



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

THE JOYFUL NOISE

UMW Newsletter

DESERT SKIES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

APRIL 2018

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Having fun at the February UMW Meeting



Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. One school of thought claims this day emerged from a custom of mother worship in ancient Greece. Mother worship (which held a festival to Cybele, a great mother of Greek gods, the wife of Cronus) was held near the Vernal Equinox around Asia Minor and eventually in Rome itself from the Ides of March (15 March) to 18 March). The ancient Romans also had another holiday, Matronalia, which was dedicated to Juno, though mothers were given gifts on this day. In some countries Mother's Day began not as a celebration for individual mothers but rather for Christians to remember the mother church.

The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children. These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2.

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UMW April Outing

UMW is celebrating spring by going wild on a tour of the Tucson Wildlife Center. The date is **April 9** and the tour is at **11:00 AM**, to be followed by lunch at 49ers. Since the refuge has limited parking they request that we car pool, so please meet at the church by 10:40. It is requested that each participant bring a \$5 donation. Since the center is staffed by volunteers, they need to know a week in advance how many participants there will be, so please sign up either by calling the church office or phoning Diana Barber no later than noon on April 2. All church members are welcome and guests will be welcome, as well. Hope to see you there! ~ Marilyn McKee



Tucson Wildlife Center

Meet a fellow UMW member

I am Mickey Henkle (my parents preferred MarthaAnn!). I grew up in Charles Town in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia, 5 miles from Virginia, where the Shenandoah meets the Potomac River and flows down to Washington, 50 miles away. My family belonged to the Presbyterian Church, which was in the Synod of Virginia, remaining there after the Civil War. I went to church camps each summer in my teen years, including Massanetta in Virginia, and as a teenager had social life through church in northern Virginia.

During my freshman year in high school, our church organist decided to retire. The Methodist Church organist brought in her instructor by train from a college in Baltimore, Maryland, to give her and several of us young students organ lessons. Since I was already playing piano for Sunday School, I took lessons and became church organist for three years, until I left for college.

Four years later I graduated with a major in English and minor in Music from Madison College in Harrisonburg, Virginia, in the Shenandoah Valley, which then was a women's college of about 1000, with some men day-students after World War II; it is now James Madison University.

Tom (where'd he come from?!) and I were married that fall of 1953 and I moved with him to Circleville, Ohio. He had graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) and was working for Ralston Purina Co. We belonged to the Presbyterian Church and I sang in the choir. I taught in a Township School complex outside of town - lovely grade and high school buildings, nice kids. I taught English 7-12, was librarian, and spent one year teaching a class in physical education.

Our daughter Nancy was born in Ohio and 6 months later Tom was transferred to a brand new plant in Ottumwa, Iowa, where he was plant superintendent. It was a great time for us. We had good friends, good church, and an overall great experience. Our son Tom was born, delivered by our good friend and doctor, and baptized there.

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Mickey Henkle

Thanks for your help

Sister Jose Women's Center is dedicated to the care and nurture of homeless women in our community. They provide beds, food, and encouragement to these women, and are now offering sewing classes as a skill towards future employment. They have sewing machines and tables for them and the class is very popular. Sister Jose's Women's Center and Sandra McNary would like to thank the ladies of our church who donated material for the sewing projects at the Center. You were all so generous that they do not need more at the present time. They do appreciate these donations, and we can only imagine how much these ladies are enjoying working with such lovely material to learn this new craft. Down the road, if more is needed, we will again make a request. ~ Marilyn McKee

Don't you know? Haven't you heard? The Lord is the everlasting God; he created all the world. He never grows tired or weary. No one understands His thoughts. He strengthens those who are weak and tired. Even those who are young grow weak; young people can fall exhausted. But those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak. **Isaiah 40:28-31**

UMW Event Calendar – 2018**April**

- 1 - Happy Easter - and April Fool's - Beware!
- 9 - Tour Tucson Wildlife Center - 11:00 a.m. Meet at Church at 10:40 a.m. Followed by lunch at 49ers Country club
- 10 - Helping Hands - 9:00 a.m. - Kitchen
- 18 - Zippy 49ers Circle Meeting - 8:30 a.m. See Circle Info in Newsletter

May

- 3 - National Day of Prayer - Watch bulletin for info
- 8 - Helping Hands 9:00 a.m. - Kitchen
- 13 - Happy Mother's Day!
- 16 - Zippy 49ers Circle Meeting - 9:15 a.m. - Fellowship Hall
- 28 - Enjoy Memorial Day

Contact Jeann Fishback or Sandy Kleen for dates for M&M Circle.

