



THE SKYLINE

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

December 4, 2018

All Church Conference and Dessert Potluck

Join us for our Church Conference this Thursday, starting with a dessert potluck at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will celebrate our life together in 2018 and share our dreams for 2019. Led by our District Superintendent, Rev. Mark Conrad, we will affirm our ministries, elect our new leadership, and connect with our annual conference. We are his last conference of the year...let's make it his best!

We are still searching for some passionate people to serve on ministry teams as we move into our future. If you feel God tugging at your heart to help plan fellowship events, lead and mentor in our discipleship ministries (all ages), and helping us get the word out about this amazing congregation through our communications team, please either let Rev. Candace know, or come to the conference and just put your name in the ring. See you all there!

Messy Church: Las Posadas



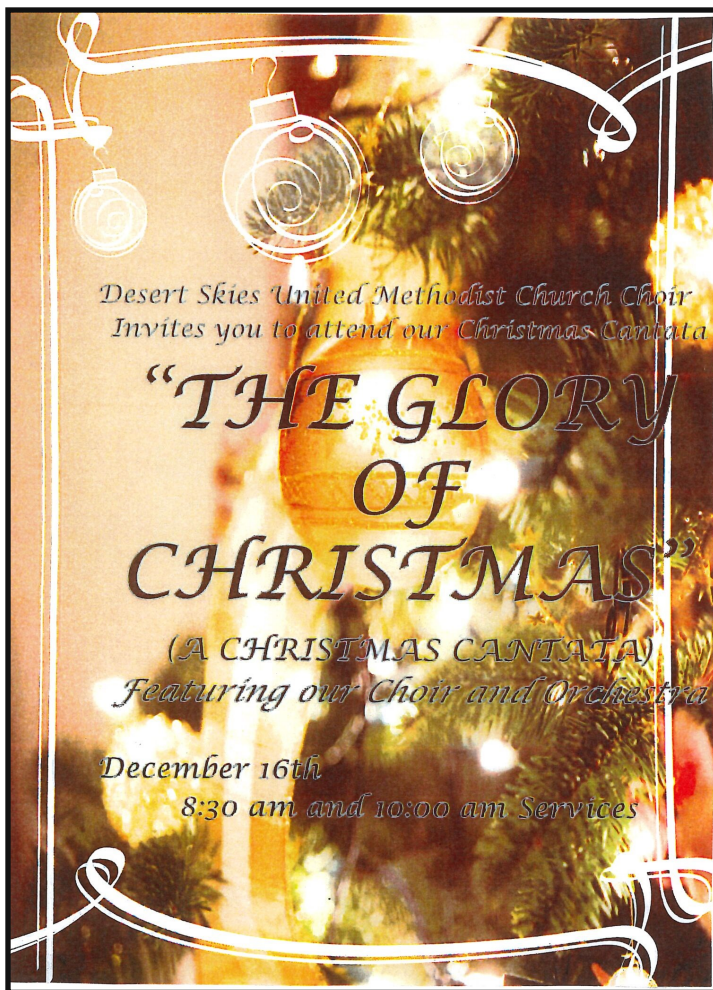
Adorning The Sanctuary For Our Christmas Season

Thanks to all who came out to help Adorn the Sanctuary. Job well done!



Wednesday Evening Advent Study: "Because of Bethlehem"





Advent & Christmas Schedule

Sunday Services:

Advent: Calm & Bright: Celebrating 200 Years of Silent Night
December 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30
8:30 and 10 am Houghton Campus; 4:00 pm Vail Campus

Messy Church – Advent

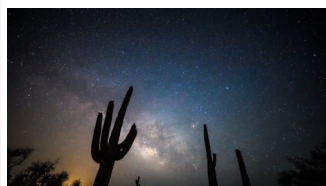
December 2nd – 4 pm Vail Campus
Intergenerational Fun, Fellowship, Crafts and Dinner

Christmas Eve Eve Service

December 23rd – 4 pm Vail Campus
Family Candlelight Service with Praise Band

Christmas Eve Services:

December 24th – Houghton Campus
4 pm Family Candle Lighting Service
7 pm Lessons and Carols with Choir, Hand Bells and Candles
11 pm Candlelight, Carols and Communion
Child Care provided at 4 and 7 pm



Our Sermon Series “Calm and Bright” runs through December 30th .

This year is the 200th anniversary of the debut of ‘Silent Night, Holy Night.’ This hymn has become the best-loved worship moment of many Christians-even those who only come to church once a year.

Something mystical occurs as we light our candles and sing the hope of “all is calm, all is bright”-peace and light for the world.

This worship series will celebrate the carol’s message over the entire season of Advent and highlight its call for our lives that can guide us all year long.

