



THE SKYLINE

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

May 22, 2018



Graduation and Confirmation Luncheon Celebration



A wonderful time was had by all as we celebrated our Graduates and Confirmation Students. Thanks to all who attended and to all of our volunteers who so graciously gave of their time to help put this together! Congratulations Andrew Colby, Lindsey Sidles, Christiana Colby, Eric Drummond, Bryce Drummond, Lainie Radomsky and Nolan Radomsky.



Confirmation Students and Family

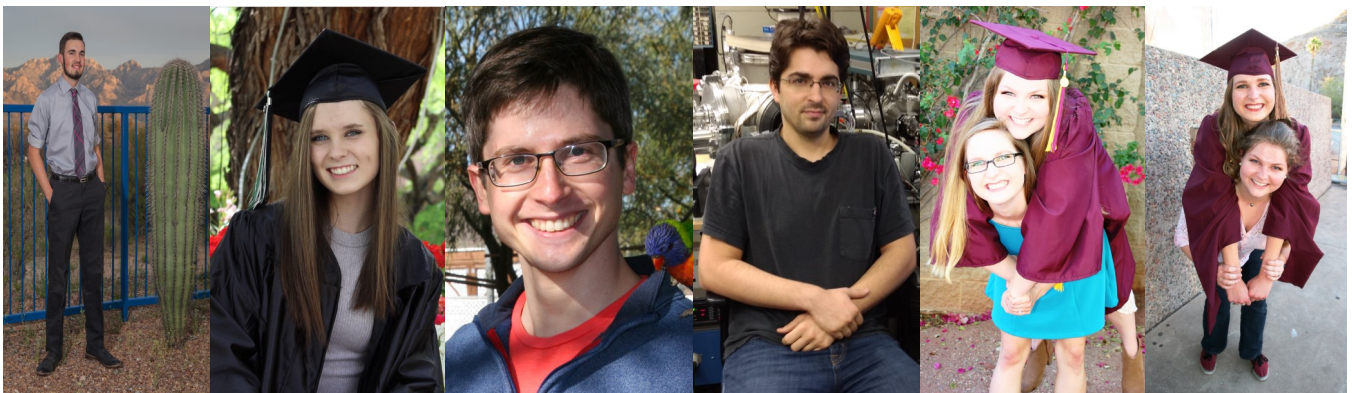
Christiana Colby, Eric Drummond, Bryce Drummond, Lainie Radomsky and Nolan Radomsky.



2018 Graduates

Some proud parents sent in pictures of their graduates! Congratulations graduates!

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13



Andrew Colby

Lindsey Sidles

David Edwards V.

Steven Edwards

Christi Edwards

Deirdre Edwards



Our New Sermon Series “Traveling Together” starts Sunday, May 27th and runs through Sunday, August 12th .

Traveling together often means exploring places that are unknown and new and exciting, creating new places for memories and forging relationships that are eternal. Traveling together may also mean exploring places that are familiar to us, that we love and just want to revisit. This summer, travel with us as we explore both the new and the familiar in nature, Sabbath and our Wesleyan Heritage.

May 27

Sermon: Exploring Nature: Earthly Things

June 3

Sermon: Exploring Nature: God’s Presence Everywhere

June 10

Sermon: Exploring Nature: Do Not Lose Heart

June 17

Sermon: Exploring Nature: Seeing the World Through God’s Eyes

Our New Sermon Series “Traveling Together” is a total of twelve weeks. It will be broken down in 4 week increments: Exploring Nature, Exploring Sabbath and Exploring Our Wesleyan Heritage. You will see new bookmarks every three weeks for this sermon series.



Baylee, We Are Glad You Are Dancing Wherever You Are!

Even though our “Dare to Dance Again” sermon series ended last week at Desert Skies, our very own **Baylee Haag-Means** takes “Dare to Dance Again” to Rocky Point!

How wonderful when our youngest churchgoers find inspiration in our worship series.



