



# THE SKYLINE

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

July 07, 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

July 07-Hos. 10-12; Ps. 73; Heb. 4

July 08-Hos. 13, 14; Ps. 100, 102; Heb. 5

July 09-Mic. 1-4; Heb. 6

July 10-Mic. 5-7; Heb. 7

July 11-Is. 8-10; Heb. 8

July 12-Is. 11-14; Heb. 9

July 13-Is. 15-18; Heb. 10

## Welcome Party Parade for Rev. Susan and Joe Holden



This past Sunday, we gathered together, (physical distancing of course) to welcome Rev. Susan and her husband Joe. We drove by, beeped our horns and waved hello. Cars were decorated with balloons, signs and streamers and greeting cards were given to wish them a warm welcome to Desert Skies.



## Church Council at Work



### Desert Skies United Methodist Church Re-opening Plan

#### Phase 1

In person worship remains suspended, online worship only.

Only those people essential to record service may be on campus, no more than 5.

Maintain protective measures-6 feet apart.

There will be no live singing.

All employees and volunteers will be encouraged to continue to work from home.

If it is necessary for employees or volunteers to be on campus-two or

three at a time, all protective measures will be followed, including social distancing of 6 feet.

All church buildings remain closed, including weddings and funerals.

Begin planning to implement Phase 2-guidelines in conference package.

#### Phase 2

***Online worship will continue. This will be our primary worship experience.***

In person worship only for groups of less than 50, online worship will continue.

Maximum social distancing and personal protection measures will be exercised.

All materials will be removed from the pews, no passing the plate, no greeters.

Masks will be required and will be provided to those who don't have them, there will be no Christ Café, there will be no physical contact.

All vulnerable individuals should continue to worship from home.

Food fellowship events will be avoided.

All employees and volunteers will be encouraged to continue to work from home.

Weddings and funerals may be conducted for groups of less than 50.

Conference guidelines for sanitizing will be followed and we will avoid food service.

We will begin planning to implement Phase 3-guidelines in conference package.

#### Phase 3

We will resume regular activities.

We will continue online worship.

All cleaning policies will remain in place.

**REOPENING COVENANT**  
**with and between**  
**DESERT SKIES UMC members during the COVID-19 pandemic**

We the people of Desert Skies United Methodist Church covenant with one another to protect each other's health and safety and prevent the spread of COVID-19. In the spirit of John Wesley's proclamation of "Do no harm" and "Do good" and Jesus' call to love our neighbors as ourselves, we covenant to the following actions:

- ☐ To abide by the directives and guidance of the Bishop of the Desert Southwest Conference in reopening our church campus and offering in-person gatherings of any size.
- ☐ To refrain from attending any activities on the campus if we are ill with any signs or symptoms of the COVID-19 virus or have been among a group of 50 or more people in an enclosed area in the past 2 weeks.
- ☐ To wear a mask, maintain at least 6 foot physical distancing with other than family members, practice hand washing or use of hand sanitizer and avoid physical contact at all times when on campus, and to practice hand washing or hand sanitizer use when touching surfaces that may be touched by others.
- ☐ To graciously and patiently follow the directions of signs, trained staff and volunteers for safe distance leaving and returning to our cars as well as entering/exiting and safe distance seating even if it is not our "regular" door and seat.
- ☐ To refrain from serving food or beverage at any time or providing any activity that will encourage us to gather for unorganized socialization.
- ☐ To inform our guests of these measures in place for the health and safety of all on our campus and request their cooperation and compliance.
- ☐ To continue to support our church with our gifts as our expenses increase to make our campus safe and protected for our health.
- ☐ To continue these practices until the scientific and medical leaders and leaders in the Desert Southwest Conference all agree that we may safely gather without constraints.



## IF NOT ME, THEN WHO??

What is “generational poverty?”

How does it feel to be raised as a migrant farm worker?

How do we communicate our ‘hidden’ feelings about those in poverty?



YOU are invited to explore these questions and more as part of the

### Monday morning 10:00 Chat Group

Join

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

We will be following an on-line webinar led by a woman raised in generational poverty who opens doors, hearts, and minds as she shares feelings **and** facts from her personal experience at:

<https://www.svdpusa.org/Portals/2/INMTW-Beegle%20Webinar%20Sept2018%20FINAL.pdf>

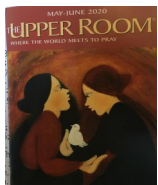
Join this time of sharing:

**Mondays (through July 27th) at 10 a.m.**

Simply view one segment prior to each ZOOM discussion time

Warning: be prepared, your current understandings will be challenged!

