



First United Methodist Church of Sun City

First Word

JANUARY 2018



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2018 SAVE THE DATE...PLAN TO PARTICIPATE

First United Methodist Church will participate in this year's ecumenical (that means – Christians acting together) services to stand as one for a positive faith-based message of Christian Unity. The theme this year will be “Your Right Hand, O Lord, Glorious in Power.” We're hoping you will join us each day 12:00 noon (Monday – Friday) at the following locations:

January 15 - First Presbyterian, 12225 N. 103rd Ave. (OFFERING: CANNED/BOXED SOUPS)
(co-host Shepherd of the Desert)

January 16 - St. Elizabeth Seton, 9728 W. Palمرas Drive (OFFERING: CANNED FRUIT)
(co-host St. Christopher's Episcopal)

January 17 - Church of St. Joachim & St. Anne, 11625 N. 111th Ave. (OFFERING: BAGS OF BEANS)
(co-host Faith Presbyterian)

January 18 - Church of the Palms, 14808 Boswell Blvd. (OFFERING: PASTA)
(co-host All Saints of the Desert Church)

January 19 - First United Methodist Church, 9849 N 105th Ave. (OFFERING: PEANUT BUTTER)
(co-host United Church of Sun City)

Each day:

- A collection of food items for the food bank is brought to the host church (see the SUGGESTED items listed above).
- At noon, there is a brief worship service in the sanctuary of each church.
- At 12:30, soup, sandwich and a cookie lunch will be served by the host and co-host churches. This is a great time to sit and visit with our Christian neighbors.

Invite a friend & participate. This is a wonderful week of worship and a great connection with others in our community.

We are hosting on Friday and will be serving Potato Leek soup with warm bread and butter. Help is always needed. Set up is on Thursday, January 18th, at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Many hands make light work, so please just show up and there will be a job you can do.

**If you'd like to help serve or clean-up lunch on Friday,
call our church office at 623-974-3631 or Jan Ward at 623-242-8327.**

Message from the Pastor

I strive for perfection in all I do. Unfortunately, I fall short all of the time. I have allowed myself grace to make mistakes and fall short of the goals I set for myself. I still try to do my best or better all of the time; I just do not always make it to the mark.

I think we all want perfection in our lives – the perfect home, outfit, car, words – both written and spoken... I write a note to someone and know just the thoughts and feelings I want to convey and pen to paper – words fail me. I have a conversation with someone and later think of the perfect responses I should have given.

This past year I told you that I was going to be working on my attitude and being happy. I wrote about the “Happiness Jar” that I was going to start in the First Word last January. Well, I need grace once again because I never got around to either making the jar or writing down even the first thing to be happy about. I still think it is a good idea, I just never did it (true confessions here). I did use a new daily devotional “Simple Abundance: A Daybook of Comfort and Joy” by Sarah Ban Breathnach. I learned a lot about joy and contentment that come from within and the part of our environment that we can control. I think I will use this book again next year and even do some of the projects she suggests – like cleaning closets and drawers.

More recently, I have been working on trying to have the patience and understanding with others that I would like them to have with me. I was remembering the Pollyanna movie by Disney, where the young girl always tried to see the best in others. Sometimes it was a quantum leap to see the good, but she always found it! I need to work on that, turning the challenging into a blessing by turning it a little to see it from a different perspective....

When I try to talk to someone and they are not nice, I try to think that they have challenges in their lives I know nothing about and I pray for them. When someone does not share the same opinion that I do, I try to listen to how they arrived at their opinion and give them the understanding that I want others to have for me. When someone takes over a project I have been working on, I try to think about their gifts of leadership.

My goals for the coming year are to try to grow as a person of faith and to continue to work on finding peace and grace within myself. As I do this, I will continue to try to put the golden rule into effect and give to others the love and grace that I would like myself.

May we all give one another the love and forgiveness that God has given to us.

