An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

April 3, 2018

In Gratitude for Holy Week Miracles

What an incredible Holy Week...a week where miracles abounded here at Desert Skies United Methodist Church. Prayers were answered, healings took place, and teams throughout the church accomplished their parts beautifully to tell the story of Jesus' last week in a way that we will all remember.

I am grateful for vocal and bells choirs and musicians and their leaders who put in extra time, rehearsals, and love to create the meaningful and poignant music that walked us through all of Holy Week. For those who decorated, cooked, cleaned, changed signs, put up banners, served communion, built fires, designed sets and did what needed to be done to create the sacred space we needed to experience the amazing love of God in Christ Jesus...thank you. For those who created drama and video and altar spaces, for all who read and acted and ran sound and video, providing concrete

pictures for us to see what we needed to see...you are an inspiration. Thank you, Youth, for feeding us well and helping us create the beautiful flower cross. And for Jerry and Larry and their crew, who, after countless hours of loving labor, completed our Sanctuary Patio in time for Easter Sunday...we can't begin to express how grateful we are for your time and energy and your ability to bring to pass the wonderful vision given to us by both Dan Elder, who designed this new community space for us, and the Patio Committee who put together the master plan. We LOVE it!

And finally, though certainly not lastly, my thanks for a staff who worked as a team to do what needed to be done...Rev. Matt, Doc, Raymond, Tammy, Michael, and Verna. You get what it takes to celebrate the love of Jesus and your willingness to do that has blessed so many! Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

It was a week of miracles...and it happened because of the amazing people of Desert Skies, a joyful community drawing people to Christ through loving action and a lot of hard work. I am grateful.

Shalom,

Rev. Candace





RISE AGAINST HUNGER 2018

Thanks to all for participating in the Lenten offering. The children collected 7,805 coins on Palm Sunday, and all of the noise amounted to \$649.29! Your additional gifts of checks and paper currency bring our total to \$2,983.91. Your gifts raised about 50% of the \$5,800 needed to purchase the 20,000 meals that we will package at our RISE AGAINST HUNGER EVENT THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 8th. If you missed the Lenten Offering, you may still place a check in the offering or send it to the church with Rise Against Hunger on the memo line.

Here are a few things to keep in mind this Sunday:

Those who are willing and/or able to assist with unloading and set up, please come to the Fellowship Hall by 9:15 am.

Everyone else who has signed up to participate:

- 1. Report to the Fellowship Hall **breezeway** and check-in at the registration table following the 10:00 am worship service
- 2. Have lunch on the Fellowship Hall patio
- 3. Meal packaging will begin in the Fellowship Hall by noon and be completed by 2:30 pm
- 4. Children as young as five can participate
- 5. Child care will be provided for children younger than 5
- 6. There will be sit-down jobs, THIS EVENT IS FOR ALL GENERATIONS
- 7. WEAR YOUR DESERT SKIES UMC SHIRT

THIS YEAR OUR RISE AGAINST HUNGER FACILITATOR IS ALEX MARTINEZ

We are looking forward to this exciting event which gives us an opportunity to send our love to hungry children in orphanages and school feeding programs in one of 43 countries where Rise Against Hunger is making a difference. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS AND YOUR SERVICE!

Celebration of Life for Herb Croft

The service for Herb Croft will be on Wednesday, April 18th at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. Please join the family for donuts and coffee on the sanctuary patio after the service.

Sunrise Service

This year the Sunrise Service was held on our brand new Sanctuary Patio. We had bagpipes, youth bells, a bonfire and the presence of the Lord. Couldn't have asked for a more beautiful morning or place to worship.



Resurrection Sunday



The M & M Circle

We delivered 38 Easter Baskets to TMM on Tuesday, March 27th. Once again, the congregation did a wonderful job putting together beautiful baskets filled with fun and functional goodies! The staff at TMM shared with us that a few of the children that were living there last year had already been asking if they would be getting Easter Baskets again this year! It is hard to imagine that a gesture as small as this, has such an impact on these children. Thank you so much for your help in making this special and memorable Act of kindness possible!