Remember - M&M Tutoring is 3:00 p.m. Monday and Tuesday each week that school is in session.



Great Food and Great Friends are found at UMW meetings



Muslim Holiday of Eid

One of the most joyous days in the Islamic calendar, Eid al-Fitr is Arabic for "festival of the breaking of the fast." The festival marks the end of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Muslims abstain from eating and drinking from dawn until sunset during Ramadan. This year the Eid will be celebrated on June 15th.

It begins with the first sighting of the new moon, so most of the time Muslims have to wait until the night before Eid to verify its date. The starting day varies every year and from country to country depending on geographical location. The first Eid al-Fitr was celebrated in 624 CE by the Prophet Muhammad and his companions after the victory of the battle of Jang-e-Badar.

In the morning, Muslims gather at mosques and prayer areas to offer Eid Prayer and greet each other. The festival is celebrated by visiting friends and relatives, hosting food parties and sharing sweets. Children not only get new clothes and shoes, but also receive cash gifts called "Eidi" from their elders and relatives.

The occasion is seen as a time of forgiveness and of giving thanks to Allah for helping people to complete their spiritual fasting. Many Muslims show their appreciation by giving donations and food to those less fortunate than themselves. In most Muslim countries, the three days of Eid are observed as public and school holidays. A common greeting during this holiday is *Eid Mubarak*, which means, "Have a blessed Eid!"~ Adele Edwards

Shawne Sidles Part 2

As you may remember Shawne grew up in Parker Arizona. There were many different churches but none seemed just right. We continue Shawne's story:

The Elders (Missionaries) of the Latter Day Saints kept trying to reel me in. There were testimonials I was asked to attend. This was where my friends would state that their church was the only true church and call me out to join. I asked the Elder why they didn't use a Cross on their buildings. The answer was that they like to remember how Jesus lived, not how it died. I replied that his death was for us, and that the Cross reminds us of his sacrifice. I told him that I would not be joining, because Jesus died for us so that we may live a better life. I was never bothered again, but my Latter Day Saints friends are still waiting.

I graduated from Parker High School and left for Northern Arizona University the following fall. I met the love of my life, Tobin, while we were both working at the NAU bookstore. It took him eight months to ask me out! We were finally married three years later at the Federated Church in Flagstaff, Arizona. That is an interesting church; for a couple of years they have a Methodist minister, then a Presbyterian minister for a couple of years, and then back to the Methodist minister, and so on. Tobin's Minister was Methodist and he married us.

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Prayer

Lord God,
 You loved this world so much,
 That You gave Your one and only Son,
 That we might be called Your children too.
 Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace
 Of Easter Sunday, everyday.
 Let us have hearts of thankfulness
 For Your sacrifice.
 Let us have eyes that look upon
 Your grace and rejoice in our salvation.
 Help us to walk in that mighty grace
 And tell Your good news to the world.
 All for Your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen.
 - Rachel Marie Stone

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/prayers/easter-prayers-celebrate-resurrection-day-victory.html>

Book Report

Veil of Roses by Laura Fitzgerald is the delightful story of Tamilla Soroush, a young Iranian girl who on her 27th birthday is given, by her parents, a one way ticket to America with a three month visa during which time she is to find an Iranian husband so she can stay in America.

Her parents had lived in California in the 1970s where her father was a graduate student at Berkeley. They made the mistake of going back to Iran for a vacation. This was during the reign of Ayatollah Khomeini – and their passports were confiscated and they were not allowed to leave the country. Tami's older sister Maryam is married to an Iranian American and lives in Tucson, Arizona.

