



First United Methodist Church of Sun City

First Word

MAY / JUNE 2017



JUSTA CENTER



Justa Center is the only day resource center dedicated to serving the needs of seniors age 55 and older who are homeless. The center grew in the summer of 2016 from 130 daily visitors to 184 daily members, with about 50% of their members are women and 30-40% are veterans. They take the time to address everyone by name and with dignity and respect. Justa Center provides daily coffee, showers, lunch, clothes, hygiene

items and comprehensive service of counseling, employment search, computer access and veteran and social security advocacy. Justa Center's staff are carefully trained professionals who go the extra mile to help each individual. A strong spiritual component is part of their outreach. Justa Center is housing one homeless senior per business day. In November 2016, they exceeded that goal and housed 27 seniors. The center is open Monday – Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Sunday 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. As they house more seniors, their extended care program is growing. The Justa Ambassadors either visit or call those individuals who have moved into housing. They have a 93% retention rate of keeping people housed.

The name comes from the famous passage in Matthew (15:21-28), in which a Canaanite woman comes to Jesus, asking him to save her daughter, who is possessed by a demon. Jesus ignores her at first, and his disciples urge him to send her away. Finally Jesus answers that he was sent to help the lost sheep of Israel, and that "it is not right to take the children's food and toss it to the dogs." The woman persists, though, kneeling in front of Jesus and stating, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed.

Consider the courage it took for that woman to confront Jesus in such a way. Women had little or no status at that time, and for a woman of the "wrong" religion to approach Jesus in the first place was unheard of. In order to save her daughter, though, she would not take "no" for an answer. She demanded to be noticed so that she could obtain the help she needed. While the Bible does not specifically name this Canaanite woman, a Pseudo-Clementine epistle gives her the name of "Justa." The founders of Justa Center decided to use that name to represent all the marginalized people in our society who seek their help on a daily basis. As Justa showed us, every person has rights and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, and that is what they attempt to do every day at Justa Center.

Would you consider helping with the Justa Center mission outreach? Look for opportunities coming in the near future.

Message from the Pastor

I was reading an article about how to conquer our fears. Well, honestly it was not about that, but kind of morphed into that in my mind. The article was about finding our true identity and what that might look like. There was a quote that I found amusing, “It does not do to leave a live dragon out of your calculations, if you live near him” by the writer J.R.R. Tolkien.

The exposé went on to say that the dragons in our lives were our fears: our day stalkers, our night sweats. Fear of the unknown. Fear of falling. Fear of public speaking. Fear of starting something new and not finishing. Again. Or the real fear, the one that sends shivers up our spines: the fear of succeeding, of becoming our authentic selves and facing the changes that will inevitably bring. We might not be happy with the way we are living now, but at least it is safely familiar.

Parents of small children have always known how to deal with dragons hiding under beds or lurking in closets. We turn on the lights and reassure worried souls with love. We need to slay the dragons (fears) in our minds the same way according to this article.

All of this had me thinking about how we turn on the light switch and face the challenges of our lives. In church services or Bible studies, we often speak of Jesus being light. If it is true that light will remove our fear and Jesus is light, then Jesus can remove our fear. So, as we draw ourselves closer to Jesus, the light of our lives, our fears and worries will fade into the background.

When we focus on the light other things seem to fade away. I would never recommend staring into a light bulb or the sun in the sky for any length of time; but if you did, it would make it difficult to see anything else. I do recommend focusing on the Light of Christ; it is medically safe ☺. When we focus upon the Risen Son of God, all our problems take on a different focus and we find it easier to live our lives. The bad things in our lives and the world do not magically disappear – tragedies, disease, hurt feelings and misunderstandings still happen. Our focus will change when we spend extended hours in personal prayer and Bible study. The way we meet the challenges of life changes when we enter this closer relationship with Christ.

It is never too late in life for a new relationship with God to begin. We are never so far gone that the love of God cannot reach out and touch us. The people around us are not immune from the love of God shining in our lives. Just as Christ is the light for your path, you can be the light for others as you share your faith or invite them to an event with our church family.

God Bless YOU –
Lois

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - SUN CITY



JOHN & BARBARA LEYH....come to us from (well) all over the place! That's because John spent a lifetime in the Navy. In fact, he (from Pennsylvania) met her (from Idaho) in California while on a tour of duty as she was finishing hairstylist school. Barb put that talent to good work, spending more than 40 years making people look their best. Today they still travel all over the place in their RV, although much of it is to visit their two sons and two grandkids. When they're in Arizona they sing in our choir.



ANN THACKER....joins First UMC since she lives close by, but that wasn't always the case. In 1962 the family moved from Toledo, Ohio, in search of steady work (he was a baker) and found it in Phoenix. Ann got a job at E.L. Gruber in Glendale (ask her what they made) and they settled in to a John F. Long house that was home for 41 years! A charter member of Calvary United Methodist Church, Ann stays in touch with 2 kids, 2 grandkids, and 2 great-grandkids!