**SUMMER CAMP AT
DESERT SKIES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

(A combination of Vacation Bible School and Music Camp)

June 4th to 8th

Final Performance June 10th

<p>HALF DAY</p> <p>AGES: PRE-K THROUGH 5TH GRADE</p> <p>COST: \$10.00</p> <p>TIME: 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM</p> <p>PRE-K (Children ages 4 & 5 who are potty-trained) Limited to 15 participants</p>	<p>FULL DAY</p> <p>AGES: FINISHING 2ND GRADE TO 9TH GRADE</p> <p>COST: \$50.00</p> <p>TIME: 9:00 AM TO 4:00PM</p>
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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION GO TO OUR WEBSITE:

www.desertskiesumc.org

520-749-0521

3255 N. Houghton Road

<https://desertskiesumc.breezechms.com/form/6afcdb5233>

(highlight, right click and select open hyperlink)

Tuesday Morning Bible Study Class

Last week, we finished up our Tuesday morning Bible study class with breakfast in Galilee.



Vail Campus plans and Coordinates Teacher Appreciation Event at the District Office



End of Year Tutoring Program Celebration



Let Me Introduce Ron Keilholtz:

Some of you may have noticed a quiet, unassuming man who comes up to the choir loft on Sunday mornings, sits down at the piano, and starts playing in a style designed to use all eighty-eight keys on the piano in one hymn. Ron Keilholtz voluntarily joins us after many years of playing the piano, organ and directing choirs and bands for churches and schools spreading all across the United States, from east to the west.

Born in North Carolina while his father was in the military, Ron spent most of his life on the east coast around Western Maryland. His father became a businessman and a deacon in the church and his mother was a pharmacist and sang in the church choir. Ron started playing the piano when he was three years old, and by five, Ron had discovered the saxophone and spent many fun hours “blowing on my sax down in the boiler room” of his house. While he was still in school, he learned to play a Moller Pipe Organ at his local church. In fact, he got so good as to be asked to play for the Sunday school service. While he was still in high school, Ron was appointed as the choir leader on the Protestant side of the local correctional institution. In his words, “those prisoners had a huge influence on me.”

After high school, Ron attended Murray State University where he met his wife, Suzie. According to Ron, they met as dance partners in a musical and the rest, as they say, is history. Immediately following college, Ron began teaching in Clifton Forge, Virginia, but after about three years, he transferred to Prince William County School where he ended up teaching for twenty years. Meanwhile, Ron directed the choirs and played the organ and/or piano for several churches in and around the Virginia area, including the local Episcopal Church, Quantico Baptist Church, and the Quantico Methodist Church.

Twenty years later, Ron and Suzie decided that they needed a change and they ended up moving out west to Reno, Nevada where they stayed for thirteen years. While looking around for jobs, Ron saw an ad for a substitute organist and pianist at Sparks United Methodist Church, for which he applied and was hired, for the position. Unfortunately, a family situation interrupted their stay in Reno and once again, Ron and Suzie ended up moving, this time, to Tucson. Ron has always been a “go-getter” and this time was no different. Initially Ron played at the Santa Cruz Lutheran Church for two years, but later transferred to Green Valley Methodist Church where he played organ and piano until he retired in 2016.

As many of us know, retirement is just another word for being as busy as you were before you retired, and Ron is no exception. However, luckily for Desert Skies, Ron and his mother Jean, discovered our church last year. So along with Ron’s passion for music, he has kept himself busy by caring for his mother and doing woodworking projects. On Easter Sunday this year, Ron’s mother peacefully passed away after a bout with the flu. Ron has gracefully accepted her passing, but when he’s playing those good old church hymns in Sunday worship services, I’m sure his mother is listening from heaven and singing along in God’s choir.

So friends, the next time you see Ron Keilholtz at the piano in church, be sure to stop by and say “Hi” and don’t forget to introduce yourself. When you do talk with Ron, you’ll know that you’ve met one of God’s most humblest and talented followers.



Desert Southwest Conference Annual Mission Project

Our Bishop has selected three projects this year:



ARIZONA JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS (AZ JFON)-Located in Tucson

This is a legal clinic welcoming immigrants by providing affordable, high-quality legal services, as well as engaging in advocacy for immigrant rights, offering education to communities of faith and the public about these issues.



THE INN PROJECT

Located in Tucson at First UMC, it provides temporary housing to people seeking asylum in the United States. In collaboration with ICE, it helps to get children and their accompanying adult(s) out of detention centers to a friendly and safe environment as they await arrangements from their family in the U. S. .



