

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

March 5, 2019

# This Week At Desert Skies

## Tuesday, March 5

8:30 am Worship Design Room # 2 3:00 pm Tutoring Fellowship Hall

#### ASH Wednesday, March 6

1:00 pm Oil Painting Class **Room #7** 4:00 pm Grief Support Group Room # 2 5:30 pm Soup Supper Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Worship Service Sanctuary **Messy Lent Vail Innovation Center** 6:30 pm Soup Supper Vail Innovation Center 6:30 pm Adult Bells Sanctuary 7:30 pm Choir Sanctuary

### Thursday, March 7

9:00 am Banner Group Room # 7 3:30 pm Endowment Committee Room # 2 6:00 pm Bible Study Fellowship Hall

#### Friday, March 8

1:00 pm Living Your Best Life Fellowship Hall

#### Saturday, March 9

9:00 am Vail Band Practice Sanctuary

### This Week's Bible Reading

Mar. 05 Deut. 1, 2; Mark 12

Mar. 06 Deut. 3, 4; Ps. 36; Mark 13 Mar. 07 Deut. 5, 6; Ps. 43; Mark 14

Mar. 08 Deut. 7-9; Mark 15 Mar. 09 Deut. 10-12; Mark 16

Mar. 10 Deut. 13-15; Gal. 1

Mar. 11 Deut. 16-18; Ps. 38; Gal. 2

# ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

# **Africa University Graduate Dinner**

We had a wonderful turn out this past Thursday. Together, we shared in a delicious meal and a special presentation from one of our former Africa University Scholarship recipients, Jose Jamisse Gume. Jose was a in the U.S. attending The UMC General Conference as a delegate. Jose mad a special trip to DSUMC to thank our congregation for funding the scholarship that enabled him to pursue a career in counseling at the Chicuque Rural Hospital in Mozambique.





# LENT

Lent is an opportunity to go deeper in relationship to God through discipleship in Christ. For many, these 40 days set aside leading up to Holy Week and Easter, help us nurture our spirit and tend our soul. This journey can feed us toward living with intention and give us deeper purpose. I invite you to find ways to make this time meaningful and engaging:

"He Chose the Nails"-Sunday mornings (thru March 31) at 8:30 am— Every gift from God reveals his love, but no gift reveals his love more than the gifts of the cross. These gifts came not wrapped in paper but in passion. In this five-session video Bible study, Max Lucado explores the many gifts that Christ provided to us at his crucifixion.

<u>Ash Wednesday</u>-Wednesday, March 6, 5:30 pm-Houghton Campus: Dinner/Traditional Service with imposition of ashes 6:00 pm-Vail Campus: Messy Church/Dinner with imposition of ashes.

Lenten Suppers-Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall—Each week enjoy fellowship around a simple supper followed by table worship of prayer and hymn singing. Finally, practice and experience a new spiritual discipline each time. Based on the book, "Because of This I Rejoice," we will discover that far from an obligation or drudgery, adding any one of these disciplines in our lives can add a source for joy as we connect to and engage in "The Source of Joy". In addition, after supper, there will be a group led by Jake Beverage and Rev. Candace on the topic of human sexuality and the recent General Conference. Bring your questions, your faith, and an openness to hear one another in respectful conversations around a polarizing topic.

First Lenten Supper: "Prayer." Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall—Even Jesus' own disciples were wanting to discover a closer connection to God. How do we deepen the conversation? <u>Sign-up on the Connection Card if interested.</u>

Walk for Christ-Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am–Starting on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. This is for people that want a 40-day Challenge to go deeper by becoming more active. What's better than feeding your soul while developing healthy practices for your body and mind? Individuals will select different health goals while reading reflective passages on each day of the journey. Group time is to help support and encourage each other to complete their goal as well as practice a health practice for the body or mind. Sign-up on the Connection Card if interested. Questions?? Contact Rev. Matt

## **BIBLE BABBLE QUIZ**

OPEN THE BOOK and find the Greatest and Grandest Prize of ALL! Over the last several weeks Rev. Candace has been building our worship services upon The Holy Bible-a Guide to the Perplexed. Every week we had a Bible Quiz, featuring questions about biblical passages, people of the Bible, verses that speak to us and Bible history.