December 9 (2nd Sunday of Advent)

Sermon: Redeeming Grace-LOVE

December 16 (3rd Sunday of Advent)

CANTATA-The Glory of Christmas

Sermon: Glories Stream-JOY

December 23 (4th Sunday of Advent)

Sermon: Let Us Sing-HOPE

December 24 (Christmas Eve)

Sermon: Calm and Bright

December 30 (1st Sunday after Christmas)

Sermon: ...Is Born



Flower Ministry Sign Up 2019

Would you like to present an altar arrangement for the Sanctuary on a date meaningful to you? Volunteer to deliver an arrangement after services on a date of your choice to brighten the day of a church family member? Look for the **Flower Ministry table on the patio, December 9th** and see Altar Flowers Coordinator, Mimi Salber, and Flower Delivery Coordinator Doreen Hedger to sign up!

THE INN PROJECT ALWAYS NEEDS SUPPLIES!

The Inn Project is a ministry of the UMC Desert Southwest Conference that temporarily shelters and cares for children and their families seeking asylum in the U.S. as they transition to the next part of their journeys. These families have already gone through Immigration and Customs Enforcement as well as Border Enforcement and are released to continue the immigration process. **New families are constantly arriving and leaving so The Inn Project's needs are great and help is appreciated from anyone with an open heart.**

NEEDED ITEMS

Children's clothing (gently used)
shoes
bath towels
laundry supplies

Small to medium sized adult clothing (gently used)
backpacks
personal hygiene supplies (adult, youth and baby)

If you would like to donate items, there is a bin for them in the church office or give them to Barb Reuter, Julie Jenkins or Mary Jo Floyd. **(Do not place them in a bin on the patio.)**

DONATE TO THE INN PROJECT ONLINE

ATTENTION: If you would like to donate items to The Inn Project online, here is the link!

<http://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/JLTPI1XKDHNO>

This will take you to a wishlist that is labeled **UMCOR**. You are in the correct place. When you make your selections and proceed to **CHECKOUT**, One of the shipping address options is **UMCOR, Tucson, AZ**. Under this option, click on **DELIVER TO THIS ADDRESS**. The items you have purchased will be sent directly to The Inn Project with a note indicating who has sent them.

This is a great way to donate at your convenience and have a continually updated wish list from which to choose. If you have questions or problems with this link, please contact Mary Jo Floyd at maryjofloyd39@gmail.com or 478-320-1780.

THANK YOU, DESERT SKIES, FOR BEING A SMALL CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART!

SPANISH SPEAKERS are needed! The Inn Project is experiencing an overflow situation that other churches have stepped up to help and several members from Desert Skies have been pitching in where they can. Having more folks that are able to speak Spanish would be very helpful. If you speak Spanish and can volunteer to help, please contact Julie Jenkins.



UMW COOKIE WALK AND CRAFT SALE

Sunday, December 9, is our annual DSUMW Cookie Walk and Craft Sale.

We need all kinds of baked goods - not just cookies - including breads, stollens, candy, pies, coffee cakes, and more. This second year of our Craft Sale, we are looking forward to a large array of crafts donated by all you crafty ladies.

We will be setting up for this event Saturday afternoon, December 8th between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the kitchen. Please bring your items then - and stay and help if you can and get to know all of us better.

Our sale will be Sunday morning at 8:15 a.m. until sold out, in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and purchase your holiday goodies and your Christmas presents. All proceeds will be going to Sister Jose Women's Center.



Help Support The Inn Project

Dear friends,

On Sunday afternoon, January 27th, 2019, from 3pm to 5pm at the Loft Cinema on Speedway in Tucson, Noor Alsabahi will be sharing her story in film and in person. Noor is being hosted by St Mark's United Methodist Church.

Noor is part of a documentary film called *Something Like Home* produced by Duolingo, a free foreign language education company based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The short 36 minute film highlights not only Noor's journey as a refugee, but also the journey of 3 others who were forced to flee their native country to find a new home in another land.

Noor's story of life as an Iraqi born woman, a Syrian resident, and then refugee into Turkey, is one that is inspiring. (I guarantee it will pull at your heartstrings!) The Church and Society group at St Mark's along with Adult Spiritual Growth have decided that as a border town in the United States, this story should be made available to the public. Having the church as a sponsor we hope will remind the community that the United Methodist Church is truly a place of Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors. We will remind Tucson that we are all God's children!

We will sell tickets for \$5 each. The theater seats 398 people, is the lower level main theater (no steps) and we hope to "SELL OUT!" **All proceeds from the event will go to the Inn Project here in town.** First United Methodist Church has become a haven for refugees in transition and they can use the dollars for updating a space that is currently getting much use!

How can you help? Please promote this event and plan to attend yourself if you are free that day! If you have it within your budget to aid in anyway, it would be appreciated!

What else? You can call Donna Reed at 520-631-4638, as she is taking the lead on this event.

Thank you so much for your help and support with this event. Let's show the community of Tucson how Christians can love everyone from everywhere!

Need a tax deduction for 2018?

