



# THE SKYLINE

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

December 17, 2019

## This Week At Desert Skies

### Tuesday, December 17

8:30 am Worship Design Room # 2

3:00 pm Tutoring Christmas Party Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, Dec. 18

9:15 am Zippy 49er's Meeting Fellowship Hall

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, Dec. 19

12:00 pm Yoga Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm UMM Meeting & Steak Fry Fellowship Hall

### Friday, Dec. 20

5:00 pm Blue Christmas Service Sanctuary

### Saturday, Dec. 21

9:00 am Vail Band Practice Sanctuary

6:00 pm Joint Christmas Celebration Rita Ranch Ward

## Next Week At Desert Skies

### Monday, December 23

8:00 am Flea Market Barn Area

12:00 pm Yoga Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Advent Study Fellowship Hall

### Tuesday, Dec. 24-Christmas Eve

6:00 pm Family Service/Praise Band Vail Innovation Center

7:30 pm Traditional Candlelight Choir Service Sanctuary-Houghton Campus

9:30 pm Candlelight/Choir/Communion Service Sanctuary-Houghton Campus

Just a friendly reminder that the Church Office will be closed December 25th-January 3rd.

This will be the last newsletter for the year of 2019. Your next newsletter will be sent out on January 7th, 2020.

May you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!!



## A Special THANK YOU

Thank you Desert Skies for our staff Christmas gift. You are all so very generous and thoughtful.

We are truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Blessings, Rev. Candace, Doc, Raymond, Scott, Barbara, Verna and Tammy

## YOUTH GROUP AND ADOPTIVE GRANDPARENTS

Desert Skies Youth at the ARS Christmas Concert following hot cocoa and Christmas treats with some of our adoptive grandparents. We love you, Bruce, Mary, and Fred!!



## Gift Card Scam Alert

A couple of churches in the South District are getting texts saying that their pastors are asking for gift cards. **Please note:** this is a scam. We encourage you to notify your congregation.

I am repeating a post that was sent out through the Desert Southwest Conference website in September that gives more information:

The Federal Trade Commission, the nation's consumer protection agency, is alerting religious leaders around the country about a gift card scam targeting worshipers. The FTC alert, [Worshippers targeted by gift card scam](#), explains that scammers pretend to be a pastor or bishop and then ask worshipers for gift card contributions for a worthy cause. Appeals are often made by email but can be texts or phone calls. The imposter asks people to buy a popular gift card — frequently, iTunes, Google Play, or Amazon — and then asks for the gift card number and PIN on the back of the card. Those numbers let the scammer immediately get the money people loaded onto the card. And once that's done, the scammer and peoples' money are gone, usually without a trace. But, as outlined in the alert, there are things people should do if they [paid a scammer with a gift card](#).

Clergy and church leaders, please share this information with your congregation to help prevent future victims within your community.

On behalf of Rev. Mark Conrad  
Missional Strategist & Superintendent

### Cynthia Holly

Cynthia Holly  
South District Administrative Assistant  
Desert Southwest Conference of  
The United Methodist Church

### Bible Readings

Dec. 17-II Pet. 1-3; Jn. 1

Dec. 18-Jn. 2-4

Dec. 19-Jn. 5, 6

Dec. 20-Jn. 7, 8

Dec. 21-Jn. 9-11

Dec. 22-Jn. 12-14

Dec. 23-Jn. 15-18

Dec. 24 Jn. 19-21

Dec. 25 I Jn. 1-5

Dec. 26 Ps. 117, 119: 81-176;

II Jn.; III Jn.

Dec. 27 Rev. 1-4

Dec. 28 Rev. 5-9

Dec. 29 Rev. 10-14

Dec. 30 Rev. 15-18

Dec. 31 Rev. 19-22

Jan. 1 Gen. 1, 2; Luke 1

Jan. 2 Gen. 3-5; Luke 2

Jan. 3 Gen. 6-8; Luke 3

Jan. 4 Gen. 9-11; Luke 4

Jan. 5 Gen. 12-14; Luke 5

Jan. 6 Gen. 15-17; Luke 6

### Children's Christmas Gala

"Wow! What a fun afternoon we had making crafts, sharing in fellowship and delicious snacks. Thanks to all who participated and to our volunteers!! Merry Christmas!!





### **Our Sermon Series “Angels Among Us” runs thru Sunday, December 29th.**

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, #morehope, #morepeace, #morejoy, and #morelove to the world.

**Dec. 22-**4th Sunday of Advent

**Sermon:** Do Not Be Afraid: #morejoy

**Scripture:** Matthew 1:18-25

**December 24-**Christmas Eve

**Sermon:** This Will Be a Sign: #morelove

**Scripture:** Luke 2:1-20

**December 29-**1st Sunday after Christmas

**Sermon:** Get Up and Go: #morelife

**Scripture:** Matthew 2:1-23



### **Our new Epiphany Sermon Series: Scrappy Christians Making Waves: The Gifts that Methodism Brings to the World begins on Sunday, January 5th and runs through Sunday, February 23rd.**

The people called Methodists emerged in the 18th century in a period Charles Dickens called “the best of times and the worst of times.” Since then, these scrappy Christians have been making waves, bringing many gifts to the table of Christianity. We will explore the unique contributions of Methodism to the Christian conversation as we celebrate who we are and from where we came...truly a light for the world.