God Bless You in the New Year –
Lois

IN LOVING MEMORY



Bervian McCrea

May 31, 2016

Don Butler

February 1, 2017

Gladys Dankel

March 15, 2017

John LaClair

June 17, 2017

Frances Jobe

July 7, 2017

Jim Pugh

August 13, 2017

Al Duquid

August 16, 2017

Fred Lang

September 20, 2017

Jeanne Newton

September 30, 2017

Ruth Saathoff

October 14, 2017

Bernie Wedekind

October 17, 2017

Glenda Lay

December 2, 2017



A BIG THANK YOU

The Missions Committee would like to thank the congregation for the very generous donations for the 3 families that we adopted for Christmas. We received so much, that the used washer and dryer that we had purchased, was donated to the food bank to another family that was in desperate need for them. We were then able to buy a brand new set for the family with the 7 children and still had enough to buy several grocery gift cards for each family. So, in fact, we were able to provide for 4 families. I have to admit that I broke out in tears by your generosity. You also provided many Christmas gifts for each individual in the families to put under their tree. We can't say thank you enough. It reminds me of Matthew 25:40-b. *"Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My Bretheren, you did it to Me."* God bless you all and have a blessed Christmas!

Sally Kloostra, Chair person

POTLUCK TIME Sunday, January 21st



Every third Sunday of the month we have a Potluck Sunday. Our fun potluck will be held on January 21st at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Remember to bring your own plate and utensils. Please bring an extra dish to share so we can easily include our guests and visitors. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We have a real bonus for our speaker: Hugh Duncan from Sun City CAN (Community Action Network) and his friend Vincent Kituku who is the founding director of Caring Hearts and Hands of Hope a girls school in Kenya.

TODAY
WILL NEVER COME AGAIN.

Be a blessing.

Be a friend.

Encourage someone.

Take Time To Care.

**Let your words heal,
and not wound.**

VALLEY VIEW COMMUNITY FOOD BANK



Tilly 2Can is the mascot for Valley View Community Food Bank. Her message — every time you shop for your family's groceries, grab an extra **TWO CANS** for Valley View. Thank you in advance for all you do for the community.

Our food bank donation Sunday is January 21st. If you forget your food, cash or a check will suffice.

Metho Travelers invites you to....

Go Places: Fun trips with great people.

Remember, **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.**

Many people are now signing up for these activities and **space is limited.**

THE TENORS (formerly known as The Canadian Tenors) will be performing at the Phoenix Symphony Hall on Sunday, January 21, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$60/person. Bus will leave Lakeview United Methodist Church at 12:45 p.m. Payment is due upon sign-up.

RHYTHM CATS VARIETY SHOW, Saturday, February 17, 2018, at the Silver Star Theater, Mesa. Cost is \$68.00/person and includes buffet lunch, show, transportation, taxes and gratuities. Depart Lakeview United Methodist Church at 10:15 a.m. and return 5:00 p.m. Payment due within 2 weeks of sign-up. Reservation is confirmed when payment is received.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT'S TALIESIN WEST TOUR, Tuesday, February 20, 2018. This event includes tour, lunch, bus and gratuities. Cost is \$65/person and is due one week after sign up. Deadline is January 30th. Meet at Lakeview United Methodist Church at 7:45 a.m. with the bus leaving promptly at 8:15 a.m. Expected return to Lakeview is around 3:00 p.m.

PANAMA CANAL CRUISE, Wednesday, March 7, 2018, to Sunday, March 18, 2018. Trip includes round trip airfare, hotel in Fort Lauderdale (dinner and breakfast), all transportation, post cruise Everglades excursion, taxes, tips and portage. Prices range from \$2,590 to \$3,290 per person, double occupancy. A deposit of \$250/per person is due upon sign up. More detailed information is listed on the flyer at the information desk.

The DUTTONS, Saturday, March 24, 2018. Cost is \$70 which includes transportation, show, dinner at Country Harvest Buffet and all gratuities. Payment is due one week after sign up. Bus leaves Lakeview United Methodist Church at 12:30 p.m. and returns around 7:30 p.m.