May's Communion Offering to Benevilla



Benevilla is a non-profit which seeks to weave a safety net for those who may be isolated and need assistance to maintain their independence. Benevilla is able to provide extensive support for older adults with intellectual disabilities, children, and families who care for them through a variety of programs. Adult day programs, daily home task services, home-delivered meals, referral services, care giver support groups, child day-care, parenting classes, social gatherings at Birt's Bistro, and volunteer opportunities.

June's Communion Offering to Community and Member Assistance

When someone in our congregation needs some financial help, they are able to come to the office and speak to either one of the pastors in private. Every once in a while we all need some help, whether it be one time or for several months. We don't want a member to not be able to get that prescription or pay their heating or air-conditioning bill because they had a few extra expenses this last month. Some people pay back the amount they borrow but that is not necessary. This is our congregation helping each other. All transactions are in private.



Finance

This year we have gone without making “official” pledges. Everyone was asked to look into his or her own heart and hear what God had to say about our personal financial situation and to give as the Spirit guides us. We told you that we would keep you apprised of our situation as the year progressed. January and February were great, but March not so much, as the income was almost \$5,400 short of the expenses. This time of year sees us through the lean summer months until people return in the fall. This is not a desperate situation, but one we wanted to make you aware of before it becomes so. The church programs run year round, along with lights, heat or air-conditioning, maintenance, and a myriad of other expenses. Please remember your church family as you work on your budgets. Thank you.

Your Finance Committee

Metho Travelers invites you to....

Go Places: Fun trips with great people.

PINAL COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM TOUR, Tuesday, May 16th, to Wednesday, May 17th. Tour includes 2 days/1 night at Green Tree Inn & Suites, 1 breakfast/2 lunches/1 dinner, transportation/bus expense, taxes and tips relating to planned events. There are 5 tours. Details are available at the Metho Travelers desk in Fellowship Hall. Costs are \$198/double occupancy, \$263 single occupancy. Payment is due upon sign-up. Departure is at 8:30 a.m. and return around 5:00 p.m.

PAGEANT OF THE MASTERS TOUR, Laguna Beach, CA, Monday, July 17th to Thursday, July 20th. Tour includes 4 days/3 nights at Dana Point Hotel, 3 breakfasts/2 lunches/3 dinners, pageant ticket, Catalina Island boat excursion, transportation/bus expense, taxes and tips for a cost of \$650/double occupancy or \$830/single occupancy. A \$150/person deposit upon sign-up with balance due by June 1st. Morning departure at 8:00 a.m. and return around 5:30 p.m.

LAS VEGAS WEEKEND GET-A-WAY, Friday, September 8th, to Sunday, September 10th. Trip includes 3 days/2 nights at The Mirage with several tours and a show of your choice. Additional details are available at the Metho Travelers desk in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$525/double occupancy, \$725/single occupancy. \$100/person due upon sign-up with balance due before August 1st. Departure is at 8:00 a.m. and return 5:30 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 portorage. 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.



Bible Studies... Lectionary Study MAY

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

May 1st

Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10

May 8th

Acts 7:55-60	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14

May 15th

Acts 17:22-31	Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21

May 22nd

Acts 1:6-14	Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11

May 29th

Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	John 7:37-39

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 book of Jeremiah.

Come and join us!

Bible Studies... Lectionary Study JUNE

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

June 5th

Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20

June 12th

Genesis 18:1-15	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:8

June 19th

Genesis 21:8-21	Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39

June 26th

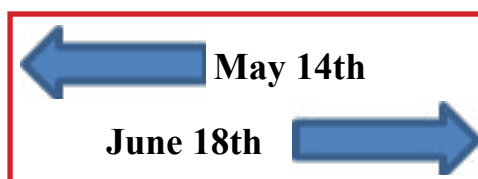
Genesis 22:1-14	Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42

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 book of Jeremiah.

Come and join us!

God gives miracles to those who believe, courage to those with faith, hope to those who dream, and love to those who accept.



MAY & JUNE 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.

Tuesdays

Game Night 6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays - MAY ONLY

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

(Will return in September)

Thursdays

Bible Study 3:00 p.m.

MAY Committee Meetings:

Trustees	9:30 a.m. May 02
Finance	1:30 p.m. May 11
Social Media	3:30 p.m. May 15
Foundation	9:30 a.m. May 17
Church Council	9:30 a.m. May 24

Missions	Back in September
Church Growth	Back in October
Care Council	Back in October

JUNE Committee Meetings:

Trustees	9:30 a.m. Jun 06
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All other committees back in September

Finance	1:30 p.m. Sep. 14
Social Media	3:30 p.m. Sep. 18
Missions	1:00 p.m. Sep. 19
Church Council	9:30 a.m. Sep. 27

Starting back in October:

Church Growth	9:00 a.m. Oct. 04
Care Council	1:00 p.m. Oct. 09

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Hands of Friendship Luncheon
 11:30 a.m. May 06 / Jun 03
 Food Bank Sunday May 21 / Jun 18
 Potluck 10:30 a.m. May 21 / Jun 18

JULY / AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS JUNE 15TH

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

HANDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON



May 6th **AND** June 3rd 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!

