



First United Methodist Church of Sun City

First Word

NOVEMBER 2017



THANKSGIVING POTLUCK



We will be having a potluck at church on Thanksgiving Day. Turkey and ham will be provided, you are asked to bring a side dish (or two) to share. We will have a sign-up sheet in the church lobby in order to have a good variety of sides. Come by yourself or bring a friend or two. There will be no program, just food and fellowship at the Happiest Church on 105th Avenue.

Harvest of Plenty

Every year at this time (November 12th), we have a large food gathering for the West Valley 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 County'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 for your help!



Missions Committee

CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 7TH 10:30 A.M.

THIS IS OUR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING FOR OUR CHURCH. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO ATTEND. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW AND BE HERE FOR THIS MEETING.

CALLING ALL MEN!!

Once again we are having a Men's Just Because Luncheon on Wednesday, November 8th, at 11:30 a.m. for all the men of the church. Just bring your appetite and some fun facts about yourself. We just want the men of our church to know we appreciate them. Every man is welcome, but please sign up so we will know how many lunches to prepare.

Message from the Pastor

November is the month that we take time to consider the blessings that God has given to each of us. My family had the tradition that after saying grace for the food on Thanksgiving Day we would go around the table and each say something that we were grateful for in our lives. I made it a bit more difficult by saying that you could not repeat what someone else had said. In addition, I went first and listed everything that I could think of to take away all the “easy” answers and I went last to show that there was always at least one more thing for which to give thanks.

Every November I write an article about giving thanks and praise to God. As I was reading the Upper Room this morning the Psalm that was the daily scripture began, “Praise the Lord...” In the Monday morning Bible study, we read a Psalm every week, and people often comment on how often the Psalm says that we are to “Praise the Lord.” I looked up “Praise the Lord” on a Bible app and found that 74 Psalms have the phrase, and it is used a total of 119 times in the Bible (excluding the 61 times in the Apocrypha). This tells me we need to have persistence in our praise of God.

Psalm 150 tells us we are to Praise God in his sanctuary and under the open skies. We do this because of his power and greatness. We Praise God with all that we have and all that we are. Every living breathing creature is called and created to Praise God. We praise God with our words, music, movement, thought – everything.

When life seems hard or something has you down, Praise the Lord! When you are happy or excited, Praise the Lord! When you have a need or want, Praise the Lord! When you are sad or annoyed, Praise the Lord! Whether you are inside or outside, Praise the Lord! I think you get the message, in all things, at all times we are to Praise the Lord!

We need to have persistence and perseverance in our praise. While I was ruminating on how to communicate our need to Praise the Lord for this newsletter article, I read a column on these two words. When we are persistent, we continue over a prolonged period of time, and when we persevere, we continue even in the face of difficulty with little hope of success. Our praise of God needs to be continuous over all time. Praise of God needs to become like the air we breathe – an ongoing imbedded part of our lives.

I praise God that the Thanksgiving holiday comes once a year so that I can reflect once again on giving thanks and praise to God. I am so very thankful for this church family and the blessings I receive being your pastor and a part of your lives. I am thankful that I live in Sun City and I praise God for those who requested that I do so. I thank God always that he sent his Son to die for my sins. I really do try to Praise the Lord for all things at all times.

With Praise and Thanksgiving,
Lois

OUR MISSIONARIES IN NICARAGUA

Desiree and Osias Segura-April are currently serving as missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries, living in Nicaragua. Desiree serves as the Resource Person for Children at Risk Ministries for the Iglesia Metodista of Nicaragua. Osias serves in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala as the Regional Coordinator of Curriculum and Small Group Leadership Development.

They are excited to partner with God's mission through facilitating trainings, workshops, and retreats for pastors and lay leaders of the Methodist churches of this region. Desiree is walking alongside the churches as they seek to provide holistic outreach and Christian education programs for the children in their communities, many of whom face situations of risk. The trainings help Sunday School teachers and other lay leaders learn how to minister with children more holistically and in child-friendly ways. Osias is training pastors to use the small group methodology as a way to provide pastoral care and discipleship ministries in their churches. The workshops help pastors to develop and implement a small group strategy for their churches to provide more holistic pastoral care and outreach in their communities.

Desiree holds a PhD in Intercultural Studies and has served as an Assistant Professor of Children at Risk at Fuller Theological Seminary; Affiliate Online Faculty for Asbury Theological Seminary; and as a Children's Pastor. Osias holds a Doctor of Missiology degree and has served as professor of missiology in seminaries and universities in the US, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Cuba. From 2013-2016 he served as president and professor of missiology at the Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Dominican Church in the Dominican Republic.

They are the proud parents of Nikolas, the most adorable five-year-old on the planet (they realize they might be a bit biased). Nikko is a kindergartner at San Juan del Sur Day School, where he plays and learns with children from 18 countries (53% Nicaraguan and 47% international). He loves school, playing in the ocean, swimming, traveling with his parents, and having play-dates with his friends.

