



THE SKYLINE

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

May 5, 2020

This Week At Desert Skies

This is just a reminder that all in-person meetings, small groups, Sunday School, Youth Group, social events, and worship services will be suspended until further notice

We will be meeting On-Line as we follow guidelines in order to be a contributing factor to safety in our local community.

Our worship service goes live at our normal worship hours, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, and 11:15 am, with opportunities to chat with one another before, during, and after the service.

Once premiered, the service is available at any time for you to view through the Thursday of that week, which lets you watch it during your normal worship time if that works for you.

After that, the sermon is available through the link on our website or on our YouTube channel.

The link for our worship services is <https://desertskiesumc.online.church>

Bible Readings This Week

May 05-II Sam. 10; I Chr. 20; Ps. 20; Mt. 22

May 06-II Sam. 11, 12; Ps. 51; Mt. 23

May 07-II Sam. 13, 14; Mt. 24

May 08-II Sam. 15, 16; Ps. 32; Mt. 25

May 09-II Chr. 17; Ps. 71; Mt. 26

May 10-II Sam. 18; Ps. 56; Mt. 27

May 11-II Sam. 19, 20; Ps. 55; Mt. 28



A Warm Welcome To Our Associate Pastor Rev. Susan Holden

"How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news!" Those are the words proclaimed by the apostle Paul to the Church in Rome, as he writes about what it means to be a Christ follower in a complex and changing world. These words fascinated Susan when she unknowingly began her journey toward ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church. And they continue to inspire her as she seeks to serve the church by sharing the good news of Christ through relationship evangelism, witness, and discipleship.

Reverend Susan Holden grew up in a rural community near Nashville, TN and attended college at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, where she studied dance choreography and teaching, and earned her BS and MS degrees. She later returned to school to become a Licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant, working with children and the frail elderly.

Susan is a life-long Methodist, but began to experience a significant shift in her assumptions about the Christian faith several years after moving to Las Vegas in 1999. Just when she was ready to leave the Church altogether, yet still hearing those words of Paul deep within, Susan felt a distinctive nudge from God to invest her time and energy in helping plant a new United Methodist Church in Northwest Las Vegas. Although reluctant at first, she soon found herself captivated by a fresh and compelling vision of the power and purpose of Christian community. And it was those very words of Paul that she found she was living out, not through her own efforts, but as a gift of the Spirit in the experience a new, yet ancient, Christian culture. One experience that profoundly affected her came after she was asked to help interview individuals who had a negative perception of the church. By engaging in these powerful conversations, Susan felt the desire to keep creating opportunities for folks to speak about faith. As a result of the work in that season of new church planting, the Foundation for Evangelism awarded Susan the Harry Denman Evangelism Award in 2009.

During this time, Susan also sensed a call to ordained ministry and began a journey of discernment and study. She completed her Master of Divinity at Claremont School of Theology in 2015. She was appointed to a dual role in 2014, as Campus Minister to the University of Nevada and Associate Pastor to University United Methodist Church in Las Vegas. Rev. Susan was ordained as an elder in full connection with the Desert Southwest Annual Conference in 2017. She is currently serving as Sr. Pastor at Journey United Methodist Church, Las Vegas.

Susan and her husband Joe are parents of Rebecca, Emily, Stone, and daughter-in-law, Tracie. They are all grown, live in New York City, Miami, and Las Vegas, and are busy with their different careers, as they change the world in their own distinct ways.

Joe is a recently retired project engineer. In their free time, Susan and Joe enjoy hiking and biking together, and they share a love of history. Both of them are looking forward to exploring their new home in Arizona, getting to know the folks at Desert Skies and their neighbors in Vail, and experiencing the beautiful outdoors.

COVID-19 Resources - Pima County Interfaith

https://www.pimacountyinterfaith.org/covid19_resources

Desert Southwest Conference Mission Project

Greetings!

The Conference has announced this year's mission project which centers on helping the Navajo Nation during the COVID-19 crisis with water support. There will be subsequent articles coming up to Annual Conference. We very much understand that these are tough times for so many, but we also understand there are people who want to help those in need as they can. Thank you, thank you for your help and support!

