

The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

February 2016

Building on the Past, Believing in the Future

February 2016 Sermon Series & Ash Wednesday Service

February 7th—Gratitude Sunday (Communion Sunday)

February 10th—Ash Wednesday Service 7pm

February 14th—Revealed in Prayer (Scout Sunday & Valentine's Day)

February 21st—The Impact of Ministry

February 28—Lived in Faith

*“One should
never initiate
anything that
he cannot
saturate with
prayer.”*

- Unknown



Explorer's Class, February 14th at 2pm in Activity Center

Want to learn more about this church and membership? Explore your questions with us on February 14th. Pastor Deborah and church leaders will be available to answer your questions.



www.firstgilbert.church

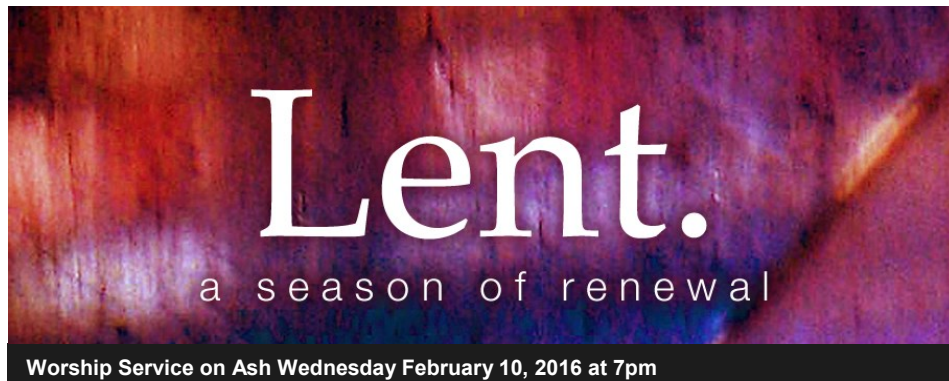
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Beyond Fasting: 20 Suggestions for a Meaningful Lent Season

Lent is a time for self-reflections and deepening one's relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Many fast from a specific item but there are other options that reflect giving up something that will renew your relationship with God:

- 1) Fear of failure
- 2) Your Comfort Zone
- 3) Over commitment
- 4) Worry
- 5) Idolizing
- 6) Selfish Ambition
- 7) Complaint
- 8) Negativity
- 9) Destructive Speech
- 10) Bitterness
- 11) Comparison
- 12) Guilt
- 13) Ungratefulness
- 14) Busyness
- 15) Pride
- 16) Envy
- 17) Resistance to Change
- 18) A Small View of God
- 19) Resentment
- 20) Inactiveness at Church



The Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday

Worship at 7pm with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion

The 40 day Lenten season begins **Wednesday February 10, 2016**. This day is called "Ash Wednesday" because of the tradition of marking followers of Jesus with ashes on that day as a reminder of their mortality. It is a sign and symbol that we do not live forever. How we choose to live each day matters, profoundly. This holy season serves as a reminder.

One of our pastors will be available in the sanctuary from 7 – 8 am, and from 11 am to noon for the imposition of ashes and quiet prayer and meditation. Guides for prayer will be provided.

As part of the evening service and the services Sunday February 14, you will hear this invitation:

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:
The early Christians observed with great devotion
the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection,
and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration
there should be a forty day season of spiritual preparation.
During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism.
It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins
and had separated themselves from the community of faith
were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness,
and restored to participation in the life of the Church.
In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness
proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ
and the need we all have to renew our faith.
I invite you, therefore, in the name of the church,
to observe a holy Lent:
by self-examination and repentance;
by prayer, fasting, and self-denial,
and by reading and meditating upon God's Holy Word.*

A Message of from Pastor Deborah

“Lord, what do You want to do through me?”



Spring comes early in Arizona. It catches me by surprise every year. One day it seems ever so chilly; the next day I hear a burst of birdsong and notice the buds on the roses swelling (it seems I missed that pruning window one more year!). While the rest of the country groans under snow and slush the beautiful greening of the trees begins in Phoenix, as new life springs forth to greet a new season. I heard the birds this week, on one of those 70 degree days our northern neighbors can only dream about! Spring must be on the way!

