

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

November 12, 2019

This Week At Desert Skies

<u>Tuesday, November 12</u>	
8:30 am Worship Design	Room # 2
9:00 am Helping Hands	Kitchen
3:00 pm Tutoring	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm Missions/Social Concerns	Room # 5

Wednesday, November 13	
5:00 pm The Wired Word	Room # 2
6:00 pm Adult Bells	Sanctuary
The Wired Word	Vail Innovation Center
7:00 pm Adult Choir	Sanctuary

Thursday, November 148:20 am Casa Maria Soup KitchenOff Campus12:00 pm YogaFellowship Hall

Saturday, November 16

8:15 am UMM & UMW MeetingFellowship Hall9:00 am Vail Band PracticeSanctuary3:00 pm Hermosa ParkingHoughton Campus

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET SALE

Thank you all for your generous support in bringing newspapers, grocery bags, water, sodas, baked goods and last but not least...your time. We had another successful year, and we couldn't do it without all your help!

If you would like to be apart of the Flea Market team, and have time to spare, we are always looking for volunteers out in the barn area or we have a need for drivers, who would like to pick-up donations that are given to Desert Skies through out the year. This is a team effort, and the more helping hands, the better.



This Week's Bible Reading

Nov. 12-Job 37, 38; I Cor. 12 Nov. 13-Job 39, 40; I Cor. 13, 14 Nov. 14-Ps. 149; I Cor. 15, 16 Nov. 15-Job 41, 42-; II Cor. 1, 2 Nov. 16-II Cor. 3-6 Nov. 17-II Cor. 7-10 Nov. 18-Ps. 124; II Cor. 11-13

Soup Supper to Dish on Climate Crisis

The world is coming together on Nov. 21 to talk about the climate crisis, with 24 hours of "Truth in Action" education, regarding what climate change means for us and our communities.

Desert Skies UMC is fortunate to be part of this global conversation! Vincent Pawlowski of the Climate Reality Project will give the only presentation in east Tucson for our congregation and the general public. Join us for this event on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm with a soup supper, sponsored by the Missions/Social Concerns Committee.

If the world is talking about how we'll solve this crisis, we need to be part of the solutions. Invite your friends and neighbors to this important event!

Please sign-up on the Connection Card, and list how many will attend.

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

As an alternative to giving more STUFF to your friends and loved ones who already have plenty of stuff, think about giving essential items (like food and shelter) to people who really need it, and honor the person you love by giving the gift in their name. Your loved one will get a card telling them that a gift has been given in their honor. Those who lack basic necessities will have some of their needs filled and YOU will have found the perfect gift without using a tank of gasoline to drive to every mall in town. Desert Skies United Methodist Women provides Alternative Gift "shopping lists" for these four agencies:

Two local:

THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK distributes enough food each day to prepare over 28,000 meals for recipients who are referred through various social agencies. They run Kid's Cafe in several locations where children can go after school for supervised activities and nutritious snacks. They also provide the basic foods for the Snac Pac program.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, TUCSON: This is not a give-away program. The organization builds houses <u>with</u> those in need and them sells the houses to homeowner partners. Because of low down payments and HABITAT's no-profit, no-interest loans, and because houses are built primarily by volunteers, mortgage payments are reasonable for people who are unable to obtain conventional financing. HABITAT's philosophy is to build simple, decent and affordable houses.

Two international:

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL: Provides food and income-producing animals like pigs, bees, chicks and dairy cows. The animals chosen are appropriate to the climate and terrain so they have the best chance of thriving. The recipient families are taught how to raise and care for their animals, and to share the offspring with their neighbors in order to raise the living standards for the whole community.

The UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF (UMCOR) provides tents, blankets, food and clean drinking water to disaster victims. They help refugees establish new homes, provide camping experiences for mentally and physically challenged refugee children, empower illiterate women by teaching them to read, immunize children against common diseases, and plant seedling for erosion control.

Look for the "shopping lists" on the front of the kiosk.