If you have any questions, please contact me via cell phone at 602-705-5797. Just leave a message and I'll return your call soon.

[Click here for article](#)

Blessings and Be Safe,

Billie K. Fidlin, Director of Outreach & Justice, Desert Southwest Conference



KIDS FEST 2020 COMING SOON!!!

Due to Covid-19 we have had to cancel this year's Summer Camp 2020.

However...stay tuned for an exciting, new event called: KIDS FEST, a celebration to re-connect with our friends, a day camp which will be filled with fun activities, games, water sports, singing, and lots of snacks.

This event will be scheduled once our kids are back in school. So stay tuned for more information!

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Friends,

I am privileged to have a Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which allows me to help people when they come to Desert Skies for help...rent, gas, utilities, food, dental work, doctor's visits, appliances, and more.

We have been able to help many because of the generosity of the Desert Skies community. During this time of pandemic, this fund is running low, and so I ask for your help in replenishing it so that we can continue to help those who need it.

You may send a check to the office (please put Pastor's Discretionary Fund in the memo line) or go to our donate now button on our website and give to Pastor's Discretionary Fund in the drop down menu.

Thank you for your generosity and love.

Rev. Candace

Online Coffee Hours to Help us Connect!!

Join us for an hour of conversation and whatever drink you prefer and connect with the Desert Skies Church Family face-to-face via Zoom Conference Calls. Click on the links below.

Mondays at 10:00 am Hosted by Barb Reuter

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/95036789720?pwd=bHVwem9OMi9oYjNoK3ZWbDFBZktQT09>

Tuesdays at 10:00 am Hosted by Mary Ellen Dawson

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/98799133350?pwd=aE11M016Q1VkcGNzOVdDUFpDSkdWUT09>

Wednesdays at 3:00 pm Hosted by Pat Merrill

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/99809780806?pwd=aVg4RUI0VIZDVEU2bHhvYU1YWWhg3UT09>

Thursdays at 10:00 am Hosted by Jeann Fishback and Peggy Dunlap

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/98653811783?pwd=aEpVUktQUWFxaVksTUjU3JQOUlyUT09>

Prayer Requests

Just a friendly reminder that if you have a prayer request, please email Pat Walker at msnodle@aol.com or click this link:

<https://desertskiesumc.org/contact/>

Actions of Goodwill During the Easter Season: Things to Do While Sheltering in Place

The theme scripture says that the community keeps the “goodwill of all the people” at heart. So the concluding time raises a question for further reflection after the benediction such as “What message does the world need? What can we do for the goodwill of all the people?” Here are some ideas for practicing goodwill with all generations each week that allow you to use materials you probably have at home.

Fifth Sunday of Easter - God Boxes- As you move from our worship time in this space and turn your focus to the world around us, there is so much to be in prayer about as we seek to not let our hearts be troubled. As a container for your prayers, and a reminder to go to God in times of anxiety or overwhelm, this God Box can serve as a way of letting go and a way of collecting our prayers for others. Repurpose empty tissue boxes or shoeboxes by decorating them with colored paper, paint, or gift wrapping. You could glue small objects to the box - like crafting gems, buttons, or even pieces of broken CDs to make a mirror mosaic. There are lots of photos to spark your imagination on Pinterest!

Please take a picture of your ‘action’ each week and send it to Tammy: office@desertskiesumc.org and help us connect with one another by sharing your picture.

Another Way To Donate To Your Church

Do you shop at Amazon??? If you go to amazon using this link, Desert Skies will get a percentage of your sales!!!!
Yay for amazon smiles! <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/86-0600352>

Information on the passing of Gordon “Gordy” Briggs

Gordy Briggs passed away on April 28th, 2020. The nursing home where his wife Pauline is living, has requested for the children to wait until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted before they can give her the news of his passing in person.

