



# THE SKYLINE

An e-news blast of Desert Skies United Methodist Church

August 4, 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 you tube channel.

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

## Bible Readings This Week

Aug. 04-II Ki. 22; II Chr. 34; Jn. 6

Aug. 05-II Ki. 23; II Chr. 35; Jn. 7

Aug. 06-Hab. 1-3; Jn. 8

Aug. 07-Zeph. 1-3; Jn. 9

Aug. 08-Jer. 1, 2; Jn. 10

Aug. 09-Jer. 3, 4; Jn. 11

Aug. 10-Jer. 5, 6; Jn. 12

## **Desert Skies Pastors and Members from our Congregation help put backpacks together for the Vail School District**

Desert Skies volunteers were on the spot bright and early last Wednesday and Saturday morning, to support back-to-school efforts for families in Vail. We collaborated with Vail Family University and Greater Vail Community ReSources to distribute backpacks for students of all ages. It was a joy to be able to offer a word of affirmation and encouragement to every family, as they drove by and received their supplies from their cars. Please keep everyone who is preparing for a new school year in your prayers.



## **Prayer Requests**

Just a friendly reminder that if you have a prayer request, please email Pat Walker at [msnodle@aol.com](mailto:msnodle@aol.com) and/or

click this link: <https://desertskiesumc.org/contact/>



**The YouTube link  
will be posted each Thursday  
in the blast.**

## **The Wired Word**

**The Wired Word discussion group meets every Wednesday evening at 5:00 pm.** Since the onset of Covid -19, we have adjusted to meeting via Zoom instead of in person at the church. Each week we send out two articles for discussion. We encourage people to read the articles before the meeting (although, that is not required) so that you can formulate your thoughts and questions and then, present them in an open, non-judgmental forum for further discussion within the group.

### **From The Editorial Board of Wired Word:**

The mission of The Wired Word is to supply churches with solid scriptural material to help facilitate group discussions about important matters of faith raised by news of the week. Our intention with The Wired Word weekly lesson is always to respond to something that has happened in the news during the past week or so. In addition, the material is interdenominational and it stands in the mainstream of the Christian faith.

### **About the Lessons:**

There is an editorial board that helps to choose the topic each week. They are careful to present the material without overlaying it with the position of any denomination.

**If you are interested in finding out more about the Wired Word Group or joining the discussions,** please contact "Doc" Alex Shawn at [musicdoc@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:musicdoc@desertskiesumc.org). We look forward to welcoming new members and hearing your thoughts and opinions.

**Alex Shawn is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting:**

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3644843031>

Meeting ID: 364 484 3031  
NO PASSCODE IS NEEDED

## **Announcements**

### **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>

### **Book Study "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton**

Both campuses will start the study in September. The book is available on kindle or hard back through your favorite online book store. Please let Rev. Susan know if you need help securing a book. Please email her at: [revsusan@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:revsusan@desertskiesumc.org).

### **UMW "Joyful Noise" Newsletter**

LADIES.....the August issue of the UMW newsletter is now online. **Go to the Desert Skies UMC home page, click on Resources and then Newsletters.** You will find the new edition and, if you have missed them, you can also find the April and June editions.....all for your reading pleasure. **And thanks to Adele Edwards for putting this all together for us!!**



## 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.

### AUGUST

New Hope UMC, Tucson

St. James UMC, Tucson

Sierra Vista UMC, Sierra Vista



## Stay-at-Home Stories

by Diane Taylor

The ground squirrel was cute at first, adorable actually. I even gave it a name. But now, Squeaky the squirrel is public enemy number one. He has invaded my back patio and ravaged my potted cactus. He's also made my two cats go *bonkers* every time they see him.

I've had about a dozen potted cactus for years and they did just fine in my backyard in Los Angeles. I didn't know when we moved to Tucson that I'd be matching wits with a ground squirrel. So far, Squeaky is winning...by an edge.

He comes by at least twice a day for his *cactus snack* and the cats usually alert me to his presence. When I look out on the patio, there he is, sitting inside the pot, happily munching away on a juicy cactus arm.

My husband got to work and plugged up all the obvious squirrel entry points into the patio and so far, so good. If all else fails, I'll take Peggy Dunlap's advice, borrow her no-kill trap, and give Squeaky a new home.





## Our worship series “Connecting the Dots” 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.

### 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

## 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....**And now every meeting has a password.** Click on the links below.

### Vail Campus Sunday Coffee Group at 9:45 am (for fellowship) and study starts at 10:00 am

If you are someone who has a heart for the Vail Community, we invite you to connect via Zoom:

<https://dsumc.zoom.us/j/95960360399?pwd=Wm10YTAxcU1KcVliU04weEUzeUFodz09>

Meeting ID: 959 6036 0399

**Passcode: 220187**

Vail Sunday morning Coffee group will start "The Walk" in September. Until then, we will be discussing the lectionary texts from the sermon when we meet.

### Mondays at 10:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://dsumc.zoom.us/j/95036789720?pwd=bHVwem9OMi9oYjNoK3ZWbDFBZkttOT09>

Meeting ID: 950 3678 9720

**Passcode: 118760**

### Thursdays at 10:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://dsumc.zoom.us/j/98653811783?pwd=YVFVbFJCbHhzRVZuM2hJVkhOTmliQT09>

Meeting ID: 986 5381 1783

**Passcode: 333879**

## ELF Ministry Pantry



Our DSUMC families are keeping our ELF Ministry Pantry stocked so that we are prepared to assist in emergency food needs for anyone who contacts us with a request. We also assist our Care Portal partners in emergency food needs. For food requests, please contact the church office or Mary Jo Floyd at 478-320-1780. **(The blue ELF bin is outside the church office door to accept Food donations every Monday from 9:00 am Until noon)**

Also, Viva's Coffee shop at Valencia and Nexus is doing food collection for the Vail/Rita Ranch area. For all of you in Vail/Rita Ranch and further south, you may take food donations to Viva's Coffee Shop at Valencia and Nexus. For those in need, it makes no difference whether it comes from the ELF Ministry or not.

## Update for Church Office

During this season of COVID-19, we are following safety protocol and practicing physical distancing. We have temporarily transitioned to Online access and our **CHURCH CAMPUS IS CLOSED** until further notice!

Tammy checks all phone messages/emails ([office@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:office@desertskiesumc.org)) daily, during office hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 am-4:00 pm.

If you have an emergency, please email~

**Rev. Candace:** ([revcandace@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:revcandace@desertskiesumc.org))

**Rev. Susan:** ([revsusan@desertskiesumc.org](mailto:revsusan@desertskiesumc.org))

**Doc:** ([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>

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**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-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).

## COVID-19 Resources - Pima County Interfaith

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