In our team meetings in January, as the new year gets underway and the seasons begin to turn, we have been looking at the wonderful promise of God found in Isaiah:

*Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise. - Isaiah 43:18-21*

I hope you have been noticing the new things God is doing in our midst, bringing new life and hope into our life together. Our children and youth programs have been growing; new classes for adults have been eagerly received, worship has been full and vibrant; and the activities of our capital campaign, Building on the Past / Believing in the Future have brought groups of people together in many new ways to express our caring for one another and our love for First United Methodist Church; and to call us forward into new hopes and dreams.

In January calls went out to those who call this church home, inviting them to be in prayer together asking “*Lord, what do you want to do through me?*” Those who answered were invited also to share any prayer concerns on their hearts and minds. Daily we are receiving the fruit of that effort, being reminded of the needs of those around us, and holding each other up in love for healing and hope. As we pray for one another we are knit together ever more closely in a community of relationship and grace, strengthened for the journey, refreshed, renewed, and made ready to bless the world.

We serve a mighty and wonderful God, who makes ways in the wilderness and rivers in the desert; a wonderful God who has formed us for himself; a God who is always doing a new thing, here and everywhere. Do you not perceive it? Thanks be to God!



Ash Wednesday, February 10th 2016

7:00am—8:00am Imposition of Ashes
11:00am—Noon Imposition of Ashes
7pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Building on the Past,, Believing in the Future Capital Campaign

Our capital campaign continues to move forward with a number of very special events over the month of February. By now, if you call First UMC home, you should have received a brochure describing the vision for this campaign, along with a reminder key tag to keep our campaign prayer, “Lord what do you want to do through me?” on your heart and mind as you consider your participation in this campaign. We will hand out magnets with the same reminder on Sundays. This brochure had a general description of the vision of our building campaign. I hope you are praying that prayer each day!

To help you with your reflections about the campaign a prayer devotional will be emailed to each household in the congregation beginning Sunday February 7. Watch for that in your inbox. A number of printed copies will be available in the lobby for those who prefer to hold a book while praying.

That Sunday we will consider how grateful we are to God for the gift of this church and the difference it makes in our lives.

The week of February 15 watch for a much more detailed brochure to arrive in your mailbox. It will contain renderings, detailed cost estimates, an FAQ sheet, and other materials to help you understand deeply what we hope to do and why, and what the benefits will be.

Sunday February 21 we will celebrate in a very vibrant way all the ministries our church offers to those who call it home, and to the world, and the lives we are touching day by day. Many special moments are planned for that morning.

Be here every week to experience the unfolding of the vision God has given our building committee and to consider what role God wants your household to play in the realization of that vision. Every Sunday will be a treat!

Lord, what do You want to do through me?

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

2016 Southwest Gospel Music Festival

Friday, February 26, 2016 at the Phoenix Convention Hall (South Hall) at 33 S. 3rd Street Phoenix, AZ 85004. Festival begins at 6pm, doors open at 5pm. If you would like to car pool from church parking lot a group will be leaving at 4pm. Please contact Sherry Clack by February 19, 2016 (480-332-2758).



The more the merrier! Plus the more that attend the lower the price of the ticket. The ticket prices are subject to the group size but will be between \$20—\$30. Groups performing include Legacy Five, Aaron Wilburn, Mark Trammel Quartet, Freedom Singers, The Collingsworth Family and Triumphant Quartet.



Scout Sunday 2016

Scout Sunday this year is on Sunday, February 14, 2016

At First United Methodist Church of Gilbert, we celebrate ALL Scouting on Scout Sunday. All Girl Scouts, Venture Youth, Cub Scouts, and Boy Scouts (and leaders) are encouraged to wear their uniforms, even if they are members of other Scouting units not connected with First United Methodist. The Scout Sunday tradition was started to make people in houses of worship aware of Scouting, and to allow Scouts to live out their “Duty to God” pledge.

On Scout Sunday, all youth members, leaders, and parents are invited to the 8:00 am, 9:30 am, or 11:00 am service at our Chartered Organization, the 1st United Methodist Church of Gilbert. This is not a strictly “Methodist” service nor any attempt to recruit new Church members; rather it is an all-denominational service to recognize the contributions and efforts of Scouting. This event is a family event, and includes Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venture Youth. All participating Cub Scouts, whether they attend this service or wear their uniform to their own Churches, will receive the 2016 Scout Sunday patch. Girl Scouts and family members can also purchase them from the Pack at cost if desired.