Obituary: <https://hesselcheslek.com/obituaries/gordon-lynn-briggs/>

Cards can be sent to the addresses below:

Bill and Ann Briggs
736 Ferndale Ave NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49534

David and Vicki Briggs
2452 Raven Dr.
Sierra Vista, AZ. 85650

An Update From Our Church Council Committee Meeting

Our **ELF ministry food pantry** supply is very low, but the need now is greater than ever. We really depend on your donations to feed those in need. **We will be placing the food donation box outside of the Church office on Monday mornings, from 9:00 AM to Noon.** We encourage you to pick up some extra food while shopping, and drop it off during these times. We really need **canned meat, fruit, and vegetables, as well as cereal, peanut butter, pasta, pasta sauce, canned milk.** **Your generosity is greatly appreciated!!**

We are looking for a few steering committee volunteers for the Steele-Warner Youth and Senior facility. What is that you may ask? Both Emmett and George left money for the purpose of creating a space for Seniors and Youth to gather individually, and with each other. This committee will be tasked to determine need, location, facility, and amenities, and report back to Church Council. Members of all age groups are welcome. **If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested, please contact Reverend Candace, or Mike and Eileen Starace.**

Thank you and stay safe,

Mike Starace
Chair of The Church Council Committee



Our Easter to Pentecost Series: The Heart of the Matter runs through Pentecost Sunday, May 31st.

After the events of Holy week, the disciples are devastated. They are in the midst of full-blown grief and disbelief. Into the heart of that grief came a stunning revelation-life had overcome death. Love had won out over violence. God's faithfulness would build them up once again-will bind them together. In this possible in our lives? Today's worship will say, "Yes, it can! Come and see! Live and love! This is the heart of the matter!"

May 10-5th Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

Sermon: No Trouble in My Heart

Scripture: Psalm 31:5, 15-16; John 14:1-2

May 24-7th Sunday of Easter/Ascension Day

Sermon: Open the Eyes of My Heart

Scripture: Ephesians 1:17; Luke 24:48-49

May 17-6th Sunday of Easter (Graduation Sunday)

Sermon: Kept in our Hearts

Scripture: I Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 31-Pentecost Sunday

Sermon: The Heart of the Matter

Scripture: John 7:37-38; Acts 2:4, 17-18

Update for Church Office

During this season of COVID-19, we are following safety protocol and practicing social distancing. We have temporarily transitioned to On-Line access and our CHURCH CAMPUS IS CLOSED!

All phone messages will be checked daily. If you have an emergency, please email Rev. Candace at (revcandace@desertskiesumc.org) or Doc at (musicdoc@desertskiesumc.org) or you can call them on their cell phone (numbers found in your directory).

For On-Line worship, please visit our web page at:
www.desertskiesumc.org.

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.

MAY
First UMC, Bisbee
First UMC, Eloy
First UMC, Safford


Disaster Distress Helpline

PHONE: 1-800-985-5990
TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746

 **Call us:**
1-800-985-5990

 **Text:**
'TalkWithUs' to 66746

 **Visit:**
<http://disasterdistress.samhsa.gov>

 **Like us on**
Facebook:
<http://facebook.com/distresshelpline>

 **Follow us on**
Twitter (@distressline):
<http://twitter.com/distressline>

Disaster Distress Helpline

PHONE: 1-800-985-5990 TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746

Call 1-800-985-5990
or text 'TalkWithUs' to 66746
to get help and support
for any distress that you or someone
you care about may be feeling
related to any disaster.

The **Helpline** and **Text Service** are:

- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, year-round
- Free (standard data/text messaging rates may apply for the texting service)
- Answered by trained crisis counselors.

TTY for Deaf / Hearing Impaired:
1-800-846-8517

Spanish-speakers:
Text **"Hablamos"** to 66746

Disaster Distress Helpline

PHONE: 1-800-985-5990
TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746

**If you or someone you
know is struggling
after a disaster,
you are not alone.**



*"Ever since the tornado,
I haven't been able to get a full
night's sleep ..."*

*"I can't get the sounds of
the gunshots out of my mind..."*

*"Things haven't been the same
since my shop was flooded ..."*



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)

Administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Talk With Us!