Tami's parents want a better life for their younger daughter. They tearfully send her on her way. Her father says "You go to America and make us proud." Her mother kisses her and says, "Wake up your Luck."

Tami's sister Maryam meets her at the Tucson airport and immediately tries to transform her into someone who will attract an Iranian husband. Maryam cautions her not to speak to American men.

There is much humor as the story unfolds. Tami takes English as a second language class and is taken under the wings of a group of eccentric students of all ages, from different countries – Peru, Poland, Russia, and Eva, a "Potty Mouthed" woman from Germany. Eva's husband is in the Army, away on assignment, and Eva does her best to shock the naive Tamilla!

This is the story of another culture seen through the eyes of a young woman who has spent most of her life as a suppressed woman, required to wear a "hadjed" out in public.

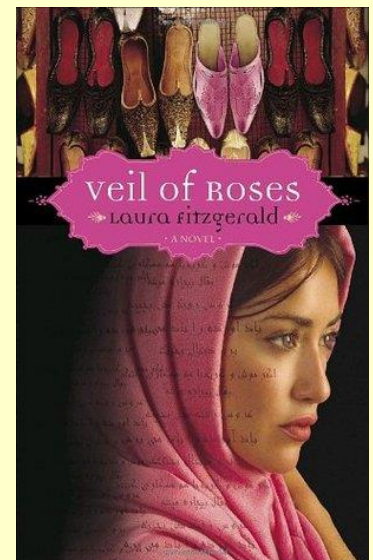
(Continue on page 6)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. The Lord protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid.

I have asked the Lord for one thing; one thing only do I want: to live in the Lord's house all my life, to marvel there at His goodness, and to ask for His guidance.

In times of trouble He will shelter me; He will keep me safe in His Temple and make me secure on a high rock.

Psalm 27:1, 4-5



In view of all this, what can we say? If God is for us, who can be against us? Certainly not God, who did not even keep back His own Son, but offered Him for us all! He gave us His Son—will He not also freely give us all things? Who will accuse God's chosen people? God Himself declares them not guilty! Who, then, will condemn them? Not Christ Jesus, who died, or rather, who was raised to life and is at the right side of God, pleading with Him for us! Who, then, can separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble do it, or hardship or persecution or hunger or poverty or danger or death? As the scripture says,

"For your sake we are in danger of death at all times; we are treated like sheep that are going to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we have complete victory through Him who loved us! For I am certain that nothing can separate us from His love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers, neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below—there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:31-39**



Green Chili Egg Casserole

UMW Member (cont.)

Six months later husband Tom was transferred to St. Louis into the engineering department of Ralston Purina. We lived several years in the suburb of Crestwood and later moved to nearby Sunset Hills, so continued as members of the Southminster Presbyterian Church, where Tom and I (at different times) became Elders. I was in the choir, on Worship Commission, was substitute organist. I played most funerals, since our regular organist taught school music, as well. We lived relatively close to the church so Tom was on call when things went wrong!

We had traveled all around the western part of the country when our kids were young - backpacking the Grand Canyon, in Arizona, Colorado, etc. We also traveled to Australia, Africa, South America, and Asia. We had spent several winter months in a rental house in Tucson for 3 years while we were visiting; we liked it here and in 2010 bought our home and moved permanently. We became Methodists, as the church was nearby, had good minister, a good choir, and a nice congregation.

Our daughter went to Southern Methodist University in Dallas and later to ASU. She retired from the film industry in California and moved to Tucson. Our son got his first two degrees from Virginia Tech (VPI) and his Doctorate from the University of Southern California. He then worked in California for the Aerospace Corporation, but now resided in Virginia, transferred with his family of four, just 20 miles from where we grew up! ~ Mickey Henkle

*Working for God on earth does not pay much,
but His retirement plan is out of this world.*

Recipe

Green Chili Egg Casserole

- 10 eggs
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 pint cottage cheese
- 1 cup shredded cheese (cheddar, jack, Mexican blend, etc.)
- 1 (6 oz.) can diced green chilies

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Whisk together eggs, baking powder and butter in a large bowl. Stir in cheeses and chilies. Pour into a lightly greased 13 x 9 casserole dish. Cover and bake until set, cheese is melted and the top is beginning to brown, about 1 hour. ~ Diana Barber

Circles

Methodism founder John Wesley knew the key to social change is small-group gatherings. Circles are a basic unit of United Methodist Women all over the world. Desert Skies has two circles that meet monthly for fellowship, community support, and business. Circles are a great way to be more connected to the church, UMW members, and God. The support circle can be life changing.