If you would like to donate to the ministry projects of the Segura-April family, please use Advance # 14854A. Add a note on your check that it is for "Children-at-Risk Ministries" or "Small Group Ministries." You may make contributions online at www.umcmmission.org/give (Search by advance number) or by check (on the memo line, include the Advance Number & Note). If not sending through your local church, mail to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068.

Thank you for partnering with us in the work God has given us the opportunity to collaborate with in Central America!

For more information see the following links:

<http://www.umcmmission.org/Explore-Our-Work/Missionaries-in-Service/Missionary-Profiles/segura-april-desiree>

<http://www.umcmmission.org/Explore-Our-Work/Missionaries-in-Service/Missionary-Profiles/Segura-Guzman--Osias>

Come see and hear these wonderful missionaries at our potluck on November 19th after the 9:30 a.m. service.

TIME TO ORDER

If you would like to order a POINSETTIA for \$10 for the holidays, please check your weekly Sunday bulletin November 5th and 12th for an order form. The last day to turn in your order form will be November 19th.



GIVE THANKS

On Thanksgiving Day, please don't forget to thank God for all of your blessings since you are surrounded by wonderful things which God has given you and your families! Every day is a good day to thank the Lord, but thank goodness we set aside one as "Thanksgiving Day." As Psalm 113:3 says, "From the rising of the sun to the place where



it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised." We praise God's name by giving thanks for all we have received.

All Church Community Christmas Party Saturday, December 16th, at 4:00 p.m.



Mark your calendar NOW because you WILL want to BE HERE!!! More details will be in next month's newsletter.

FOR HELPING WITH OUR 2017 FALL FESTIVAL!!!

We couldn't have done it without those who prayed for our success and.....

donated, sold, bought, carried, cooked, baked, fried, volunteered, picked up, collected, arranged, rearranged, coordinated, watched, offered, gave, contributed, set up, cleaned up, took down, delivered, sorted, shook, priced, counted, labeled, washed, dried, dusted, marked, stored, generally helped out.....

and Lyn and Doris Kortie who oversaw it all with grace, especially since this was their first year being the co-chairs. **THANKS!!!!**



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.

PRE-CHRISTMAS GALA TO LAS VEGAS, Wednesday-Friday, December 6-8, 2017. Trip includes 3 days/ 2 nights at the Golden Nugget Hotel, some meals, transportation, taxes and tips. Cost is \$390/double occupancy; \$525/single occupancy. Depart at 8:00 a.m. and return no later than 5:30 p.m. See the flyer for more details.

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 Lake-view 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.



Barry and Shirley Catto wish to thank our church family for their love and prayers during

Barry's recovery from both hip replacements.



NOVEMBER 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

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

Thursdays

Bible Study 3:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER Committee Meetings:

Church Growth	9:00 a.m.	Nov. 01
Trustees	9:30 a.m.	Nov. 07
SPRC	9:30 a.m.	Nov. 07
Finance	1:30 p.m.	Nov. 09
Care Council	1:00 p.m.	Nov. 13
Social Media	3:30 p.m.	Nov. 14
Missions	1:00 p.m.	Nov. 21
Church Council	9:30 a.m.	Nov. 22

HANDS OF FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON



November 4th 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 November will be:
CARE COUNCIL

UMW Executive Board Meeting:

Monday, November 6th at 1:00 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room.



Tabitha-Dorcas Circle:

Wednesday, November 1st, meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Lillian Carver Room.

Elizabeth/Esther Circle:

Wednesday, November 8th, meet at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Priscilla Circle:

Thursday, November 9th, meet at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

UMW Local Organization Meeting:

Monday, December 18th, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Richard Vickers	11/01
Alicia Cambridge	11/05
Anne Passage	11/06
Phyllis Sutton	11/07
Pat Nichols-Hills	11/08
Lyle De Rose	11/10
Betty Hill	11/10
Betty Eaton	11/11
Ron Fisher	11/12
Colleen Becker	11/13
Jan Davies	11/13
Virginia Dunlap	11/13
Bill Jenkins	11/14
Joan Beachler	11/21
Janice Constantine	11/21
Les Lehnus	11/22
Susan Byers	11/23
Garry Becker	11/24
Bill Pack	11/25
John Coulter	11/28
Terry Smith	11/28

ANNIVERSARIES

Dick & Dorothy Murray	11/03
Warren & Lenore Whipple	11/13
Ray Jr. & Florence Holmes	11/23
Barry & Shirley Catto	11/25

Bible Studies... Lectionary Study NOVEMBER

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

November 6th

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13

November 13th

Judges 4:1-7	Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30

November 20th

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46

November 27th

Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

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 Hosea.

