday

Message: *Give Thanks; Let Your Joy Be Known!*

Read: Colossians 1:11-14

Update from the Finance Committee

In September, members and friends of First Glendale generously donated \$34,615 (significantly higher than August donations of \$27,376) to support the operation and programs of our church. This total includes money received for the General Fund, the Riner Assistance Office, Capital Improvements, Brick-by-Brick, Missions Fund, Centennial Fund, and other designated funds. Due primarily to lower expenses and the increased donations we ended the month on the positive side of the ledger. Due to this positive balance, we were able to pay our apportionment payment in October (that's 4 out of 10 payments). And given the large number of donations we received during our 125-year celebration in the first week of October, we will likely be able to make a second apportionment payment as well.



For those following the saga of the solar panels: The Trustees had APS investigate our power generation. Very surprisingly, they reported that our solar panels were performing within expectations and they claimed significant power generation in July and August. However, their new numbers do not agree with the numbers that are printed on our monthly APS bills (their new numbers are ten times higher than those credited to us on our monthly statements). Why then don't the monthly bills reflect that high level of power generation? Where did these new numbers come from? The Trustees will be following up with APS to get those questions resolved.

The Finance Committee is preparing for our end of year activities. The first is our Fall Stewardship campaign. The theme for 2020 is "Embracing the Future." It is time to turn away from our 125-year milestone, and look to the future of FUMC Glendale. We anticipate generations of members who will see decades of service to come. During the campaign, which runs during November, we will be asking all of our members and supporters to prayerfully consider making a pledge to the church for the coming year.

The date for our 2019 charge conference is November 25, when we will present a budget for 2020. This will be a preliminary budget; for informational purposes only. The church council will adopt a final budget probably in January once the tallies from the Stewardship Campaign are final. Please don't assume the Finance Committee has all of the answers to the budget question. If you have any suggestions as to how we should be spending our money, please let us (Rosie Miller, Bruce Heatwole, Linda Triolo, Rev. Kim Gladding, Ian Hugh, Gene Dameron, or David Mosley) know.

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 budget or 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

From the Worship Team...

I know that is hard to think about the holidays coming at us faster than Santa's sleigh, but Christmas is coming—soon.

The worship team starts their hard work again in planning for the upcoming holidays. I have been reading the book "Waiting for Wonder... Learning to Live on God's Timeline" by Marlo Schalesky. She reminds us that no one can predict God's timeline, but know that promises made will be kept, but in God's time. We all get busy in our own lives and when the calendar reminds us that the time for celebrating Jesus's birth is here, we celebrate God's promises to us. Sarah and Abram waited for their promise to be kept of having children but their heirs arrived on God's timeline.

So, the time has arrived again to begin the celebration and remember God's promises to us.



The first celebration will be the traditional Hanging of the Greens the Friday after Thanksgiving. Please plan on attending the service and the decoration of the church the morning of the service.

We have been honored by those that volunteered for the liturgy team. Life has a way of changing our best-laid plans and now we have another opening for a liturgist to join the team. That member will assume the liturgy reading for one month at a time and rotate with the other members. Please let me or Janice Sanders if anyone would like to join the team.

See you in the pew,

—Linda Hardesty

Lura Turner Homes' 35th Annual Holiday Boutique

Executive director Max McQueen invites one and all to Lura Turner Homes' 35th annual holiday boutique, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Saturday, November 9. It's at Cross Roads United Methodist Church, 7901 N. Central Avenue.

All proceeds from this arts, crafts and baked goods fair benefit the adults with developmental disabilities who live at Lura Turner Homes. Founded by Methodist deaconess Lura Turner, this non-profit has been serving Phoenix-area adults with special needs since 1965.

There will be door prizes for the first 35 customers (boutique purchase required). For information or to reserve a booth, please call Dixie Tribble at 602-943-4789.

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!



The United Methodist Women's

Annual Christmas Tea

Saturday, December 7, 2:00 pm

Adults: \$12.00; under 12: \$7.00

First United Methodist Church
7102 N. 58th Drive
Glendale, AZ 85301



Almost 2,000 years ago, the story goes, a clutch of sleepy shepherds were watching over their sheep on a star-brightened hillside. It was a still, peaceful night. Suddenly the darkness was filled with a strange light. The stillness was broken by angelic voices singing “Glory to God in the Highest, on earth peace, goodwill to all.” So begins Christmas, the most beautiful and meaningful celebration of the Christian calendar.

Advent – the season of “going toward” the birth of Christ – and Christmas have a long history. These seasons and their customs have developed through many centuries and many countries. Old customs and observances are refined, renewed, replaced; new ones are added. Some of our customs have pagan origins but have been “converted” by redefining their meanings. What is significant for us is not what they may once have meant but rather what they mean for us today.

On Friday, November 29th, our

Hanging of the Greens— A Meaningful Worship Experience



church will begin to wear its Christmas finery. Our Christmas tree will stand in the sanctuary; its lights shining for us. We will get ready for the birth of the child by preparing our sanctuary, and we will ready ourselves and the sanctuary of our own hearts. As we decorate our church, not only will we explain the history of the symbols of these special seasons, but we will rededicate these symbols – and ourselves – to the service of God.

The service will begin at 7:00 pm, and the youth participants need to arrive by 6:00 pm.

Parking will be at a premium; please consider carpooling, or using the Glendale Glitters Free Shuttle. Park in the north parking lots of Glendale Community College (off 59th Avenue, north of Olive), and the shuttle will drop you off at the northwest corner of 59th Avenue and Myrtle. The shuttle runs from 4:30 – 10:15 pm each evening, and there is an ADA bus in the rotation of shuttles.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Render (karen_render@yahoo.com) or Rebecca in the church office (rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com)

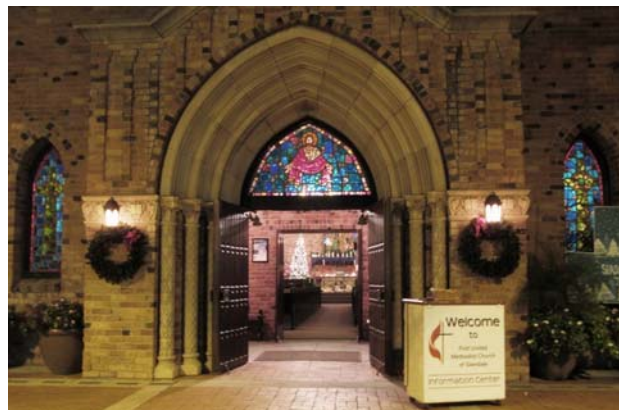


Glendale Glitters Outreach

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 November 29, we will be opening the sanctuary to visitors every Friday and Saturday night from 6:00–9:00 pm through December 21.

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. We also will need people to help host these evenings, so if you can help, talk to Rev. Tom Wick, Genny Riner or contact Rebecca in the church office (rebecca@glendalefirstumc.com or 623-939-1409, option 2). May the Holy Spirit lead and guide you.



Veterans' Day Patriotic Concert and Luncheon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Luncheon at 12:30 pm

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



Video Tribute 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. Childcare/nursery available.

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



- Blanket Making for AHS, November 9
- Thanksgiving Potluck, November 24
- Charge Conference, November 25
- Glendale Glitters Spectacular Weekend, Nov 29-30
- Hanging of the Greens, November 29
- Craft Fair in Fellowship Hall, November 30
- 1st Sunday of Advent, December 1
- UMW's Christmas Tea, December 7
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, December 24
- Glendale Glitter & Glow, January 11, 2020

Deadline for the December
 Issue is November 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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