Zippy 49'ers Circle met on Wednesday, March 21 in Fellowship Hall and said goodbye to long time member, Louise Glaysher, with a card and prayer shawl. She will be moving to Geneva, IL, and we will miss her. We also had the joy of seeing former member Sandee Landsburg at our meeting. Please note that our next meeting will be at 8:30 AM on **April 18th** in a room at church to be determined due to the funeral of Herb Croft at 10 AM. Please watch the bulletin and/or your email for the meeting location. We will forego our usual DVD study and breakfast to join the family for the celebration of Herb's life and donuts and coffee on the patio. Please plan to attend, as we will be discussing and determining what we want to do for our 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 to one of our meetings, or call Glenda Burdick. ~ *Glenda Burdick*

Mary Martha Circle 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 is, has such an impact on these children. Thank you so much for your help in making this special and memorable Act of Kindness possible! ~ *Sandy Kleen*

Book Report (cont.)

She meets and rejects several eligible marriage prospects, and invariably meets and speaks to the "dreaded" American men.

Her eyes are opened to all the freedoms that Americans have that we take for granted. She is amazed to see boys and girls riding bikes together, men and women sitting outside a Starbucks and having coffee together, children laughing and singing in public. There are so many subtle freedoms we Americans all too often take for granted. It definitely reminds us how lucky we are to live in this great country of ours. True freedom means not even being aware you are free.

My Book Club was so taken with the "Persian Girl" and her adventures that we made an exception and voted to read the sequel for the following month's selection. We couldn't wait to find out what happens. Did Tami "wake up her Luck"? We were not disappointed.

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Saying Goodbye



M&M Circle with Easter Baskets

If you have any questions about UMW, its meetings and activities, please contact one of the UMW Board Members:

President: Marilyn McKee

Vice President: Glenda Burdick

Secretary: Mary Broughton

Treasurer: Marilyn McKee

Program Coordinator: Diana Barber

Membership: Elsie Heinz

Social Action: Jeanne Myers

Zippy 49ers Circle: Glenda Burdick

Lorna Niven

Mary Martha Circle: Sandy Kleen
Jeann Fishback

Shawne (cont.)



More fun at the UMW Meeting

My friends, consider yourselves fortunate when all kinds of trials come your way, for you know that when your faith succeeds in facing such trials, the result is the ability to endure. Make sure that your endurance carries you all the way without failing, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

James 1:2-5



Presenting the Philippines



Fun in the Philippines

Being married has been a blessing every day. We took our time and then had our son Nate. Five years later we had our precious daughter Lindsey, so one of each! We've been twice blessed.

I worked at Merrill Lynch as a registered associate for 17 years and when I lost that job, I told Tobin I wanted time to think about what I wanted to do. I realized that I needed to be home. I could not be Superwoman. I could not work and be the wife and mother my family needed. So I became a "Domestic Goddess". I find it funny being a product of Title IV I felt I HAD to work outside the home, only to realize that for me the best place was home. A second income would be nice, but I wouldn't be happy.

Tobin and I tried out a few churches in town and landed at Desert Skies. I have to say coming to Desert Skies has felt like home from the very beginning. I never understood the meaning of a Church Family until I was home at Desert Skies. I had a stroke on my Optic Nerve and the outpouring of concern and care was overwhelming. I am doing great and appreciate my Church Family more than ever.