We dropped our Bible Quizzes into a replica of the Ark of the Covenant-many jokes about how lethal the original Ark could be! There were little prizes each week, in fact there are many still to be claimed. Feel free to take a 2 year calendar. Or a Bible pencil. Or a pen that shows a different bible affirmation with each click!

On Sunday we drew two names from the Ark for the winners of the Great and Grand Prizes-Ta Da! The prizes are a Common English Bible in a Study Bible format, published in 2011, and a New International Version, a translation printed in a parallel with The Message, a contemporary version that speaks to our current culture.

The winners are June Beehler and Barb Sinclair. The Worship Design Team wishes them every joy in their future studies AND we hope that everyone will find the <u>Truest and Grandest Prize of all; the joy of searching, reading and studying Holy Scripture</u>, OPEN THE BOOK!

June Beehler

Barb Sinclair

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<u>Interested in joining Desert Skies-</u>Contact Rev. Dr. Candace J. Lansberry at 749-0521. Check us out on the Web: www.desertskiesumc.org.

Memorial Garden Work Days-Saturday, March 9th and March 16th at 9:00 am. We need lots of workers to paint, plant, and trim. Wear old clothes, bring gloves, trowels, paint brushes and a smile on your face. Food provided.

Banner Group-The Inn Project needs lap blankets, hats and bags to carry items. A work day is planned on Thursday, March 7th from 9:00 am-11:30 am in class room # 7. If you have fleece fabric to donate, please drop off on March 6th to the church office. Thank you.

<u>UMM Breakfast Meeting-</u>We will meet on Saturday, March 16th at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and a meeting. Our topic will be about Senior Transition Assistance for Real Estate.

<u>UMW-</u>This is the 150th year of Women in Mission which has in frequent years become the United Methodist Women. Our <u>UMW</u> is planning a celebration for it on **Saturday, March 30th, in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am.** Please save this date which will be full of fun, discussion, and of course, food. More information will follow next week.

Missions/Social Concerns-On Sunday, March 10th at all services, Desert Skies will be introducing an ALL NEW Desert Skies Lenten Family Service Project! UMCOR is in urgent need of Cleaning Kits for disaster relief in response to winter flooding from heavy rain and snows in many areas across the U.S. Our brothers and sisters need our collective response and gifts to help them help themselves in recovery during these difficult times. We are asking each family to "fill a bucket' with your cash/change from home throughout Lent. Your prayer-filled donations are very much needed! 100% of the proceeds will cover the cost of the Cleaning Kits. Family buckets are due back to the church on Palm Sunday, April 14th. A bucket brigade assembly will take place after church on Sunday, April 28th-we anticipate filling 200 buckets with everyone's help! Questions?? Please contact Sandra McNary or Barb Reuter.

### YOUR GPS GUIDE GIVE, PARTICIPATE AND SERVE

### A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT CONTINUES......

Several months ago I asked you to prayerfully imagine what we could do if we participated in something beyond ourselves.....and that time has come ......to turn your monetary generosity to the birthday fund into a tangible asset which will expand our opportunities to worship and share our beautiful new patio — a specific opportunity to put those funds to good use looms within our grasp.....

After the Veteran's Day/patio dedication event last November several of you indicated support for purchasing a new sound system so the patio could reach its potential for use....the appropriate system is completely portable so it can be used throughout the campus......the total cost is only \$3580....(and the birthday fund already has \$1309 in it.)

As we listen to the ways our church should be in mission and ministry, we have an opportunity to honor Christ with our giving......will you join together to contribute to our birthday fund to raise the indicated cost, and allow the church to purchase this sound system? If we can do this now, and know within two weeks we have raised sufficient funds, we can have it installed and celebrate the Easter sunrise on our new patio!

Please join me in sowing the seeds that grow and prosper bringing this new opportunity to a positive conclusion.......

Listen as God calls you to help.....

This Sunday, March 10th, there will be a blank 3 X 5 card inside your bulletin.....would you please use it to indicate your willingness to support this project: please write your name, phone number and the amount you will contribute to this cause......hand the cards to the ushers at our time of offering....monies pledged will be due on or before March 30, 2019.

Blessings,

Linda Wheeler

On behalf of Birthday Fund and special events