TONGAN RELIEF AIDE POST CYCLONE DAMAGE –Our international offering

In February of 2018, Tonga was devastated by the worst storm in 60 years. They experienced winds of more than 2301 m/h flattening buildings and bringing down power lines. Cyclone Gita ravaged Tonga and our Tongan churches are seeking all of our support to help their friends and families back home.

Please prayerfully consider a generous offering, and make your check to **Desert Skies UMC** any time **between now and June 3rd**. (Please indicate “**Conference Mission Project**” on the memo line of the check.)

We will also be collecting needed school and household supplies thru June 3rd for Tonga. There will be a table for donated items at the back of the sanctuary.



School Supplies

Paper
Pens
Backpacks
Pencils

Household Supplies

Aluminum Foil
Flashlights with batteries



THANK YOU, DESERT SKIES, FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS CARING AND GENEROUS GIVING!

The Wired Word

As summer is coming fast upon us, we have a little change in schedule:

Vail Baggins' Group - Is now on hiatus until more come back from summer

Houghton Campus Group - Will continue to meet through the summer on Weds. 5:30 pm in Rm.2

Hope you can join us if you are in town!

This week, the United States relocated its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a move that many observers see as signaling that the United States is taking Israel's side in its ongoing conflict with the Palestinians, but which President Trump said will advance the peace process. Since Jerusalem has a prominent role in the Bible, we take this opportunity to familiarize ourselves with that city's biblical significance and increase our understanding of the Bible. So that will be the topic of this installment of *The Wired Word*.

If you'd prefer a different topic, look at the second lesson, which begins with a recent review, published by *Christianity Today*, of a new satirical book, *How to Be a Perfect Christian: Your Comprehensive Guide to Flawless Spiritual Living*. The *Guide* provides the opportunity for us to consider where we find humor in the Bible, how good humor can benefit us, and how humor can be used to achieve negative or positive ends.

God bless!

Rev. Matt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Garden-We need some volunteers who would be interested in watering the Memorial Garden. I need to fill a couple of days during the week on a permanent basis. Also, if you are already watering the Memorial Garden and are planning to go out of town, or If you can not do the watering anymore, please let me know. Thank you, Janet Johns-907-3351

Trustees Committee-will not meet in June or July, but will resume August 20th at 7:00 pm in room # 2. Enjoy your summer!

Endowment Committee-An estimated 70% of all people who die do not have a will or a living trust. Without proper estate planning, no charity can receive gifts from your estate. Instead, the state will determine who inherits your property at your death. Be sure your estate planning is up-to-date!

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK REMINDER – The first Sunday of every month is Community Food Bank Sunday. Please remember to bring your food donations and drop them in the bin on the patio on your way in to the sanctuary. If you happen to forget your food donation, you may **place a check in the offering with “Community Food Bank” on the memo line or place cash in a pew envelope and put “community food bank” and your name on the envelope.**

WITH EVERY DOLLAR DONATED THE CFB CAN PROVIDE 4 MEALS !

THANK YOU DSUMC!

This Week At Desert Skies

Tuesday, May 22

6:00 pm Youth in Vail

TBA

Wednesday, May 23

2:30 pm Worship Design

Room # 2

4:00 pm Grief Support Group

Room # 2

5:30 pm The Wired Word

Fellowship Hall

6:45 pm Adult Bells

Sanctuary

7:30 pm Adult Choir

Sanctuary

This Week's Bible Reading

May 22-I Ki. 8; II Chr. 5; Ps. 99;
Rom. 3

May 23-II Chr. 6, 7; Ps. 135; Rom. 4

May 24-I Ki. 9; II Chr. 8; Ps. 136;
Rom. 5

May 25-I Ki. 10, 11; II. Chr. 9;
Rom. 6

May 26-Prov. 1-3; Rom. 7

May 27-Prov. 4-6; Rom. 8

May 28-Prov. 7-9; Rom. 9

Interested in joining
Desert Skies UMC?

Contact Rev. Dr.
Candace J. Lansberry
at 749-0521

We are on the web:

www.desertskiesumc.org