ALASKA CRUISE, Saturday, May 26, 2018, to Wednesday, June 6, 2018. Tour includes round trip airfare and all land transportations, taxes, tips and portage. Prices range from \$3,100 to \$4,250 per person. A deposit of \$250/per person is due upon sign up. Ports of call are listed on the flyer at the information desk.

For more information and sign up, visit the Metho Travelers' table in the Fellowship Hall.



\$800. ??? !!!

You've probably seen the signs placed in restrooms around here ... ***"Please don't flush the following - old phone books, sanitary napkins, goldfish, your hopes and dreams – down the toilet."***

It's a light-hearted way to communicate an important (and expensive) truth, which is **ONLY TOILET PAPER IN THE TOILETS, PLEASE! EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE TRASH – NO EXCEPTIONS!** The reason we say this is that for the second time in less than a year, we had a major sewage backup in December, and the bill to clear it out came to more than \$800. Yes, you read that right - \$800!!! We can buy a lot of trash bags for that kind of money. Thanks.

JANUARY CALENDAR

Sundays

Sunday Worship	8:00 & 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hour	9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Food Drive (3rd Sunday)	
Potluck (3rd Sunday)	10:30 a.m.

Mondays

Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
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Tuesdays

Game Night	6:00 p.m.
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Wednesdays

Handbell Rehearsal	2:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal	4:00 p.m.

Thursdays

Bible Study	3:00 p.m.
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JANUARY Committee Meetings:

Trustees	9:30 a.m.	Jan. 02
Church Growth	9:00 a.m.	Jan. 03
Care Council	1:00 p.m.	Jan. 09
Social Media	3:30 p.m.	Jan. 09
Finance	1:30 p.m.	Jan. 11
SPRC	9:30 a.m.	Jan. 16
Missions	1:00 p.m.	Jan. 16
Foundation	9:30 a.m.	Jan. 17
Church Council	9:30 a.m.	Jan. 24

HANDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON



January 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Mercer's Restaurant, 9720 W. Peoria. Hands of Friendship is a group that gets together for fellowship and food the first Saturday of each month at Mercer's restaurant. We order from the menu and pay individually.

Please call Phyllis Sutton (623-322-8547) so we will have a spot waiting for you. Everyone is welcome. Come join us!

Fellowship Hour Hosts

*The group that will be hosting our 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour for the month of January will be:
FOUNDATION*

UMW Executive Board Meeting:

Tuesday, January 2nd at 1:00 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room.

Tabitha-Dorcas Circle:

Wednesday, January 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room.

Elizabeth/Esther Circle:

Wednesday, January 10th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Priscilla Circle:

Thursday, January 11th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

UMW Unit Meeting:

Monday, February 26, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Buddy Bell	01/03
Carolyn Daly.....	01/03
Lorraine King.....	01/03
Pam Fisher.....	01/04
Brenda Hansen	01/05
Barbara Kelton	01/07
Skip Sutton.....	01/07
Catherine Schott	01/08
Alice LaClair	01/09
Evelyn Cummings	01/10
Dolores Morris.....	01/10
Paul Gibson.....	01/16
Harlan Kloostra	01/16
Mike Bidol.....	01/19
Dee Ehrlich.....	01/19
Richard Crapo.....	01/21
Pat Krider	01/21
Ron Yankowski.....	01/21
Doris Kortie	01/24
Adam Chavez.....	01/28
Jane Ehrlich	01/28
Judy Brown	01/29

ANNIVERSARIES

Larry & Beth Mead	01/03
Bill & Nancy Jenkins.....	01/10
Loy & Roseann McGuire	01/17
Howard & Elizabeth Passage.....	01/30



Please continue to place any disposable greeting cards in the box in the church lobby or on the shelves by the door to the offices. Thank you for your donations.

Judy Brown

Bible Studies... Lectionary Study JANUARY

Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

January 1st

NO CLASS TODAY HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12

January 8th

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)	
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51	

January 15th

Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20

January 22nd

Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28

January 29th

Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11,20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39

Reading Through the Bible

We meet every Thursday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room for an hour of Bible reading, discussion and questions. We are in the minor prophets, nearing the end of the Old Testament.

