



First United Methodist Church of Sun City

First Word

OCTOBER 2017



ONLY DAYS AWAY!!! ALL-CHURCH FALL FESTIVAL

Friday, October 20th & Saturday, October 21st
7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Please plan on being a part of this year's All-Church event. There will be many areas in which to help. **Sign-up sheets** will be in the church lobby every Sunday (10/01, 10/08, and 10/15) for cashiers, sales assistants, greeters, bakers, and on-site lunch helpers. Be thinking of areas you would like to volunteer. **Fall Festival flyers and door hangers** are available for you to pick up Sunday. The flyers can be placed on golf carts and cars, and distributed to your favorite eating establishments or places of business. The door hangers can be placed on your neighbor's front door.

Preparations for the week of the Fall Festival are as follows:

- **Monday, October 16th at 9:00 a.m.:** We will need additional volunteers to set up tables in the Fellowship Hall and church lobby. Donated furniture should be brought to the church. If you need help in getting your rummage items or furniture to the church, please contact Walt Weihmuller (623-972-8277) and/or Lyn Kortie (623-518-6734) to make arrangements for pick-up.
- **Tuesday - Wednesday, October 17th – 18th at 9:00 a.m.:** Bring all of your donated items to the church. We will need volunteers to price these items and arrange them on tables. There are no sign-up sheets for this, just show up, lunch will be provided.
- **Thursday - October 19th at 9:00 a.m.:** We will finish pricing and arranging rummage items. Bring your donated baked goods before 2:00 p.m.

If you are unable to work but wish to participate, you may donate money to help defray costs for food, advertising and supplies. Make checks payable to FUMC, add "Fall Festival" to the memo line and on your envelope, turn into the church office or drop in the collection plate on Sunday.

The Fall Festival is a wonderful outreach opportunity for our church (invite your friends and neighbors) and a perfect opportunity to get acquainted with your Church family. Join us, won't you?

Message from the Pastor

FRUSTRATION!! Sometimes I get so frustrated with myself. I try hard to do something the way I have determined it needs to be done, and yet, I constantly make mistakes! Such FRUSTRATION!!

I am attempting to mark a piece of solo handbell music. When I mark solo pieces, I label each note individually and do each line of the music in a different color. This makes it easier for me to follow the lines with my eyes and have a quick notation on the music since I do not read music fluently. I forgot to change colors when I started a new line and had to erase and go back. I got off track – like having your fingers on the wrong keys of the typewriter – and had to erase and go back several times. I have done only three lines of music and already erased at least a dozen times. ARGGGG!!! I get so frustrated with myself when I goof up like that.

As I was berating myself for yet another mistake, I got to thinking about God. When I tirelessly keep making mistakes in my life, I am amazed at how patient God is with me. Even if I inadvertently keep making the same mistake over and over, God does not abandon me. God loves each and every one of us with unconditional love.

Every time I lead a Bible study where we read the history of the Hebrew people in the Old Testament, someone always seems to ask, “Why do they keep making the same mistakes over and over?” Why? Because they are human. The story we read in the Bible is our story. Names and places may have changed, but the basic instincts are the same. We all try to take control of our lives and make decisions on our own. Time after time, that gets us into trouble.

We need to take time to pray over our decisions. We need to take time every day (maybe even many times a day) to be in the presence of God. When we do this, we receive God’s amazing peace that settles upon our soul; and we almost innately know what to do and how to do that with which we were just struggling. We receive the “peace that passes understanding” as we allow God to have the first place in our lives.

After writing this and taking some time for meditation, I had a calmness about me as I finished marking the music. I still made mistakes, but they did not frustrate me as bad as they had before I took time to talk to God.

I found out that I had marked parts of the music wrong as I began to practice it with Cathy’s help. She will generally work with me for about an hour a couple of times a week on a solo piece of music. This piece is for Christmas. Learning a solo piece of handbell music takes me a long time before I can play it as written. I need to learn to count the notes, which bell to have in which hand at which time, even memorizing certain parts – there is a lot of work that goes into making it look easy.