Come and join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Hands of Friendship Luncheon	11:30 a.m. Nov. 04
Food Bank Sunday	Nov. 19
Potluck	10:30 a.m. Nov. 19
Thanksgiving Potluck	12:00 p.m. Nov. 23



Red Kettle Drive

Our congregation is going to ring the bell for the Salvation Army at Fry's on 107th and Grand again this year on the 1st and 2nd Wednesday in December. That is December 6th and December 13th. Please keep those dates open. You really enjoyed doing this the last 2 years so we are repeating it again. Remember, you can do it with several persons so you don't have to be alone. There will be more information as to the times and there will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex/church lobby on November 19th, 26th and December 3rd and 10th. So dig out those Christmas sweaters and Santa hats. Pretty cool in the mornings and warmer later in the day.



CHRISTMAS FAMILY TREE



This year for Christmas we are not having an "Angel Tree" for the Salvation Army. Our Missions Committee decided it might be nice to sponsor several individual families instead. We asked Jesse from the Valley View Community Food Bank to find some for us. We have four families. Jesse said this is their first year to ask for assistance from the Food Bank. Each family has lost their jobs and are struggling. Each of two families have four children and one family is a single

mom living with two children and her mom. The last family has seven children. The fathers and mothers are doing all kinds of side jobs just to put food on the table. There will be Christmas balls with individual first names, ages and sizes on them, much as with the "Angel Tree." Also they will be marked "family one," "family two," "family three," etc. This way we can keep the families separated. Then if several of you want to take a family or an individual you can. There will be one fun thing and one practical thing for each child. The parent should have at least one practical item, but that is up to you. **BE SURE TO MARK YOUR TAG WITH THE NAME AND FAMILY NUMBER SO THEY DO NOT GET MIXED UP. THESE GIFTS ARE TO BE WRAPPED.**

The tree will be put up on Saturday, November 25th, just after Thanksgiving, so you all will have plenty of time to shop. **THE DEDICATION FOR THE GIFTS WILL BE ON DECEMBER 17th** so the gifts can be delivered in a timely manner.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS ATTENTION ALL READERS:



The deadline to turn in your Reading Program Report is December 10th. Please turn them in to me, Betty Zingre, so we may receive credit for 2017. Thank you for supporting the United Methodist

Women's Reading Program!

Betty Zingre, Program Resources

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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



ECUMENICAL PRAYER CIRCLE

We pray for the following congregations:

NOVEMBER:

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

United Methodist congregations in our District

Shepherd of the Valley UMC, Phoenix
Spirit of Hope UMC, Peoria
Spirit Song UMF, Peoria

Condolences & Christian Sympathy.....



....to family and friends on the news of the passing of **JEANNE NEWTON** on September 30th.

....to **BONNIE WEDEKIND**, family and friends on the passing of her husband, Bernie on 10/17. Cards may be sent to Bonnie at:

PO Box 87, Davis Junction, IL 61020-9719

A THANKSGIVING POEM

May your stuffing be tasty,
May your turkey plump,
May your potatoes and gravy
have nary a lump,
May your yams be delicious
and your pies take the prize,
and may your
Thanksgiving dinner
stay off your thighs!



HELP WANTED



On Friday, December 1st, we will gather in the church at 8:00 a.m. to decorate our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for the holiday season. There are greens to hang, trees to assemble and decorate, tables to set, lights to string, and lots of fun to share. Mark your calendar and plan on coming to help make our space special for this miraculous time of year. Many hands make light work. Watch your weekly bulletin or speak with Connie Scott for more information about this fun morning.

November's Communion Offering to.... 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.



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

POTLUCK TIME Sunday, November 19th

Every third Sunday of the month we have a Potluck Sunday. Our fun potluck will be held on November 19th 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 speakers will be the Segura-April Family, our missionaries in Nicaragua. This will be very enlightening and interesting. Be sure to ask your neighbors and friends to come hear what great work they are doing!

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 November 19th. If you forget your food, cash or a check will suffice.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS NOVEMBER 15TH

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



As we enter the month of November, here's a short reminder: we're still a bit behind in meeting our financial obligations for 2017. So thank you (in advance) for helping us out in the remaining two months with an increased contribution, a new contribution or a new regular contribution if you're not making one at present.



It's Good To Be A Member ...

... and we'd like to invite you to be a member here at First Church. If you've been thinking about it but haven't acted yet, give us a call; we'll explain everything. Basically, membership falls into these categories:



- Full member - one received on confession of faith or transferring from another congregation
- Affiliate member - one who is also a full member of another United Methodist Church (up north, south, east or west)
- Associate member - one who is a member of another denomination (also back home)
- Friend or neighbor - one who attends regularly but who hasn't joined (yet).

People become members of a church for various reasons ... identifying with a particular congregation, standing with Christ in ministry, making Christian friends, finding meaning in life, appreciating the importance of structure to living faithfully. Whatever your reason is - First Church wants YOU (because God wants YOU). So step up and become a member of this church.

Rev. Lois Hedden
Rev. Thomas Ondra



To all those who have served in the military, we **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE**. We appreciate all you did for our country not only on Veteran's Day, Saturday, November 11th, but every day throughout the year. Thank you very much.



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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

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