Twenty-one Scouts will be honored at the 9:30 am service as they receive their God and Me, God and Family, and My Faith – My Promise awards. Please consider spending your Sunday morning on the 14th in support of Scouting nationwide and our Chartered Organization, 1st United Methodist. See you on Scout Sunday!

For those who want to volunteer, Scouts will be assisting with reading, greeting, ushering, as well as staffing information tables about Scouting in the Activity Center. Please email Philip Tesarek at ptesarek@gilbertumc.org if you are interested in volunteering for any of these functions.

Look What Your Giving Is Helping Us Do!

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our church. During the month of January, your donations to the church’s General Fund have helped:

- Provide 6 Wednesday night adult classes which started on January 13 in addition to activities for children and youth.
- Provide meeting space for our Tuesday Morning Bible Study which started a new study on January 12, and welcomed 6 new women to the group that frequently numbers over 40. This group includes women of all ages and several different Christian faiths in addition to many from our church, who meet to study the Bible, pray for each other, and fellowship together.
- Provide space for our Boy Scout troop’s annual Pinewood Derby on January 15. Our Scout troop includes many families from outside our church.

Without your gifts, we could not do this work which is all focused on our Mission “To Lead People of All Ages On the Journey to Become Deeply Devoted Followers of Jesus”!

2015 giving statements were mailed/emailed on January 23, 2016.

If you have any questions about the church’s finances, please contact Susan Bowers, Finance Chair (317-730-0162, Financechair@gilbertumc.org) or Deanna Helland, Church Treasurer/Accountant (480-892-9166, accountant@gilbertumc.org). The QR code below is for giving via your mobile device. Click on the GIVING link on our website to process your donation on-line.



Giving



Neat Theological Packages

By Rev. David J. Harriss

We sometimes think of life in terms of fitting into nice, neat, theological packages. That is, you live well, you are morally and ethically grounded, and good things will certainly occur in your life. A faithful life begets God's auspicious gratitude and you are granted a healthy and prosperous life.

A common theology during the Greco-Roman Empire (and I fear today also) is *God did it!* A tornado comes through your house, *God did it!* A hurricane lands in your beach front property, *God did it!* You are stricken with diseases and ailments, *God did it!* This same theology would suggest that as long as you are living a fruitful, spiritual life, nothing bad will occur. However, if there are any evil alliances within you, God's formidable retribution is unavoidable.

There is a distinct human quality in which all of us find some sense of satisfaction in knowing the troubles of other people. We don't like to admit to this practice, yet we all participate in it. Why do we watch reality television or purchase those scandalous tabloids? Why would we watch national news telecasts or political debates? Why do we watch 48 Hours, Dateline, 60 Minutes, or other informative shows? Why are we drawn to national tragedies which occur on the other side of the globe? We often feel a sense of relief in knowing that these troubling outcomes did not occur to any of *us* and are drawn to knowing how these awful results only occurred to *them*.

During the 3rd week of Lent, the Gospel lesson comes from Luke 13:1-9. This is a pericope which places into question the connection of divine blessings with righteous living. The Lent text for this 3rd week has an opening line which states, *Some present on that occasion told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices.* Notice that Jesus has just walked into the gossip corner! *Can you believe that the Roman Governor of Judea killed those people while they were in worship service?!* It is unusual that this initial conversation which was meant to evoke Jesus' response emphasized tragedies happening in holy places. Why would these bad things happen to these good people? Maybe inquiring minds wanted a theological explanation. Maybe they were simply seeking rational answers to some of life's troubling existentialist questions. Or, maybe they truly believed in the neat theological packages philosophy.

Jesus recognizes the potential for others (and us too) to objectify human suffering in order to appoint ourselves as favored individuals. Which prompts him to ask the question, *Do you think that the suffering of these Galileans proves that they were more sinful than all the other Galileans? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did (Luke 13:2-3, NRSV).* Jesus is issuing a call for repentance for you and me. By doing so, he is also dismissing the idea that divine blessing is the end result of righteous living. Consequently, he is also issuing a commission for us to not think more highly of ourselves due to our lack of human suffering.

Things happen in this world which don't always make sense. Tornadoes rip through churches on Sunday morning during worship service. Compassionate, kind, moral Christians sometimes lead tragic lives. Lent is a time in which we examine our lives and lifestyles in light of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. We re-evaluate our motives and priorities in accordance with God's will. With this self-analysis, we often realize that we have not been living a holy and spiritual life, and that we are indeed, in need of repentance and deliverance. Jesus issues this call for repentance to all of us during this Lenten season. There is no security in this world and we can only find security in Christ's words for our lives. Life is not fair. Things don't always fit into nice packages, but God is always good!