MEMORIAL DAY...

... IS THE DAY THAT'S SET ASIDE TO REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE AND PRIDE ALL THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM. MAY YOUR DAY BE FILLED WITH MEMORIES AND PEACE. GOD BLESS AMERICA



**OFFICE
IS
CLOSED**
for
Memorial
Day,
May 29th.



BIRTHDAYS

John Leyh.....	05/02
Sue Schneider.....	05/02
Mary Payne.....	05/03
Jo Larrabee.....	05/05
Cathy Murray.....	05/05
Lenora Rector.....	05/07
Mable Smith.....	05/09
Janice Promberger.....	05/11
Phyllis King.....	05/12
Mikki Smith.....	05/14
Jil Carlson.....	05/15
Bogie Budke.....	05/16
John King.....	05/16
Millie Ford.....	05/17
Mary Jean Roush.....	05/18
Tillie Brandt.....	05/19
Marion James.....	05/19
Nada Jensen.....	05/20
Donna Gibson.....	05/21
Phyllis Smith.....	05/21
Janet Unger.....	05/22
Beth Mead.....	05/24
Suzanne Yankowski.....	05/24
Eleanor Carpenter.....	05/25
Pat Gronberg.....	05/29

ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Joyce Lostetter.....	05/05
Red & Pam Fisher.....	05/15



BIRTHDAYS

Florence Curry.....	06/01
Lenore Whipple.....	06/02
Ron Tiner.....	06/05
Warren Whipple.....	06/07
Diane Lewis.....	06/09
Barbara DeRose.....	06/11
Noreen Nickerson-Cruz.....	06/11
Kathie Grant.....	06/12
Gordon Gudmundson.....	06/17
Dianne Kehoe.....	06/17
Diane Lang.....	06/18
Karen Klus.....	06/21
Bonnie Wedekind.....	06/25
Betty Zingre.....	06/27
Susie Gray.....	06/30
Phyllis Hilts.....	06/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Jack & Bettye Minton.....	06/05
Bernie & Diane Lewis.....	06/07
Garry & Colleen Becker.....	06/14
Carl & Brenda Hansen.....	06/20
Fred & Diane Lang.....	06/28
Jeff & Glenda Lay.....	06/28
Jim & Cathy Murray.....	06/29



UMW Executive Board Meeting:

Monday, May 1st, at 1:00 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room

Priscilla Circle:

Tuesday, May 9th, meet at church at 11:00 a.m. to go to Olive Garden for lunch. Please call Betty Zingre at 623-972-3361 if you would like to attend. All are welcome.

Tabitha-Dorcas Circle:

Wednesday, May 10th, meet at church at 11:00 a.m. to go to Famous Dave's for lunch. Please call Carol Jones at 623-243-7900 if you would like to attend. All are welcome.

Elizabeth/Esther Circle:

Wednesday, May 10th, meet at 11:00 a.m. at Mercer's Restaurant. Please call Beth Mead at 307-262-6715 if you would like to attend. All are welcome.

UMW Local Organization Meeting:

Monday, October 23rd, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

NO MEETINGS IN JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST.

MEETINGS WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER.

Have a happy and safe summer!!



COLUMBARIUM

Did you know that our church has a Columbarium? It is located on the north side of the building between the stained glass windows of the sanctuary. What is a columbarium? It is a sacred area with recesses in the wall to receive the ashes of the dearly departed. The niches are \$375.00 for a single and \$750.00 for a double. There is a plate on each niche with the name and life dates. This is a peaceful meditative area to honor our dear departed friends. As you make plans for your eternal future, consider having your ashes interred here with your First Church Family. Please feel free to stop by the church office for more information.

Are You Heading Home for the Summer??



We hope not, but if you're getting ready for the trip to your summer home, please let us know (with address, email address, dates, etc.) so we can get your newsletter and any church communications directed to where you are. Please also let us know if your address has changed or if you have an email address. You can contact the church office at (623) 974-3631 or office@fumcsuncity.com. Thank you!