Advent and Christmas at Desert Skies

3255 N. Houghton Rd.

www.desertskiesumc.org

520-749-0521



"Angels Among Us..." an Advent/Christmas Worship Series each Sunday in December at 8:30, 10 (Houghton Campus), and 11:15 am (Vail Campus)

The angels that appear in the story of Jesus' birth would have been very comfortable in our world of tweets and hashtags. Their messages were often short and to the point-their favorite line being #DoNotBeAfraid. As we look at the stories of these winged messengers to the World, Zechariah, Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds and their reactions to them, we will contemplate what messages we can offer that will counteract a culture of fear and bring #moreprep, #morepoee, #morepoe, and #morelove to the world.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE HOUGHTON CAMPUS

3255 N. Houghton

7:30 pm Candlelight, Choir and Bonfire

9:30 pm Candlelight, Choir, Handbells, and Communion

CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE VAIL CAMPUS

10775 Mary Ann Cleveland Pkwy

6 pm Family Service with Praise Band, Candlelight and Impromptu Nativity



Holiday Dinner Concert

December 7 @ 5:30 pm at the Houghton Campus. Tickets \$40 with proceeds supporting Sister Jose Center for Women



November 24 **4 pm** Intergenerational Advent Celebration & Community meal! 10775 Mary Ann Cleveland Pkwy Vail Campus

Advent Study

Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent 7:00 - 8:30 pm December 2,9,16,22 Houghton Campus Fellowship Hall

THE DESERT SKIES UMC CHOIR PRESENTS



BENEFIT DINNER & CONCERT

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! SALE BEGINS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH!

Bring your family and join your DSUMC family for an evening of fellowship, delicious food, and the BEST entertainment in town! We will begin with a time of fellowship with cider on the Fellowship Hall patio followed by a yummy meal in our festively decorated Fellowship Hall. During the meal, you will be entertained with holiday dinner music. After dinner, we will celebrate the beginning of our Holiday Season with an evening of fun seasonal songs from the choir and some sing-alongs. There may even be some take-home favors. So, if you are looking for something special to kick-off your holiday season...

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th

Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m.

TICKETS FOR DINNER & CONCERT ARE \$40.00 PER PERSON

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO <u>SISTER JOSE'S WOMEN'S CENTER</u> AND IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE



Fresh Produce & Baked Breads Requested from Desert Skies UMC-all 3 services for the 15th Annual Harvest Festival on Sunday, November 24, 2019 to benefit St. Luke's Home & Casa Maria Soup Kitchen

Our Congregation has been most generous in sharing their bounty with those less fortunate during Thanksgiving week for the past 14 years.

We again request FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES such as carrots, sweet or white potatoes, onions, bell peppers, squash, celery, broccoli, cauliflower, oranges, bananas, apples, pears, lemons and limes. In addition, we will again include FRESHLY BAKED BREADS traditionally enjoyed during the holidays, such as pumpkin, cranberry, banana or your family favorite.

Please bring your baked breads and fresh produce to church on Sunday, November 24th and hand to an usher or one of our helpers. Our Harvest Display at the altar is so beautiful year after year. It represents the Lord's bounty to us and our Thanksgiving to those in need. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Please, NO canned or packaged food!

THANK YOU!!!!!!!!



ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE All our welcome and encouraged to attend!! Join us on Tuesday, November 19th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. SPRC will meet at 5:30 pm in room #2.

<u>All Committee Reports are PAST DUE!!</u> Please leave a hard copy on Tammy's desk or email her at office@desertskiesumc.org by <u>THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14th.</u> Thank you.

Rev. Mark Conrad, South District Superintendent, will convene the annual charge/church conference for the purpose of conducting the business of the charged as required by the church. As a charge/church conference, all members are encouraged to attend and have a vote. Following the charge/church conference, members and friends are invited to a congregational meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss how our congregation will navigate these challenging times. The Church Conversation Session is estimated to run 60-90 minutes.