Grief Share: The Journey from Mourning to Joy

Beginning Thursday March 17th 6:30pm in Room 140 Facilitators: Trish Jung/Kay Pealstrom

A 13 week support and encouragement group for those on a grief journey.

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Everyone is welcome to join us for dinner at 5:45pm, individual meal is \$3 and it is \$12 for a family. Please note due to Ash Wednesday on February 10th there will not be dinner or programming that night. Below is a summary of classes on Wednesday night. Pleased to offer two new classes that begins on February 17th.

Class Description	Room	Time	Facilitator	Start/End Date
Disciple Bible: 24 week study from Genesis to Revelations	Office	6:30 pm	Molly Hahn	1/13/16—6/29/16
Confirmation Class: 7th Graders and older on the journey to confirmation.	200	6:30 pm	Ryan Collins, Gayle Disch & Aryn Peppin	8/19/15—5/11/16
12 Extraordinary Women: How God shaped women of the bible and what He wants to do with you.	140	6:30 pm	Anna Stearns & Sylvia Harris	1/13/16—3/23/16
The Jesus Lifestyle: Based on Jesus' radical teaching from the Sermon on the Mount.	142	6:30 pm	Robin Lee	1/13/16—2/24/16
Divorce Care: Separation and divorce support group.	201	6:30 pm	Adriana Hernandez	11/4/15—2/03/16
Anonymous: Discovering the somebody you are to God	201	6:30 pm	Adriana Hernandez	2/17/16-3/30/16
5 Love Languages: Understanding your love language. Class is great for married couple and those who are single. \$11/book.	202	6:30pm	Pastor David Harriss	1/13/16- 2/3/16
The Way: A Lent five week series	202	6:30pm	Pastor David Harriss	2/17/16—3/16/16
Jeremiah: Daring to hope in an unstable world.	133	6:30 pm	Kay Pealstrom	1/13/16—3/2/16
Hurting Mom, Healing Hearts: Working through the process of a healing heart of a mom.	204	6:30 pm	Sharon Kotsonas	1/13/16—3/23/16

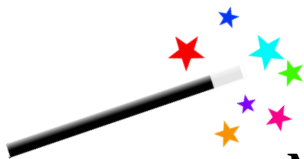
New Class

New Class

Find the Hero in You

United Blood Services blood drive here at church on Sunday, February 21st from 7am—11am in the Activity Center.

Contact Chris Thompson at 480-892-5640 or visit www.BloodHero.com



Mark Your Calendar for a

Building on the Past / Believing in the Future

CELEBRATION!

Sunday March 6, 2016

8:45am—12:30pm

FREE Catered brunch from **Gabriela's Kitchen** after each service

Breakfast sandwiches or Burritos

Under a tent on the lawn – site of our proposed building

Christian Magician especially for our FirstKIDZ at 9:30 in the Activity Center

Be here for a morning of conversation, good food, and dreaming together

Bring a Blanket to sit on the grass with your family!



Preschool News

Registration for 2016-17

Pre-Enrollment Feb. 1-5, 9:00am-1:00pm.

For church members, current and former preschool families. Pick up a registration packet in the front office or the preschool office.

We have classes for 2, 3, 4/5 year olds in our Christian, academic preschool!

Open Enrollment begins Feb. 8, 9:00am

All families welcome. Tell a friend! Give us a call and [take a tour](#) of our preschool!

480 892 9166, www.gilbertpreschool.com

Donuts with Dads

In January, the preschoolers brought their Dads (or other special person) to have breakfast, play games and spend amazing time together! So sweet!



Happy Valentine's Day

Our mission for January was to make Valentine's for Senior Citizens. What loving kids and families!

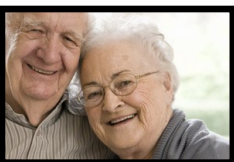


Heart project to do at home:

Supplies: pipe cleaner, pony beads, ribbon. Slide the beads onto the pipe cleaner and form into a heart shape.

Tie a ribbon on and give to your loved one... with a hug!