Co-leaders: Sandra McNary and Barb Reuter



### July/August Issue of The Upper Room

We realize many readers are currently reticent or unable to pick up their copy of the devotional guide because of the virus or closed church office. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please email Tammy at [office@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:office@desertskiesumc.org) with your request or you can use the link below for a digital copy.

*The Upper Room* and *el Aposento Alto* at <https://www.upperroom.org/standingorderchurches>.

### 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.

#### JULY

El Mesias UMC, Nogales

Grace UMC, Douglas

Camping Program, SoutCamping Program, South District

### Prayer Requests

Just a friendly reminder that if you have a prayer request, please email Pat Walker at [msnoble@aol.com](mailto:msnoble@aol.com) or click this link: <https://desertskiesumc.org/contact/>



## COMPASSION CAMP!!

BE LOVED.  
BE KIND.  
BE YOU.

Compassion Camp will continue weekly through July 19th. You can participate in Compassion Camp, a fun, at-home Vacation Bible School designed for kids Pre-K through prospective 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

Each weekly session is designed to kick-off on Sunday with a 30-minute Zoom welcome, and then individual families can complete the rest of the weekly activities on their own at a time of their choosing. Participants have received a fully stocked "Compassion Camp Kit", including all materials and step-by-step instructions to complete each weekly session. Kids and families will explore what it means to have compassion for others, for ourselves and the world.

**This is the link for the Weekly Compassion Camp Zoom Meeting each Sunday afternoon at 4:00 pm.**

Join Zoom Meeting <https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/91226261367?pwd=cEdSYjRtL3ZZdEVpbXJoZ25EZlYyUT09>

Meeting ID: 912 2626 1367

Password: 549666

One tap mobile +12532158782,,91226261367#,,,0#,,549666# US (Tacoma)



**Hello! As you may know, our Desert Skies kids are participating in Compassion Camp, an at-home Vacation Bible School. As part of this experience, your VBS Crew would like your help with a church-wide project that supports this program for our kids.**

**We are making a community mural, whereby each person colors one (or more if you like!) paper tile of a large mosaic. We will collect all tiles, and combine them into one beautiful piece of artwork, to be unveiled at Desert Skies when we can all return to worship together.**

**You may use whatever medium you choose -markers, colored pencils, watercolors, etc. If you are interested in helping with this project, please email Nancy Goforth at [goforthmnao@gmail.com](mailto:goforthmnao@gmail.com), and you will be sent a tile to complete and return by mail. You won't want to miss out on this fun opportunity to stay connected to your church family!**



**Our new worship series “Connecting the Dots” begins on Sunday, July 12th and runs through Sunday, August 30th.**

Connecting the dots....a sort of shorthand phrase for making sense out of things that don't seem to make sense on the surface or at first glance. Jesus was a master at connecting the dots and he did his best as he taught with “parables.” The word for parable in Greek and Hebrew meant a variety of ways of speaking that used images to get hearers thinking. Scholar N. T. Wright said, “Jesus didn't tell parables to provide friendly little illustrations of abstract theology. He told parables because what he was doing was so different, so explosive, and so dangerous, that the only way he could talk about it was to use stories.” Join us for our new series: Connecting the Dots, as we explore the radical nature of Jesus' stories and how they morphed from stories Jesus told to stories Jesus experienced, taking disciples of all generations on the journey with him.

**July 12th–6th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** Scattered Seeds and Soils

**Scripture:** Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

**July 19th–7th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** Seeds and Weeds

**Scripture:** Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

**July 26th–8th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** A Plethora of Parables

**Scripture:** Matthew 13: 31-33; 44-52

**August 2nd–9th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** There's Plenty for Lunch

**Scripture:** Matthew 14: 13-21

**August 9th–10th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** When We Begin to Sink

**Scripture:** Matthew 14: 22-33

**August 16th–11th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** When Rules Don't Help

**Scripture:** Matthew 15: 10-20

**August 23rd–12th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** Just Who is this Jesus?

**Scripture:** Matthew 16: 13-20

**August 30th–13th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sermon:** The With-God Life of the Kingdom of Heaven

**Scripture:** Matthew 16: 21-28

**Read-Through-The-Bible-Bookmarks**

If you would like a bookmark mailed to you for the upcoming quarter (July, August, September) please email Tammy with your request at [office@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:office@desertskiesumc.org) and one will be mailed to you.