I have always had a deep abiding faith, not based in scripture, but I am Spiritual to the bone. I decided to join the Discipleship small group at DSUMC. This was a huge step for me because of the time commitment. I was the youngest by far but I learned so much. Most of the time my opinions were quite different, but we all loved hearing each other. I highly recommend a small group study. I have grown in my faith each and every day. I have also taken the time to become a Stephen Minister, and I feel this work is very important. I am very happy to be a member of the Desert Skies family and hope you all are too! ~ Shawne Sidles

UMW February General Meeting

United Methodist Women met on Saturday, February 24 and shared a light brunch at 9:30am, devotion by Mary Broughton from Response magazine, March 2014 edition, "A Holy Lent....like spring cleaning, Lent clears the way for new life to emerge." "Impressions of the Philippines – Land of Contrasts" was the title of the program I gave. Thirty-one people were there to hear about our visit with friends who are over there working at a school. I started with a "pop quiz" I devised to help everyone think about that country and how little we know about it. Groups could confer on the answers, but everyone was instructed NOT to use their cell phones to look up the answers. I began by talking about the answers and how those facts affected Bob, my husband, and me on our trip. Some of the contrasts I discussed were modern Manila vs "the other Manila," modern malls vs huts along the road (which sold produce and meat with no place to park), up-to-date clinics but no health insurance, use of people instead of technology, armed security guards everywhere yet not feeling threatened, extremely poor people that middle and upper class people were expected to employ, extreme traffic with few controlled intersections and NO road rage. And above all – lovely, kind, and happy people. It truly was a memorable trip. ~ Glenda Burdick

Mother's Day (cont.)

Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in America in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar. While dates and celebrations vary, Mother's Day most commonly falls on the second Sunday in May and traditionally involves presenting mothers with flowers, cards and other gifts.

For all mother's and women who support each of us, may God bless you always. ~ Adele Edwards



DSUMC Library

Book Report (Cont.)

The sequel "Dreaming in English" continues in Tucson. The author has obviously lived here, as her descriptions are right on target.

It is my hope that reading this book will re-awaken your patriotic senses and that you will have a deeper appreciation of how lucky we are to be Americans. Enjoy. ~ Sylvia Flagg

DSUMC Library

The Desert Skies United Methodist Church library is sponsored by the Desert Skies United Methodist Women. The library which is three bookcases in the northwest corner of the Fellowship Hall (en route to the Rest Rooms) was recently culled and updated by Jeanne Myers and Marilyn McKee. Each shelf has a category and a label on it to show what is contained on that shelf. Here are a few selections from those groupings:

BIBLES AND CONCORDANCES

Great News Bibles; New Testaments; Encyclopedia of the Bible; Your Soul's Plan; Bible for Young Readers; Revised standard Version Bibles; The Journey by Billy Graham.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE BOOKS

Kids Devotional Bible; Great Stories from the Bible; What Would Jesus Do; Taylor's Bible Story Book.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY BOOKS

The Story of the First Easter; The Pageantry at Christmas; The Story of the Pilgrims.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURES

Beirut Diary; Women in Brazil; I am Nujood, Age 10, Divorced; Disfigured - A Saudi Woman's Story of Triumph.

YOUTH

Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul; Kids with Courage; Youth Devotions.

INSPIRATIONAL

Faith is Stranger than Fiction; The Purpose Driven Life; Life after Loss; The Miracle of Prayer; The Gift of Change.

NOVELS

Stones into Schools; The Road; Same Kind of Difference As Me; Colorado Kid.

DVDs/VIDEOS - 2 rows on shelf

The Roots of Israel; Narnia; Veggie Tales (several).

MISCELLANEOUS

The Joyful Noise newsletters; The Gift (about the Heifer Project); Closing the Food Gap; 90 Minutes in Heaven; Why Women Should Rule the World; Response magazines.

These books are for use by members of our church, or any friends of our members. Please peruse them, find some favorites or interesting books and borrow them – you do not have to sign them out. Take what you would enjoy, read them, share them, keep them, return them. Libraries are to be used – so please take advantage of this source of reading pleasure, and borrow, read, enjoy! ~ Marilyn McKee