

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

**January 8, 2020** 

## This Week At Desert Skies

#### Tuesday, January 7

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

## Wednesday, January 8

1:00 pm Oil Painting Class Room # 6 & 7 3:00 pm Read Through The Bible

Discussions

Starbucks on Broadway & Houghton 5:00 pm The Wired Word Room # 2 6:00 pm Adult Bells Sanctuary

The Wired Word Vail Innovation

Center

6:30 pm Oil Painting Class Room # 6 & 7 7:00 pm Adult Choir Sanctuary

#### Thursday, January 9

8:20 am Casa Maria Off Campus 12:00 pm Yoga Fellowship Hall 1:15 pm Children's Ed. Meeting Room # 5

#### Saturday, January 11

9:00 am Vail Band Practice Sanctuary

## **Bible Readings**

Jan. 7-Gen. 18, 19; Ps. 3; Luke 7

Jan. 8-Gen. 20-22; Luke 8

Jan. 9-Gen. 23, 24; Luke 9

Jan. 10-Gen. 25, 26; Ps. 6; Luke 10

Jan. 11-Gen. 27, 28; Ps. 4; Luke 11

Jan. 12-Gen. 29, 30; Luke 12

## **Read Through The Bible Discussions**

On Wednesdays from 3:00 pm -4:00 pm, Rev. Candace will be at the Starbucks on Broadway and Houghton to discuss the Bible Readings of the week. If you have any interest in joining her, signup on the Connection Card, or just drop by.

Human Relations Day: Sunday, January 19
Just a reminder that a special offering envelope will be in your bulletin on 1/19/20.

## Happy New Year!!

We hope that you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We want to wish you all health and happiness in 2020 and may you continue to receive the many blessings given to us from our heavenly father. We are truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family.

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

## **Christmas Eve Services at Desert Skies**

We hope you were able to come out to one of the services offered on Christmas Eve. YES! There are ANGELS Among Us!



## Friday Snak Pak Group

A group of us get together at the Community Food Bank on Fridays to pack the "Snak Paks" for our kids at Peter Howell Elementary. With help from Juan, everything runs smoothly!



			<b>Celebrate Our Youth</b>		Wish them well and/or attend	
Day	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<u>Address</u>
Weds	1/8	3:30	AJ Gonzales	Wrestling - Dual	Sabino High	5000 N Bowes Rd \$4
Weds	1/15	3:30	AJ Gonzales	Wrestling- Quad	Marana High	12000 W Emigh Rd
Fri&Sat	1/17&18	9:00	AJ Gonzales	Wrestling Invitational	Flowing Wells	3725 N Flowing Wells Rd
Mon	1/20	9:00	AJ Gonzales	Wrestling Invitational	Cienega JV	12775 E Mary Ann Cleveland
Weds	1/22	Weds	AJ Gonzales	Wrestling-Tri	Catalina High	3645 E Pima St
Weds	1/29	3:30	AJ Gonzales	Wrestling-Tri	Sabino High	5000 N Bowes Rd \$4

## **DSUMC & Youth Group Teams with Missions for Food Drive Success**

Our deepest gratitude goes to our generous congregation who donated nonperishables and checks for the Epiphany Sunday Food Drive on Jan. 5th! Sixteen youth assisted with collection and transfer of items, shopping and pricing for additional nonperishables with a generous grant from Thrivent, and soliciting additional donations at our local Natural Grocers Market that afternoon, all to benefit the Community Food Bank of So. AZ. Our youth also learned that our state has the 5th highest rate of childhood hunger in the nation, that 1 in 4 children and 1 in 5 adults in AZ are at risk for hunger. Kudos go to our youth for their time and talents with ongoing service to our community!





Our Epiphany Sermon Series: Scrappy Christians Making Waves: The Gifts that Methodism Brings to the World has started and runs through Sunday, February

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

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

Social Principals that Rock the World Scripture: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-7

**Feb. 2**-4th Sunday after the Epiphany Feb. 9 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon: What Does the Lord Require of You: Sermon: My Flesh Sings for Joy: The Gift of Song

Acts of Piety and Acts of Mercy Scripture: Psalm 84

Scripture: Micah 6: 1-8

**Feb. 16**-Epiphany Sunday – Western Sunday-(Service at 9:30 am) Feb. 23 Transfiguration Sunday

Sermon: It's All About Christ: Going on to Perfection **Sermon:** Quick-Draw in the Parched Places:

Agreeing to Disagree **Scripture:** Matthew 17:1-9

Scripture: Isaiah 58: 1-12



## A Different Kind of Christmas...from one who was there

In all of the years that I've been going to services, I have never gone to a "Blue Christmas" kind of service; HOWEVER,...I plan to attend one next year and every year thereafter! Wow, what a moving and inspiring service we experienced at Desert Skies on December 20th. The friends, the mood, the lighting, the songs, Rev. Candace's message, and the special music sung by Scott Jones were absolutely perfect.