Our relationship with God is like that also. To others observing us, it may look easy; but for me, I often have to make a conscious choice to stop and pray, read the scriptures, breathe in the calming Spirit and center myself on God. We practice our religion, working at our faith, striving to be the people we think God wants us to be.

God Bless,
Lois

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



KAREN WILLARD.... Karen joined the First United Methodist Church family on August 27th. She is particular friends with Nancy Brookman and Ann Thacker, since they all came from Calvary United Methodist Church, but she'd love to get to know you! Born in Chicago, Karen and her family moved here when she was 3 years old to be near grandparents, so she might well be considered a native. Having attended Phoenix College and Arizona State University, she worked at Motorola and a variety of other places prior to retirement. When Karen isn't busy with crocheting or enjoying the pool at Fairway Rec Center, she's probably thinking about her 3 children, 10 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild and (closer to home) 2 cats. Welcome Karen!



COOL LADIES LUNCHEON Tuesday, October 31st, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Theme is Halloween. Once again it's time for our ladies to come and have some fun. Please come in some sort of costume. We will have prizes. Entertainment will be a surprise. This has been a wonderful way for our ladies to get to know each other. So mark your calendars and find a costume and join us for lunch.

Shoebox Ministries: Operation Christmas Child

The shoeboxes that each of you have filled are shipped to children all over the world. We will dedicate the boxes on World Communion Sunday, **October 1st**. Thank you for your support of this great outreach ministry.

Missions Committee



Harvest of Plenty

Every year at this time (November 12th), we have a large food gathering for the Valley View Community Food Bank.

We start thinking of the holidays and how many people are struggling financially that maybe have never had to before. Valley View Community Food bank is a non-profit organization providing food, and basic necessities to people in need throughout Maricopa's West Valley. They service about 300 families a week with 43% being seniors. I don't know if all of you are aware of their off-site location at the back of our church. Their main food bank is on Grand Avenue by the Food City store. I know that our congregation will be generous in this endeavor. Thank you!



Missions Committee

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR CHARGE CONFERENCE

UMW, pastors, and committee chairpersons, please submit your annual reports **by October 10th** to the church office. This is a first reminder since the charge conference is being held on November 7th. Reports can be emailed to office@fumcsuncity.com or brought to the office. Thank you.

Church Finances

This year we have tried going without an official pledge campaign, instead asking you to pray about your contributions and give from your heart. We also told you that we would keep you abreast of our financial situation. While summer months are always our shortest, in the financial department anyhow, our expenses continue. The good news is that all of our bills are paid, we have been able to keep the air conditioners working, and our missional giving is all up to date. The bad news is we are further in the red as of the month of August than we have ever been. We need your help. Please pray more about what your gifts will be to the church. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Ronald McDonald House Charities

The families that benefit from Ronald McDonald House Charities travel far from home to receive treatment for their child. They strive to make life a little easier for families with children facing medical challenges by providing an atmosphere of comfort, hope and courage. Their child's treatment may last a day, a month or even longer. It is a long time to be away from home or to divide a family, and often it is financially impossible for a family. Ronald McDonald House Charities is able to help families overcome these obstacles by providing low-cost temporary housing (\$15.00 per night). Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix currently has three houses - two in Phoenix and one in Mesa. Up to 79 families stay per night and more than 42,300 families have checked-in since they opened their doors in 1985.



Metho Travelers invites you to....

Go Places: Fun trips with great people.

THE HUKILAU HAWAIIAN VILLAGE LUAU, Saturday, November 4, 2017. The cost is \$55/person for food, entertainment, transportation and gratuity. Payment is due upon sign up. Bus leaves Lakeview United Methodist Church at 3:45 p.m. and leaves the village at 9:00 p.m.

BARLEENS CHRISTMAS SHOW, Saturday, December 9th. Please note: This trip is full and has a long waiting list.

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.

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.

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.