Come and join us! Dolor ma vollis sequos
dendem im quo eliate int harum facimus,

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Hands of Friendship Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Jan. 06

Food Bank Sunday

Jan. 21

Potluck

10:30 a.m. Jan. 21

“Iron Pans Steel Drum Band” Concert

2:00 p.m. Jan. 28

Need a
Ride?



Care-2-Go ...

... is the name of First United Methodist Church's Transportation Ministry. You should keep this note for future reference. Why? Because you may someday need a ride from one of our volunteers – and you'll need to know the name of the program: Care-2-Go.

Here's how it works:

- If you need a ride, call the church office (623-974-3631) at least 48 hours beforehand, if possible.
- The volunteer will transmit your request to the Care Council.
- They will attempt to locate someone who can assist you within the Sun City community.

Please note:

- This service depends on the availability of drivers (**if you would like to volunteer to drive, contact Rev. Tom**).
- It is intended for those within the First Church family.
- It assumes that you have no other means of getting around (family members, neighbors, etc. should be asked first).
- And, those who drive may have physical limitations themselves (they may not be able to lift wheelchairs, etc.) so please ask if that is a concern.

So keep the note and the name handy – **Care-2-Go** – it's our Transportation Ministry that will help you get to those critical appointments on time!

The Sin of Lying

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."



I want to thank all of the people who have served as ushers this past year. This is a very special job to meet, greet and seat people at the 9:30 a.m. service on Sundays. If you would like to usher, please contact the church office at 623-974-3631 or me for more information on this special job.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!
Walt Weihmuller

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pauline Bortz
Lucille and Gordon
Gudmundson
Libby Hearne
Alice LaClair
Bishamber Lal
Diane Lang
Jeff Lay
Dolores Morris
Gert Neumann
Gordon Plancich
Mary Jean Roush
Billie Jo Scott
Esta and Bill VanMeter
Don & Sandi Vickery
Don Watson



ECUMENICAL PRAYER CIRCLE

We pray for the following congregations:

JANUARY:

Sun City congregations
First Presbyterian Church
First UMC, Sun City
Shepherd of the Desert
St. Christopher's

United Methodist congregations in our District
Staff of the Desert Southwest Conference
Wesley Community Center
Golden Gates Community Center
Justa Center, Phoenix

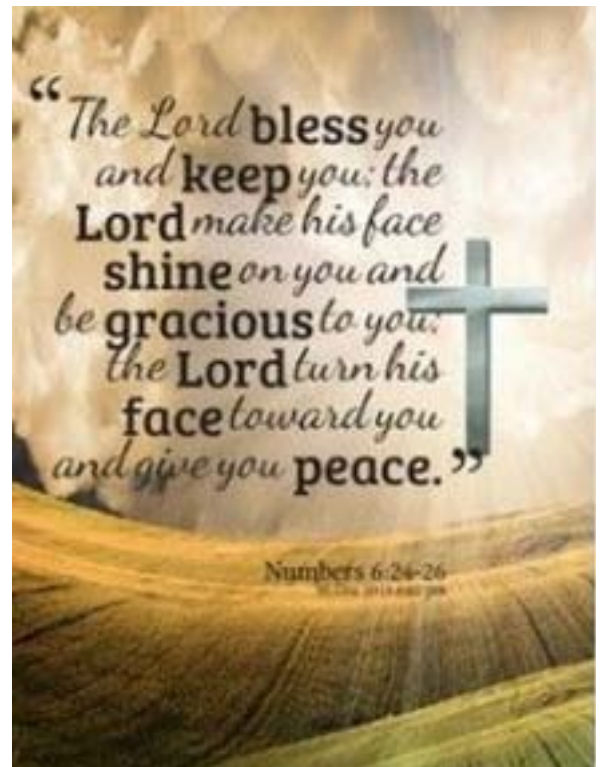
Condolences & Christian Sympathy.....



.....to family and friends on the passing of **RUTH SAATHOFF** on October 14th. We were notified at the end of November of her passing.

.....to **JEFF LAY**, family and friends on the passing of his wife, **GLENDIA**, on December 2nd. No plans for a service at this time.