On Tuesday, October 29, the Church Council voted unanimously to send this statement of inclusion to the Church Conference on November 19 for final approval. We appreciate the feedback we received from the church at large as we drafted a statement that says in writing who we say we are verbally...and because of that feedback, our statement is actually in two parts. The first is a short, succinct statement that will appear on our sign and on our website, etc.:

DSUMC : We are fully inclusive and ALL are welcome!

What that means is also important for those who are looking for a welcoming, inclusive church, so that will be available on our web page under About Us, linked to the shorter, more concise welcoming statement. It reads as follows:

Desert Skies United Methodist Church of Tucson, Arizona welcomes people of every race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, age, physical and mental ability, ethnicity, national origin, economic station, and political affiliation to full participation in the life of our community.

Full participation in the life of our community means that all members, without exception, are fully eligible to participate in the benefits and responsibilities of church membership, including communion, baptism, marriage, ordination and all offices and positions of leadership.

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, November 19, at 6:30 pm as we do the brief business meeting and then enter into conversation with our District Superintendent about who we are as a church and where we are headed!

Thank you for your input and your support,

Your Church Council



Our Sermon Series "Faithfulness in Luke's Gospel" runs thru Sunday, Nov. 24th.

It's easy to become discouraged when the needs are so great, and the resources seem limited. See how Jesus takes stories about people from all walks of life and shows how good stewardship affects them and the world around them.

<u>November 17</u> Sermon: Our Foolishness, God's Faithfulness: Our Service Scripture: Luke 20: 27-38 November 24 Sermon: Faithful to the End: Our Witness Scripture: Luke 23: 33-43



Nerdy Derby Booth

Desert Skies participated in the Tanque Verde School Districts 1st Annual Nerdy Derby by being a sponsor. A booth was set up at the 49er's Country Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>SHOE BOX MINISTRY-</u>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. Shoe boxes are due back to the church by December 8th. Thank you for your participation.

<u>UMW</u>-If you would like to join us next month, we are meeting on **Saturday, November 16th in the Fellowship Hall at 8:15 am for coffee followed by brunch at 8:30 am. We will have a joint meeting with the UMM** and our program will be Sandee and David Landsburg, former members of our church, speaking on their recent "Holy Land Pilgrimage" to Egypt, Jordan, Israel and Palestine. All members of our church and friends are invited to attend.

<u>ZIPPY 49er's Circle Meeting</u>-Wednesday, November 20th in Fellowship Hall. We will gather at 9:15 am, with breakfast at 9:30 am. Please read chapter 3 in our study book, "Everybody's Normal Till You Get To Know Them". If you have any questions please call Glenda Burdick at # 760-5520.

<u>The Upper Room Organization-</u>We regret to inform you that, after January/February 2020 issue of Pockets/Devozine is published, The Upper Room will no longer be publishing the magazines. We are grateful for your loyalty over the years to Pockets and Devozine and for your commitment to the spiritual lives of children and youth.

<u>The Africa University Family</u>-With Thanksgiving and Appreciation: The gift of wonderful friends is the nicest blessing of all. You are in our hearts and prayers all year, but especially in this special season of thanksgiving as we pause to count our many blessings. Our best wishes to you and yours for a magical, memorable and Happy Thanksgiving!!

<u>Advent Study</u>-Light of the World: A Beginners Guide to Advent by Amy-Jill Levine. Monday nights (December 2, 9, 16 & 22) during Advent from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Rev. Candace. Explore the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus as Professor Levine traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt. Sign-up on the Connection Card if you plan to attend. You can purchase a book at Amazon with this link:

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=light+of+the+world+amy+jill+levine&i=stripbooks&crid=2M6Q3SP86VQH8&sprefix=light% 2Cstripbooks%2C503&ref=nb_sb_ss_i_2_5

Veterans Day Celebration at Desert Skies

Thanks to all who participated in our Veterans Service Celebration on Sunday morning. We had a wonderful service on our sanctuary patio and then shared in some delicious finger foods. Thanks to Linda Wheeler for putting together this celebration. Most of all....Thanks to all the Veterans for their service!