**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**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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

**Tuesday morning Zoom Meetings have been cancelled at this time.**

**Wednesday morning Zoom Meetings have been cancelled at this time.**

**Thursdays at 10:00 am**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/98653811783?pwd=aEpVUktQUWFxaVksTUtiU3JQQUlyUT09>



## Stay-at-Home Stories by Theo Vandenberg

Theo Vandenberg is a woman who always has to have something to do and it's not a stretch to say that she found a project to keep her busy when a giant 400 yard "glob" of elastic arrived at her home from China. That's the length of four football fields! Theo divided the glob into six giant balls and got to work making masks. She stopped counting at 600 and polished off the last of the elastic by making masks with U of A fabric from some old curtains.

Theo's next project involved 5-gallon tubs of river rocks. Theo and her daughter picked out the round ones and painted colorful friendship rocks with words of encouragement such as *hope*, *love*, *forgive*, and *be well*. The collection now lives at a small park at the Tucson Medical Center where the patients and their families can enjoy them.

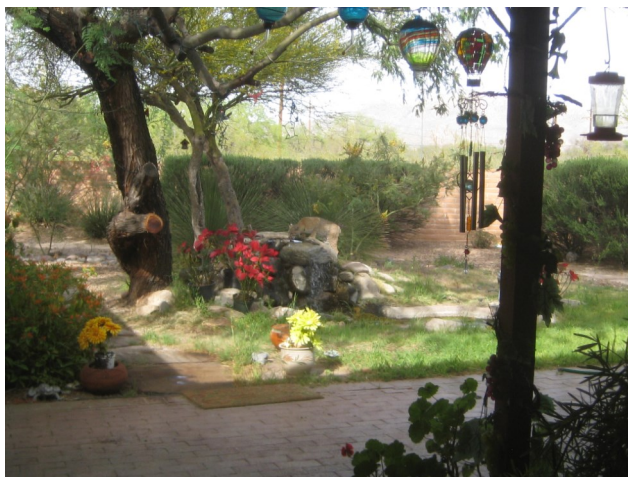
Theo's final project has turned her neighbors into bookworms. It's a large corrugated metal box that sits on the curbside by her home. Theo calls it her "Little Free Library" and it's filled with dozens of books and magazines, available for anyone to take home and read. Theo says it has proved to be a big success!



## A Story to Share

On Sunday, right after Rev. Candace ended her sermon "Amen!", I saw movement in our back yard. Mrs. Bobcat chased a ground squirrel up a young mesquite tree. Ground Squirrel worked his way out to the furthest branch, Mrs. B followed, bending said branch dangerously double. Squirrel took a flying leap into the bushes and Mrs. Bobcat followed. Great amount of leaf shaking, dust flying and... we didn't see the end result. And that's okay. Later Mrs. reappeared, meandered around the yard, drank from the fountain and leaped up onto the wall, into the shade where she stretched out and viewed her kingdom.

Take care, stay safe, stay well, stay connected,  
Pat Walker



ReSources  
Greater Vail Community ReSources  
PO Box 367  
Vail, AZ 85641



June 15, 2020

Desert Skies United Methodist Church  
3255 N Houghton Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85749

Dear Desert Skies United Methodist Church,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Greater Vail Community ReSources and our many volunteers, I thank you for your generous support! This gift expresses your commitment to our mission and has enabled us to serve hundreds of families in need of emergency food during these challenging weeks and months.

With your help, ReSources Vail Food Bank also can continue the "backpack" program which provides area students in need with weekend nutrition. In short, your support will allow ReSources to continue its role as a lifeline to the community of Vail.

Thank you for living our motto of "Neighbors helping Neighbors."