Even if one didn't experience the loss a person, we all have lost something during the year, a job, a relationship, our health, our independence, our joy, or our faith. For Joanie and me, we lost all three of our furry children this year which has made for a very "quite" house lately. Yes, we can adopt another pet, but that doesn't erase those feelings of deep loss for their spirits. "A Different Kind of Christmas" was a celebration of remembering of what "was" and what "isn't" anymore. How does one celebrate a loss? By remembering and embracing that which we had for a time and knowing that our lives continue to change and grow, but change and growth are not possible without letting something go. As we remembered this past year, with its losses, joys, and struggles, we were able to release our sadness and find comfort and God's love in the stillness of this night. We were reminded that God walks with us everyday, with every step we take. Perhaps you cannot see God with your eyes, but take a moment to look with your heart, and you will find your comfort.

"...for Thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me."

We hope to see you next year at our "Blue Christmas" service. You will be blessed beyond measure! Doc Shawn

## Liturgist Sign-Up and Training

Sign-up to be a Liturgist after worship or on the Connection Card and then attend the training on Saturday, February 1st from 9:00 am-10:00 am in the Sanctuary at the Houghton Campus. If you would like to be the Liturgist coordinator, see Sara Leedy for more information. Thank you in advance for your participation with worship.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Zippy 49er's Circle-will resume their regular meetings on the third Wednesday of the month, January 15th. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15 am and have a light breakfast at 9:30 am. Members are reminded to read chapters 4 and 5 in the study book, but the topics are general enough that women who have not read the chapters would be able to join in the discussion. We invite any women who would like to attend and enjoy some good food and fellowship to come. Call Glenda Burdick (760-5520) for more information.

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 January 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. For more information contact Lorna Niven.

<u>UMW COOKIE WALK and CRAFT SALE</u>-the UMW would like to thank all of you for your participation in our Cookie Walk and Craft Sale on December 15th. Whether you donated, purchased, advertised, it all is appreciated by us. The proceeds from this event were \$1,080.00. The UMW will add \$20.00 to this amount and a check for \$1,100.00 will be sent to Sister Jose Women's Center. Again, thank you to all our fabulous Desert Skies United Methodist people.

<u>UMW General Meeting</u>-Saturday, January 25th the United Methodist Women will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for brunch, lovely and lively conversation followed by the annual pledge service and a speaker. She is on the Board of Youth on Their Own and has much information to share. All ladies of our church plus friends and neighbors are invited to this event.

Start 2020 strong by joining a small group!!-In January we have two new groups starting. On January 26 a six-week study on the Bible, Sexuality and the United Methodist Church will begin at 8:30 am in Room 5 of our Education/ Fellowship Building. On Tuesday, January 21, a study on the Book of Acts will begin at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. For Lent, we will be studying Richard Rohr's book, "Falling Upward." Then, every Wednesday we have an ongoing small group studying the Wired Word, a study looking at current events through the lens of Scripture. They are always welcoming newcomers. There is a 5 pm group that meets at the Houghton Campus in Room 2 and a 6 pm group that meets at the Vail Innovation Center in Vail. If you are interested in participating in any of these groups, please sign-up on the Connection Card.

## **Special Thank YOU's**

Dear Rev. Candace & my church family,

I can't thank you enough for your prayers and well wishes while I've been in recovery. I miss all of you and hope to help serve along side you. Thank you for the Christmas basket, it was so sweet.

God Bless, Toni Watts

Dear Church family,

Karen would like to say how much she appreciates the many cards & prayers sent her way. It I always nice to be remembered in such a great way. She hopes everyone had a blessed Christmas and Prosperous New Year!

Blessings, caregivers: per Dr. Karen Davis

Dear church family and the wonderful ladies of the church,

I appreciate all the cards and prayers that are sent my way. I am so appreciative of the beautiful, colorful, deep rosy pink, cellophane wrapped Christmas basket with all my favorite goodies (yum) and all the things I can use. The ladies of the church who put this basket together, I so appreciate your effort! God Bless You, Sylvia Mozur

## **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.

## Save the Date



# **2020 South District Leadership Event Vitality in the Face of Challenging Times**

Saturday, February 15, 2020 Catalina UMC 2700 E. Speedway Blvd. Tucson, AZ 85716

## **Featured Speaker:**

Rev. David McPherson
Director of New Faith/Vital Faith, Desert Southwest Conference

Cost: \$20



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## **UMM Steak Fry and Meeting**

A great time was had by all at our last meeting and we shared in a delicious meal as well. If you would like to come out and join us for some good food and fellowship, come to our next breakfast meeting on Saturday, January 18th at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Dave Chittenden.