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

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



WANTED!! *Greeting cards...new OR used, inside message OR blank OR personal writing, front or back missing. NO GLITTER! Unused envelopes are sometimes matched with unused cards to sell at our Fall Festival. Thank you for your donations into the Lobby box.*

Judy Brown

OCTOBER 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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OCTOBER Committee Meetings:

Trustees	9:30 a.m.	Oct. 03
Church Growth	9:00 a.m.	Oct. 04
Care Council	1:00 p.m.	Oct. 09
Social Media	3:30 p.m.	Oct. 10
Worship	1:00 p.m.	Oct. 11
Finance	1:30 p.m.	Oct. 12
SPRC	9:30 a.m.	Oct. 17
Missions	1:00 p.m.	Oct. 17
Foundation	9:30 a.m.	Oct. 18
Church Council	9:30 a.m.	Oct. 25

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Hands of Friendship Luncheon	11:30 a.m.	Oct. 07
Food Bank Sunday		Oct. 15
Potluck	10:30 a.m.	Oct. 15

Fellowship Hour Hosts

*The group that will be hosting our
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour
for the month of October will be:
BOARD OF TRUSTEES*

HANDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON



October 7th 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!

UMW Executive Board Meeting:

Monday, October 2nd at 1:00 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room.

Elizabeth/Esther Circle:

Wednesday, October 11th, meet at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Tabitha-Dorcas Circle:

Wednesday, October 11th, meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room.

NOTE THE CHANGED DATE. ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL THIS MONTH.

Priscilla Circle:

Thursday, October 12th, meet at 9:30 a.m. at Betty Zingre's home (10324 W. Willie Low Circle).

UMW Local Organization Meeting:

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





Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Judy Bidol.....	10/07
Hilda Peck.....	10/08
Terry Nott.....	10/11
Don Watson.....	10/11
Lou Farrar.....	10/12
Esta Van Meter.....	10/12
Lee Duguid.....	10/13
Bamby Slupe.....	10/13
Joan Lengacher.....	10/16
Carol Whitenack.....	10/16
Gordon Longnecker.....	10/21
Barbara Chavez.....	10/22
Jill Heiertz.....	10/28
Lorraine Matthias.....	10/29
Bonnie Scheels.....	10/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Terry & Nada Nott.....	10/14
John & Barbara Leyh.....	10/16
Tom & Judy Brown.....	10/17
Bob Muehlberg & Therese Green.....	10/21
Bill & Betty Eaton, Jr.....	10/28

Celebrate!

Bible Studies... Lectionary Study OCTOBER

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

October 2nd

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalm 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

October 9th

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

October 16th

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

October 23rd

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

October 30th

Joshua 3:7-17

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

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 will be in the book of Daniel.

Come and join us!

Visit Our Website

like us on
facebook



ATTENTION ALL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Executive Board will meet on Monday, October 2nd at 1:00 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room. The Local Organization meeting will be Monday, October 23rd at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with a salad luncheon. Elizabeth/Esther Circle will be hostess and present the program. Remember to bring your World Thank Offering to this meeting. This will be the fifth point toward reaching the Five Star Award for the year presented by the West District. We are also planning a surprise craft project following the program. This will be a fun project to benefit Anilu's Partners.

Colleen Becker, President

United Methodist Women Recycle Project

The United Methodist Women have been recycling water bottles and aluminum cans for almost two years now. We appreciate all of you that have been helping with this mission project. This year alone we have made over \$250.00 for missions. We feel this is a great way for you to keep these bottles and cans out of the landfills. Just continue to bring them on Sundays and drop them off by the kitchen door. If you need them picked up or have questions, call Lenore Whipple (623-933-8258) or Carol Jones (623-243-7900).

Care-2-Go ...



... is the name of First 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'd 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!