(Great for fine motor skills)



Alzheimer's Association

Meets the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month at 1:30pm in room 133

Support group for those impacted by a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease.

Orchard Africa 2017

Members of our church are pleased to be gearing up for the next trip to South Africa. The team is working towards travel dates in the summer of 2017. It is an exciting time as team members pray, prepare and fundraise to fund this mission trip. There is an opportunity to support this effort through eating!



All You Can Eat Pancake Dinner

Mark your calendar for a stomach filling yet spirit lifting opportunity! All proceeds benefit the 2017 trip to South Africa.

Shrove Tuesday, February 9th

5pm—7pm

Activity Center

There is no set fee, you get to determine the donation amount. The Orchard Africa team is looking forward to serving you this meal. Thank you for your support!!

During This Lenten Season Consider Service Opportunities

Coffee Hour on Sunday Mornings

Have you been thinking about volunteering for Coffee Hour set-up or clean-up, but think it may be too demanding? Well, check out the list of duties below and see how easy and how much fun this volunteer opportunity could be.

Set-Up

- Shop for snacks, fruits, etc.
NO NUTS (not to exceed \$35/wk)
- 8 a.m. Arrive at Church Kitchen
- Plug in coffee makers
- Make coffee, lemonade, hot water
- Arrange snacks, fruits, etc. on serving trays
- Set out utensils napkins plates cups
- Place tea cart in front of windows
- 9:25 am stock items before leaving

Clean-Up

- Approx. 10:15 a.m. Arrive in Church Kitchen
- Re-stock snacks
- Wash beverage dispensers
- Bring in tea cart and clean
- Put left over snacks in refrigerator. Mark "Coffee Hour"
- Wash serving trays and put away
- Wash counters and tables
- Unplug coffee makers

See – pretty easy! It's about 1½ hours of your time and you get to meet more of your fellow church-goers. Please prayerfully consider this great family/couple/friend volunteer effort. It is always more fun when you work as a team. We would love to sign you up for once a month, quarter, year – whatever you can do. Please email, Michelle Reynolds, at kmichellereynolds@gmail.com or call (480)370-4040.

Family Promise Volunteers Needed

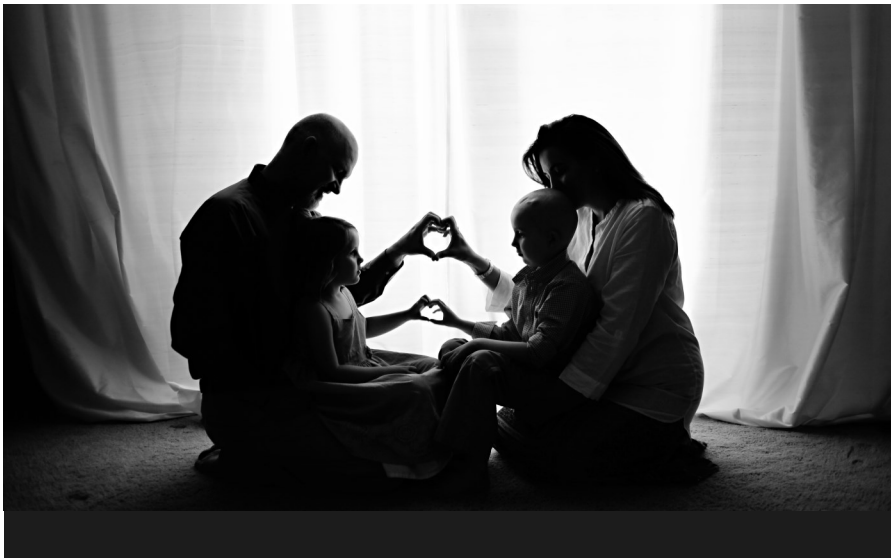
Family Promise will be taking place at First UMCG from Sunday, February 21st—28th. Family Promise is a church networking ministry where up to 4 homeless families stay at local churches for an entire week. We will be hosting and serving up to four homeless families beginning the 3rd Sunday in February. We are still in need of people who are willing to: make a meal, set up rooms for our guests, break down rooms once they leave, and to stay overnight while they are here. If you have an interest in being involved in Family Promise, please contact Dyann O'Brien at dyannob@gmail.com or you may sign up on the church website. The website has been updated with a form with specific volunteer needs.



Family Ministries—Team wants to grow!!