....to **SHARON ELLINGSON** and friends on news of the passing of friend, Jessica (Jess) Thuleen, on Dec. 1st. Service was held on Monday, Dec. 11th at First UMC.



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS JANUARY 15TH

Please submit any articles you have by January 15th. This may sound early, but multiple people and steps are involved in compiling this newsletter. Thank you.

Mmmmm, Doesn't Soup Sound Good?



Do you remember those wonderful soups the United Methodist Women sold last year?

Well, the United Methodist Women will be cooking up some more delicious soups later this month. They will go on sale January 14th, and will continue through February.

These soups make ideal lunches, gifts for shut-ins, or a treat for special friends.

There will be the usual Beef Vegetable, White Bean Chicken Chili, and Kielbasa Split Pea...and there will be added surprises. Price is \$3.00 for 1 1/2 cups and \$6.00 for 3 cups. Be sure to stop by the United Methodist Women's table on Sunday and see what they've been cooking!!



January's Communion Offering to Community and Member Assistance

January's Communion offering goes to Community and Member Assistance. This fund primarily assists church members and their families with emergency assistance for medical and other needs. We also use these funds to make a contribution to the Salvation Army's emergency assistance fund which helps people in the surrounding communities.

2018 Administrative Training – Workshops for new and continuing local church committee members of Finance, Trustees and Staff/Parish Relations. This will be on Saturday, January 13, 2018, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church in Glendale. Registration is required.



Online registration is: <https://dscumc.org/2018-admin-training>

Come to the office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. if you need help registering.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



Italian Night!

Bring your sweetie for spaghetti and more!



When: Friday, February 9th
DINNER SERVING FROM
5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Where: Fellowship Hall
Cost: \$8 per person



For tickets, contact Colleen Becker at 623-341-5107.
This is a Mission project of the United Methodist Women.

THANK YOU!



for all the Christmas presents, goodies, cards, letters and prayers! We appreciate each and every act of kindness and display of holiday spirit.

Rev. Lois & Rev. Tom

DRUMMING IN JANUARY ...

Our January Sunday afternoon concert is going to be a first for First United Methodist Church – steel drums! Now, we've had steel drum bands here in the past but not like this group; these are kids – and lots of them!

“Iron Pans Steel Drum Band” from Vistancia Elementary School (that's right – elementary school) have been the subject of an article in the Peoria Times. You can read about it here (http://www.peoriatimes.com/news/article_384eaf08-e8a5-11e6-bcd9-fbfe2531f83e.html). And they're going to entertain us like we've never been entertained before, so bring a friend on **January 28 at 2:00 p.m.** Followed by fellowship, hors d'oeuvres / appetizers time to thank our guests and get acquainted with our visitors.





9849 N. 105th Ave.
Sun City, Arizona 85351

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First United Methodist Church Newsletter

Change Service Requested

Visit our website at www.fumcsuncity.com

Join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fumcsuncity

TELEWORSHIP:

Teleworship allows a person to dial a phone number remotely and listen to the worship service as it occurs. Here's how it works:

- Call **623-777-3306** during the 9:30 a.m. service
- When prompted, enter extension **930**
- Dial **536-545-940 #**
- You will be connected to the worship service.

Note: You can have a convenient wallet size card with the above information. These are available in the church office.

You can follow the service with a copy of the Sunday bulletin which is located on our website: **fumcsuncity.com**. Under the heading "WORSHIP" click on "SUNDAY BULLETIN."

First United Methodist Church

9849 N. 105th Avenue, Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-3631

Website: www.fumcsuncity.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fumcsuncity

Email: office@fumcsuncity.com

The ministers of this church are its members.
Those who assist and support them are:

Lois Hedden	Senior Pastor
Thomas Ondra	Associate Pastor
Lay Leader	Colleen Becker
Terry Smith	Music Director
Cathy Murray	Organist, Handbell Director
Sharon Weber	Office Manager
Richard Vickers	Audio Engineer
Lou Farrar	Media Operator
Robert Schmidt	Maintenance

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Website

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