Fellowship Hour Hosts

The groups that will be hosting our 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour for the following months will be:

MAY: MISSIONS COMMITTEE

JUNE: CHURCH GROWTH

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pauline Bortz
Lucille and Gordon
Gudmundson
Libby Hearne
Frances Jobe
Bishamber Lal
Dolores Morris
Gordon Plancich
Jim Pugh
Mary Jean Roush
Ruth Saathoff
Billie Jo Scott
Esta and Bill VanMeter
Don Watson



ECUMENICAL PRAYER CIRCLE

We pray for the following congregations:

MAY:

Sun City congregations
All Saints of the Desert
Shepherd of the Desert
St. Christopher's Church
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish

United Methodist congregations in our District

First UMC, Glendale
First UMC, Phoenix
First UMC, Sun City

JUNE:

Sun City congregations
Church of St. Joachim & St. Anne
Church of the Palms
Faith Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church

United Methodist congregations in our District

First UMC, Yuma
Fort Yuma UMC
Gila Mountain UMC, Yuma

FAITH
is like Wi-Fi,
it's invisible but
it has the power
to connect you to
what you need.

Condolences & Christian Sympathy.....



....to **EVELYN CUMMINGS**, family and friends on news of the passing of her daughter, Rhonda Browning, in Mesa.

....to **DUANE & PATTI AVEY** on news of the passing of Patti's mother, Darlene Betts (IA)

....to **CLARICE BIELSKI** on news of the passing of her brother, Paul Strouse (TN)

....**MAX & DEBBIE WOOD**, family and friends on the death of Debbie's brother-in-law Abe Marinelli (CO). They wish to thank everyone for their prayers during Abe's illness.

Important Valley View Community Food Bank News



Remember that the postal service will be picking up those paper bags for canned goods and other non perishable items on May 13th. The bags should be delivered to your mail box on May 12th. Every bag picked up west of Route 101 will come to Valley View Community Food Bank. Be sure to remind your neighbors and friends to fill those bags and put them out for your postal carrier to pick up.

Our regular food bank donation Sunday will be May 21st and June 18th. If you forget your food, cash or a check will suffice.

Thank you in advance for all you do for the community.

POTLUCK TIME Sundays, May 21st and June 18th

Join everyone at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for our fun potluck. Remember to bring your own plate and utensils. Please bring a dish or two to share so we can easily include our guests and visitors. Everyone is welcome!!



MAY 21st -- Our guest speaker will be Deb Kloehn from "Meals on Wheels." She will give a short talk about their mission, cost and volunteers. They have been serving Sun City and Youngtown for nearly 40 years, an average of 25,000 meals per year. See article below for more information.

JUNE 18th -- Father's Day -- we will have our regular potluck and the program will be for everyone with the focus being on fathers. See you there for food and fun!



Sun City Meals on Wheels, Inc.

Sun City Meals on Wheels, Inc. provides two meals a day for those that need meals. The meals include one hot meal and one cold meal per day. The need can be either short term or long term. The cost is what the meals cost to produce which is \$ 7.50 per day but costs could change. An assistance program is available to those who qualify. The program receives no government funding. The program is supported by those who can afford to pay for the meals and by donations. There is always a need for those who are able to drive and deliver meals, or donations.

Sun City Meals on Wheels, Inc.

P.O. Box 1842, Sun City, AZ 85372

Phone: 623-974-9430

Website: www.suncitymealsonwheels.org.



Don't Forget Us ...



When you go home for the summer, we hope you'll enjoy yourself (and the nicer weather). But please, don't forget First United Methodist Church since we – who remain here all year long - miss you and need your on-going \$\$\$ support. That way, there will still be a happy church to greet you when you return in the fall/winter. Thanks.

October 20th - 21st



This year's Fall Festival is October 20th & 21st, so mark your calendars! We will again be selling rummage items, furniture, and jewelry. We will have an on-site lunch and bake sale. So there will be many opportunities to volunteer.

The summer months provide us the perfect opportunity to go through our homes and garages and rid them of items no longer needed. **NO CLOTHING, SHOES, COMPUTERS, MONITORS OR TVs (flatscreens OK), please.** Rummage items will be received at the church the week of October 16th.

If you have jewelry to donate, please drop it off at the church office now. It takes time to prepare jewelry for display, so having the luxury of the extra summer months is a big help.

Are you new to our church and have no idea what the Fall Festival is? It is a fundraiser for the church. Money is raised by selling rummage items, furniture, jewelry, lunches and baked goods which are all donated by the congregation. The money received goes into our general operating fund and toward our mission endeavors. Being a Fall Festival volunteer is a great way to get to know your church family.

Thanks to everyone that helped out last year. We look forward to seeing all of you again this



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 | 623-974-1468 Fax

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 | Pastor |
| Terry Smith | Music Director |
| Cathy Murray | Organist, Handbell Director |
| Tom Scott | Lay Leader |
| Sharon Weber | Administrative Assistant |
| Fran Nine | Financial Secretary |
| Richard Vickers | Audio Engineer |
| Lou Farrar | Media Operator |
| Robert Schmidt | Maintenance |

**Visit Our
Website**