Sincerely,

*Pam*  
Pamela S. Kelly  
Treasurer  
pamkelly@resourcesvail.org  
pskelly@sbcglobal.net

The following information is provided for your records.  
Amount: \$1,000.00  
Date of Gift: 5/21/2020

No Goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation

www.resourcesvail.org (520) 879-1240 facebook.com/ReSourcesVail  
ReSources is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization State of Arizona Tax Credit QCO Code: 20904

Please consult your legal or financial advisor to determine deductibility of your gift under the IRS charitable contribution rules

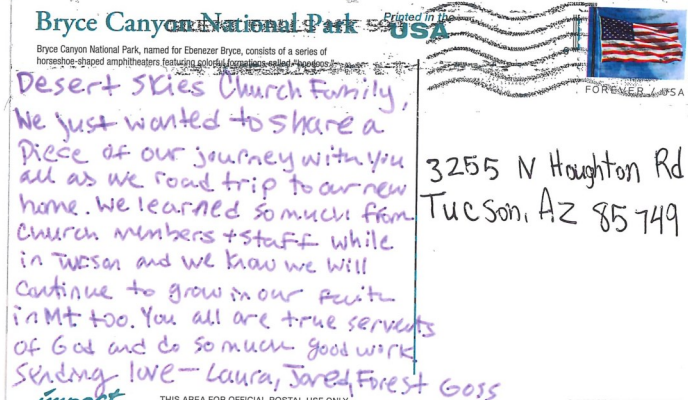
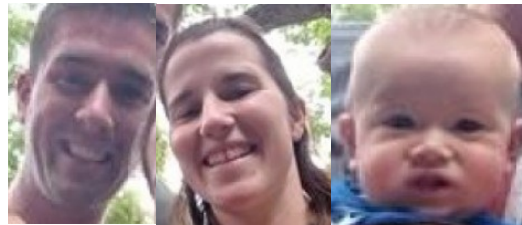
## The Wesley Foundation of Tucson



Thank you for helping create a space where we can establish lifelong patterns of faithful service and discipleship!

Dear Desert Skies UMC,  
We are so grateful for your support, and we know what a sacrifice it is during these days when everything is a little harder. Thank you for continuing to invest in our young people and thank you for reminding them how much they matter. Blessings,  
Rev. Hannah

## A Post Card from The Goss Family





***The Dream is Alive!***

Africa University Development Office

Joseph H. Bethea — Associate Vice-Chancellor for  
Institutional Advancement

***Changing Africa: Learning Here. Living Here. Leading Here.***

June 25, 2020

Ms. Barbara Reuter, Co-Chairperson  
Missions/Social Concerns Committee  
Desert Skies United Methodist Church  
3255 N. Houghton Road  
Tucson, AZ 85749

Dear Ms. Reuter:


Grace and Peace to you, the members of the missions/social concerns committee, and the Desert Skies Church family!

We thank the Desert Skies Church family for its generous gift of Eleven Thousand Six Hundred Ninety (\$11,699.00) Dollars, which has been designated for the Africa University ~~Desert~~ Scholarships Fund for scholarship support for Yurica Jeje and Hector Tiago for the 2020-2021 academic year. Yurica and Hector are blessed to be among the cadre of scholars whom you have already educated and who are transforming their communities. We will follow up regarding the status of Hector Tiago and inform you accordingly.

In March, Africa University moved its teaching, learning and related activities online to ensure that students' academic progress continued uninterrupted because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Students are completing competency-based examinations through online platforms. University staff in roles that are deemed essential are reporting to work at the main campus at Old Mutare and the AU Development Office staff are working remotely.

Your ongoing engagement in the mission and ministry of, "The School of Dreams" is greatly appreciated. Please pray without ceasing for Africa University and we will do the same for you. May you and the Desert Skies Church family remain safe and healthy.

Kindest regards,

  
Josefa E. Bethea Wall  
Interim Director of Planned Giving

JEBW/sd

Enclosure: Receipt # 27775217

cc: Rev. Dr. Candace Lansberry, Senior Pastor (transmitted electronically)  
Dr. and Mrs. Bruce D. Broughton (transmitted electronically)

## 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 until further notice!

All phone messages will be checked daily, during office hours: Mon. –Thur. 8:00 am–4:00 pm. If you have an emergency, please email Rev. Candace at ([revcandace@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:revcandace@desertskiesumc.org)) or Doc at ([musicdoc@desertskiesumc.org](mailto: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](http://www.desertskiesumc.org).

## 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 ..."*

**Talk With Us!**



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
**SAMHSA**  
www.samhsa.gov • 1-877-SAMHSA • 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).

## COVID-19 Resources - Pima County Interfaith

[https://www.pimacountyinterfaith.org/covid19\\_resources](https://www.pimacountyinterfaith.org/covid19_resources)