Pancake Prep and Pancake Breakfast

The youth met on Saturday evening to prep for their Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. THANKS to all who bought tickets and/or made a donation towards their trip to Crownpoint, New Mexico area (a low income rural area, part of the Navajo Nation) this June where they will be repairing homes for the poor, disabled and elderly in the community. Our youth group, B.A.N.G. (Building A New Generation) has a real heart for serving others and they are excited to represent Christ and Desert Skies.



Maundy Thursday Supper and Worship Service



Good Friday Experience



Good Friday Meditation Hike



Messy Church Easter Celebration in Vail

A wonderful time was had by all who attended our Messy Church Easter Celebration in Vail. We had an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids, shared a delicious Easter meal and fellowshipped together.





Our New Sermon Series "Dare to Dance Again" begins this Sunday, April 8th and runs through Sunday, May 20th.

As Easter people, we are called to dance our dances of freedom for all the world to see. Dances of hope. Dances of justice. Dances of love. During this season, post-resurrection stories point to the joy of living in the beloved community and extending that fellowship through our witness as we dare to dance and "sing out strong!"

April 8

Sermon: "With Great Power:

April 29

Sermon: "From You Comes My Praise: Guide My Steps"

Dare to Dance Again"

May 20 (Pentecost Sunday) **Sermon: "Spirit Poured Out:**

Dancing Together"

April 15

May 6 Sermon: "Who Can Withhold? Break Forth!"

Sermon: "While in Their Joy:

Dancing Sure"

April 22

Sermon: "By This We Will Know: The Dance of Love"

May 13 (Mother's Day)

Sermon: "Gone Up with a Shout: Clap Your Hands"

SUMMER CAMP AT DESERT SKIES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(A combination of Vacation Bible School and Music Camp)

June 4th to 8TH

HALF DAY

AGES: PRE-K THROUGH 5TH GRADE

COST: \$10.00

TIME: 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

PRE-K (Children ages 4 & 5 who are potty-trained) Limited to 15 participants

FULL DAY

AGES: FINISHING 2ND GRADE TO 9TH GRADE

COST: \$50.00

TIME: 9:00 AM TO 4:00PM



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Zippy 49er's Circle Meeting-will be on Wednesday, April 18th at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall due to the Memorial Service of Herb Croft at 10:00 am. We will forego our usual DVD study and breakfast to join the family for the celebration of Herb's life with donuts and coffee on the patio after the service. Please plan to attend our meeting, as we will be deciding what we want to do for a ministry for next year, and what to do for our May meeting and a study for next year. If you have been thinking about joining a small group of women, a UMW circle, please come visit one of our meetings, or call Glenda Burdick at 760-5520.

<u>Walk to Emmaus-Support</u> Amy and Steve Anderson from our Church as they attend the Walks to Emmaus these next couple weeks. Send them a note of encouragement or just tell them how special they are to you and our church. There is a collection envelope in the church office at the front desk. The envelope will be collected on Saturday morning.

ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

Avoiding probate or minimizing estate taxes at death requires proper planning. As you plan, consider leaving a percentage of your estate to Desert Skies.

This Week At Desert Skies

Tuesday, April 3

9:30 am Bible Study Fellowship Hall 3:00 pm Tutoring Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Youth in Vail Abaldo's Home

Wednesday, April 4

2:30 pm Worship Design Room # 2
4:00 pm Grief Support Group
5:30 pm Lenten Study Baggins in Vail
The Wired Word Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm Adult Bells Sanctuary
7:00 pm Adult Choir Sanctuary

Thursday, April 5

10:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation

Fellowship Hall
10:30 am Oil Painting Class Room # 2
3:30 pm Endowment Committee Room # 2

This Week's Bible Reading

April 03-Judg. 17, 18; Ps. 89; II Cor. 3

April 04-Judg. 19-21; II Cor. 4

April 05-Ruth 1, 2; Ps. 53, 61; II Cor. 5

April 06-Ruth 3, 4; Ps. 64, 65; II Cor. 6

April 07-I Sam. 1, 2; Ps. 66; II Cor. 7

April 08-I Sam. 3-5; Ps. 77; II Cor. 8

April 09-I Sam. 6, 7; Ps. 72; II Cor. 9 Interested in joining
Desert Skies UMC?

Join us in Room # 2 on Sunday, April 22nd at 11:15 pm for our New Member Class.

Contact Rev. Dr.
Candace J. Lansberry
at 749-0521
if you are interested!

We are on the web: www.desertskiesumc.org