**Jan. 5-**Epiphany Sunday

**Sermon:** Lift Up Your Eyes and Look

Around: The Wesleyan Quadrilateral

**Scripture:** Isaiah 60: 1-6; Matthew 2:1-23

**Jan. 12-**Baptism of the Lord Sunday

**Sermon:** How Do We Live in the Light?: The Three Simple Rules

**Scripture:** Acts 10: 34-43

**Jan. 19-**Human Relations Day

**Sermon:** Light to The Nations:

Social Principles that Rock the World

**Scripture:** Isaiah 49:1-7

**Jan. 26-**3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

**Sermon:** The Lord is my Light and my Salvation: The Gift of Grace

**Scripture:** Psalm 27:1, 4-9

**Feb. 2-**4th Sunday after the Epiphany

**Sermon:** What Does the Lord Require of You:

Acts of Piety and Acts of Mercy

**Scripture:** Micah 6: 1-8

**Feb. 9** 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

**Sermon:** My Flesh Sings for Joy: The Gift of Song

**Scripture:** Psalm 84

**Feb. 16-**Epiphany Sunday

**Sermon:** Quick-Draw in the Parched Places:

Agreeing to Disagree

**Scripture:** Isaiah 58: 1-12

**Feb. 23** Transfiguration Sunday

**Sermon:** It’s All About Christ: Going on to Perfection

**Scripture:** Matthew 17:1-9

If you would like to check out the new worship series trailer, highlight the link below, right click and click open hyperlink.

Epiphany Worship Series Trailer:

<https://tinyurl.com/DSUMC-EpiphanyTrailer2020>

## **Christmas Eve At Desert Skies**

**6:00 pm-Family Service with Praise Band, Candlelight at the Vail Innovation Center**

**7:30 pm-Candlelight, Choir and Bonfire-Houghton Campus**

**9:30 pm-Candlelight, Choir, Handbells, and Communion-Houghton Campus**

### **We need cookies for Christmas Eve!!**

If you like to bake and would like to donate some cookies for our Christmas Eve services, please drop off your cookie donations to the fellowship hall kitchen between December 22-24. Please mark your cookies “Christmas Eve Services”. Thank you!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**UMM-Attention Men!**-We will meet Thursday, December 19th at 6:00 pm for our meeting and Steak Fry. Come enjoy a great meal and meet some new friends.

**Alternative Gifts**-Alternative Gifts are the perfect Christmas shopping solution; non-fattening, non-allergenic, never the wrong size or color, doesn't add to the clutter. Alternative Gifts come in sizes to fit every budget. You can purchase a gift for the Community Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer International, or the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and give it in honor of someone. Your loved one will get a card telling them that a gift has been given in their honor. Alternative Gift "shopping lists" for these agencies are available on the tall kiosk (look for the "LOVE" section) on the Sanctuary patio. You can return the forms with your check, made out to United Methodist Women, to the decorated boxes on top of the welcome kiosk or in the office. Your shopping is done...that was easy!

**Zippy 49er's Circle Meeting**-Wednesday, December 18th in the Fellowship Hall. We will gather at 9:15 am. We will NOT use the study book, but instead will have a White Elephant exchange and share in any Christmas poem, story, or reading that we like. Our meetings are open to anyone. If you have any questions, please contact Glenda Burdick at 760-5520.

**NOTHING COULD BE SWEETER THAN TO BE A WORSHIP GREETER**-Thanks to all of you who volunteered to be greeters during this past year! It is time to sign-up to be a greeter for the new year. **We will be signing up on the patio on Sunday Jan. 5th and Sunday Jan. 12th.** See you there! Questions? Contact Wanda Chittenden, Greeter Coordinator

**Painting God's Beauty Oil Painting Classes**-Come join us to discover the world of oil painting with fellowship, too! Classes start Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, with 2 classes to choose from: afternoons at 1:00 to 3:00 pm, or evenings 6:30 to 8:30 pm, and will continue thru April 29, 2020. Please sign-up on Sunday's Connection Card or at the Children's Ministry Table. Thank you.

**Youth/Missions Food Drive Sunday, January 5th Celebrates Epiphany**-As the Magi brought their gifts to honor the Christ child after his celebrated birth, so we are asking the generous congregation of Desert Skies to bring one (or more) of the following most requested items as "gifts from the Magi" to help re-stock the Community Food Bank of So. AZ: **peanut butter, cereal, beans (canned or uncooked package) canned meat, rice, pasta/pasta sauce. Donations are to be collected on Communion Sunday, January 5th.** Since our church is focused on stocking its own food pantry rather than donating monthly for the Community Food Bank, we have tasked our youth group, with Missions/Social Concerns assistance, to spearhead this collection. It will be a gathering, budgeting, shopping, delivery and overall Epiphany learning experience for Desert Skies' youth group this special Sunday.