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pauline Bortz
Lucille and Gordon
Gudmundson
Libby Hearne
Alice LaClair
Bishamber Lal
Dolores Morris
Gert Neumann
Gordon Plancich
John B. Richardson
Mary Jean Roush
Ruth Saathoff
Billie Jo Scott
Helen Teichman
Esta and Bill VanMeter
Don Watson



ECUMENICAL PRAYER CIRCLE

We pray for the following congregations:

OCTOBER:

Sun City congregations

St. Elizabeth Seton

All Saints of the Desert

Church of St. Joachim & St. Anne

Church of the Palms

Faith Presbyterian Church

United Methodist congregations in our District

Trinity UMC, Yuma

Sedona UMC

Shepherd of the Hills UMC, Sun City West



Condolences & Christian Sympathy to.....

....**DIANE LANG AND SON, MARK**, on news of the passing of husband and father, Fred, September 20th.



In the last three issues of First Word there have been articles about Justa Center and items needed to support their day-to-day operations as well as items for starter kits for their members to begin a new life in a new home. This is a reminder that we will be collecting these items at the Local Organization meeting of United Methodist Women on **October 23rd** in the Fellowship Hall. Due to limited storage space at the church because of the Fall Festival being the week before our collection date, please if you can, keep your donated items at your house until our meeting. If you do bring your items to the church make sure they are clearly marked Justa Center so they will not be mistakenly sold.

Colleen Becker, First UMC United Methodist Women President



October's Communion Offering to.... World Communion Sunday

Part of the point of World Communion Sunday is to recognize the many and various ways Christians around the globe celebrate the same ritual. On this Sunday (October 1st), your giving helps to provide scholarships for international and United States (racial- and ethnic-minority) students on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Statistics show that the majority of clergy and laity is white. As United States demographics continue to change, the church must prepare leaders to serve an increasingly diverse population.

Half of the offering provides Crusade Scholarships for international and U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority graduate students. Thirty-five percent of receipts support Ethnic Scholarships for undergraduates. Fifteen percent funds Ethnic In-Service Training Program scholarships for racial- and ethnic-minority persons seeking second careers in church-related vocations. These scholarships are exactly what the church needs to fulfill its global mission.

POTLUCK TIME Sunday, October 15th

Every third Sunday of the month we have a Potluck Sunday. Our fun potluck will be held on October 15th at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. 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.



Our guest speaker will be Fara Walling of UMOM. Be sure to bring your friends and neighbors to hear about how UMOM is doing and what they do for our community.

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 October 15th. If you forget your food, cash or a check will suffice.

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS OCTOBER 10TH

Please submit any articles you have by October 10th. This is earlier than usual but our secretary will be on vacation the week of October 23rd. We need time to get the newsletter ready for publication before she leaves for vacation. Thank you for your help.



THE MARIAN THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND

Marian Thompson's wish was that our church would flourish. She was so concerned that in her will she designated as much money as she could to create a pool of money that would grow and be used to pay for operational expenses. That fund has become an important source for paying Reverend Tom Ondra's salary.

Although we currently have been blessed with a growing congregation, we all know it has not been that way in the past. Marian Thompson saw that reality when she decided to contribute what she could to assist First United Methodist Church. The desire of everyone at that time was to take her seed money and grow that to the point where no matter what the membership numbers were, we would still be able to pay our bills and keep the doors open. Our tithes and offerings are not enough to cover all of our bills and plan for future circumstances. Our goal is to build the Marian Thompson Fund up to one million dollars, allowing us to pay for all of our expenses, provide some future services and better reach out to our community of Jesus Christ.

This is a part of our responsibility in the "Great Commission," ensuring that our church will be here for future generations.

We encourage you to consider providing whatever you are comfortable with to help us meet this goal and ensure the future of your church.

Tom Scott

A New Look...

Our church web site has a new look and is updated and modern. You can read the monthly newsletter or see the weekly bulletin. You can check the church calendar or look at a current prayer list. Now you can even make donations on our web site from your phone or computer. All donations here and on the apps are through the Tithely Company and carry the same security as online banking. You can make a one-time gift or set up recurring donations all online.

<http://www.fumcsuncity.com/>

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUN CITY





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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 | 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**