Do you want to avoid paying capital gains tax on appreciated stock? Consider gifting the stock to Desert Skies. You will not have to pay capital gains on the increased value, and you also get credit for the current value of the donated stock!

If you want tax credit for 2018, please be sure to start now, because the Desert Southwest UM Foundation acts as our broker, and they need time to process the sale before the holidays. I can provide specific instructions so let me know if you are interested. The deadline for submitting the details to the Desert Southwest UM Foundation is December 15.

Talk to your financial advisor now!

Financial Secretary

A Special Thank You

Dear Desert Skies,

Thank you for spending time cleaning up our courtyard area. It looks so much nicer and many students have commented. We appreciate your support greatly!

**Emma Beatty and Julie Laird
(teachers from our tutoring program)**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Just a Friendly Reminder-Tammy will be out of the office from December 24th-January 6th. If you have any information that needs to go into the bulletins for 12/16, 12/23, 12/30 and January 6th, please submit to Tammy by December 10th. This will include information for the weekly newsletter as well. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

"Light of The World"-by Andy Stanley-Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year-not because of all the THINGS associated with it! **Come join us in Adult Sunday School for a three part study, (which started Dec. 2nd) at 8:30 am in Room # 5.** Andy Stanley reminds us that the nativity narrative-like our own stories-is complicated.

Living Your Best Life Now-Join us for our Friday afternoon movie in the Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 1:00 pm and movie starts at 1:15 pm. What a better way to get in the holiday spirit than by watching a Christmas movie. This Fridays movie is the holiday classic "White Christmas". Singers Bob Wallace (Bing Cosby) and Phil Davis (Danny Kaye) join sister act Betty (Rosemary Clooney) and Judy Haynes (Vera-Ellen) to perform a Christmas show in rural Vermont. There, they run into Gen. Waverly (Dean Jagger), the boys' commander in World War II, who, they learn, is having financial difficulties; his quaint country inn is failing. So what's the foursome to do but plan a yuletide miracle: a fun-filled musical extravaganza that's sure to put Waverly and his business in the black! Call Shawne at # 885-5891 if you have any questions.

Advent Intergenerational Small Group-Interested in doing something family oriented during the hectic holiday season that combines mission and reflection? A group will be gathering on Friday evenings (Dec. 7th, 14th & 21st) to build bags/kits that bring hope, love, joy, and peace in your community as well as reflect on the messages presented each Sunday. Jake and Stephanie Beverage will be leading this group...let them know if you are interested (beverages@justlikeadrink.com)

UMM Meeting- Saturday, December 15th. Come with questions for Jane Humphrey, a professional tax preparer. Jane will answer questions about the new tax laws. **Breakfast at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.** All are welcome.

Christmas Family Photo-The Connect Committee would like to remind you to take a family photo in front of the Christmas tree in the Sanctuary. If you haven't done so before Christmas Eve, members of the Connect Committee will be available to be your professional photographer between all of the Christmas Eve services. Just bring your own phone/camera and we guarantee you won't be disappointed! We are also able to offer a second option. If any of you really liked your 2018 Desert Skies Photo Directory picture and would like a JPG file of your picture to use in your Christmas card, please send your request to Sandy Kleen at: sandykleen@gmail.com

A Special Thank You- Dear Church Family, Thank you for the altar flowers that were given to me. They brighten our days. I also enjoyed visiting with Stephanie Hartung when she delivered them. Blessings, Esther Ralston

SHOE BOX MINISTRY-We have 40 shoebox names left. Please stop by our table and pick up your shoebox name along with instructions. This is a wonderful ministry that provides our Snak-Pak students with a shoebox filled with Christmas gifts. This may be the only gift they receive this Christmas. Thank you for your participation.

This Week At Desert Skies

Wednesday, December 5

2:30 pm Worship Design	Room # 2
4:00 pm Grief Support Group	Room # 2
5:30 pm Advent Study	Room # 5
6:30 pm Adult Bells	Sanctuary
7:30 pm Adult Choir	Sanctuary

Thursday, December 6

4:30 pm SPRC	Room # 2
6:00 pm Dessert Potluck	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Church Conference	Fellowship Hall

Friday, December 7

1:00 pm Living Your Best Life	Fellowship Hall
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Saturday, December 8

9:00 am Vail Band Practice	Sanctuary
2:00 pm Prep for Cookie Walk	Fellowship Hall
3:00 pm Piano Recital	Sanctuary

This Week's Bible Reading

Dec. 04-Eph. 1-4

Dec. 05-Eph. 5, 6; Ps. 119; 1-80

Dec. 06-Phil. 1-4

Dec. 07-Col. 1-4

Dec. 08-I Tim. 1-4

Dec. 09-I Tim. 5, 6; Titus 1-3

Dec. 10-II Tim. 1-4

Interested in joining
Desert Skies UMC?

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

We are on the web:
www.desertskiesumc.org