### A Different Kind of Christmas December 20th at 5:00 pm



Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in "I am feeling blue." Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other dis-ease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregations and communities. Does this fit where you are? Or someone you know?

**Join us for a reflective, healing Christmas service on Friday, December 20 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. There will be an option to go somewhere for dinner together following the service.**

## Prayers for Our Churches 2020

You are encouraged to be praying for the churches and pastors of the South District. Several churches will be listed each month for your prayer covering. It is encouraging to know that other churches are praying with and for each other. Please pray for the pastors, congregation, and community.

### JANUARY

**St. Mark's UMC, St. Francis in the Foothills UMC, and Desert Skies UMC.**



## JANUARY

01 Lowell FATHERA, MYSTIQUE'a MILLER-NAATZ

02 Sue Patrick, Gina Jackson

03 Mary Terpening, Ken Winkelmann

06 Ralph Anderson, Tyler Drummond

08 Betty Denny, Linda Jakubowski

09 Diana Barber

12 Rev. Dr. Roy W. Ludlow, Edith Jordan

14 Deborah Gillies-Walling, Loren Carruth

16 Bev Bly, Wayne Peate, Mary Ellen Dawson

18 Bob Sisley

19 Janet Baker

20 Julie Jenkins, Corky Simpson

24 Duane Garcia, Edna Underwood

26 AJ Jackson, Maddox Mallory-Allen

27 Paul Bohardt

28 Dr. Karen Davis, John Hadley

29 Elaine Agte, Ray Drury, Ron Eisenhuth

31 Linda Dorsey, Ron Leitch, Forest Goss



01 Charles and Sandra McNary  
Steve and Pam Smith

03 Mitch & Julie Moffet

06 Bill and Mearl Frame

17 Ross & Louise Neu

24 Myron Amundson and Edna Underwood

30 Ken & Chris Weber

# January 2020

## This Month at Desert Skies

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3 Office Closed	4  9:00 Vail Band
5 Communion  8:30/10:00 Worship Service 11:15 Vail Worship Youth Handbells 11:30 Teacher's Meeting 1:15 Youth Event	6 8:00 Flea Market Fun 9:00 Coyote Music 10:00 UMW Board Meeting 12:00 Yoga 3:00 Tutoring	7 8:30 Worship Design  3:00 Tutoring	8 1:00 Oil Painting Class  5:00 The Wired Word 6:00 The Wired Word-Vail 6:00 Bells 6:30 Oil Painting Class 7:00 Choir	9 8:20 Casa Maria  12:00 Yoga  1:15 Children's Ed. Meeting	10	11  9:00 Vail Band
12 8:30/10:00 Worship Service 10:15 Children's S.S. Middle School 11:15 Vail Worship Youth Handbells 12:00 Middle School 1:00 Sr. High Youth	13 8:00 Flea Market Fun 9:00 Coyote Music Connect Committee  12:00 Yoga  3:00 Tutoring 7:00 Stephen Ministry	14 8:30 Worship Design 9:00 Helping Hands  3:00 Tutoring 6:00 Mission/Social Concerns	15 9:15 Zippy 49er's 1:00 Oil Painting Class  5:00 The Wired Word 6:00 The Wired Word-Vail 6:00 Bells 6:30 Oil Painting Class 7:00 Choir	16  12:00 Yoga  2:30 Endowment Meeting	17	18  8:00 UMM Breakfast Meeting  9:00 Vail Band  Youth Winter Camp
19 8:30/10:00 Worship Service 10:15 Children's S.S. Middle School 11:15 Vail Worship Youth Handbells  Youth Winter Camp	20 Office Closed!  8:00 Flea Market Fun  Youth Winter Camp  7:00 Trustees	21 8:30 Worship Design  10:00 Simon Peter Study  3:00 Tutoring  6:30 Finance 7:30 SPRC	22  1:00 Oil Painting Class  5:00 The Wired Word 6:00 The Wired Word-Vail 6:00 Bells 6:30 Oil Painting Class 7:00 Choir	23  12:00 Yoga   7:00 Executive Team Meeting	24	25 9:00 Vail Band  9:15 UMW General Meeting
26 8:30/10:00 Worship Service 8:30 Adult S.S. 10:15 Children's S.S. Middle School 11:15 Vail Worship Youth Handbells 12:00 Middle School 1:00 Sr. High Youth	27 8:00 Flea Market Fun 9:00 Coyote Music  12:00 Yoga 3:00 Tutoring	28 8:30 Worship Design  3:00 Tutoring  7:00 Church Council	29  1:00 Oil Painting Class  5:00 The Wired Word 6:00 The Wired Word-Vail 6:00 Bells 6:30 Oil Painting Class 7:00 Choir	30  12:00 Yoga	31	