Do you enjoy the different opportunities to join your church family with the community? The Spring Picnic? The Fall Luau? Chili and Caroling? Fall Festival? Come join our Family Ministries team and you too can help out with these exciting events. Just contact Kristy Bottesch at k.bottesch@me.com and become a part of this vital mission of our church. The team meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm. All are WELCOME! We are currently planning the Spring Picnic which is set of March 20th, mark your calendars.





Help Grow Your Family This Year

By Marsha Lehman, Director of Children Ministries

It's February. How many of us have kept the resolutions we made this year, or have we even started the ones from last year? We changed the calendar last month and saw that another 12 months have passed. We just thought about the things we said we'd do the last time we changed the calendar and got discouraged-again. I know, because I do the same thing!

We all feel like we'd have to rearrange our entire life to make any difference in our kid's lives. The truth is, little changes over time make a huge difference. It will take a little time but the little changes become huge when done regularly.

You can use four little words – Hear, Pray, Talk, Live – to help you make a little change that has huge results in your family.

HEAR – How does your family hear God? What is one little thing you can do this week to help your child hear from Him?

PRAY – Do you pray with your kids at mealtime, bedtime, before school? Could you set aside a minute or two to start?

TALK – When was the last time you talked about your understanding of God with your child? Do they know where you are on your faith journey?

LIVE – How are you showing your child how you live out your faith? Is it worship? Service? What is a little thing you can do to help them understand that faith isn't just a part of how we live. It determines everything about who we are as we live out our lives.

You could start Sunday by bring your kids (and yourself) to FirstKIDS. keep coming back and it adds up to relationships, knowledge, fun, and boy, does God smile!

Welcome Back Welcomaires

Last year as part of the Centennial Celebration the Welcomaires amazing harmonies of traditional gospel music.. We are overjoyed to have them back!



Sunday, March 13th
Supper at 5pm
Concert at 6pm

Come see our own Glenn Compton with his Gospel group from North Carolina. There will be a free will offering benefiting Imagine No Malaria.

TOPS Open House

Taking Off Pounds Sensibly is a national organization that doesn't pay celebrities to endorse the program, but is a hands-on, pounds-off approach to weight loss.

The program provides tools, information, support, accountability that you need to be successful. The TOPS organization will host a "Love Yourself" Open House here on Tuesday, February 16th in the Activity Center from 6pm—8pm to answer any questions you may have.

Lord, what do You want to do through me? Not an equal share, but an equal sacrifice.

The Power of Praying Together

Jesus deliberately emphasized the significance of praying together. Matthew 18:20; "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." The focus of Jesus on more than one praying indicates that there is a design in such gatherings, through which He uniquely and powerfully works. His purposes are accelerated when we pray together.

This doesn't minimize personal prayer alone but instead, highlights that the degree of spiritual transformation God is seeking in our lives, our church, our community and our country gains power through praying together.

Every Tuesday at 1:30pm Pastor Deborah and Rita Wagner (Prayer Ministry Chair) are praying in the Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to join them.

Or reach out to your own family members and friends and create your own prayer group.



New Central East District Superintendent

Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata has appointed Rev. Susan Brims to serve as the District Superintendent of the Central East District effective July 1, 2016. Rev Brims succeeds the Rev. Dr. Robert Burns, who recently announced his retirement. Rev. Brims currently is serving as pastor of Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church, Glendale. Please keep Rev. Brims, her family and everyone at Dove of the Desert UMC in prayer in this time of transition and change.



February Birthday Celebrations

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Hayley Vallera | 13 Mike Klinkner |
| 2 Kim Updegraff | 14 Carol Miller |
| Ray Vallera | 15 Samantha Willis |
| 3 Kristy Bottesch | 16 Sue Gepfert Bonenfant |
| 4 Paul Warg | Linda Honaker |
| 5 Shawn Slamka | Mary Vrana |
| 6 Akaysha St. Pierre | 17 Riley Norris |
| 7 Katie Kimbrough | 18 Heather Ball |
| Carl Panco | Deanna Helland |
| 8 Pam Campbell | 19 Marissa Contreras |
| Mackenzie Kopp | Sharon Dalton |
| Rick Signor | 21 Teri Becker |
| 9 Mitchell Wiemers | Chris Eggen |
| 10 Gilbert Peppin | Sally Poeske |
| 11 Samantha Schleiger | 22 Tommy Campbell |
| Cecil Stapleton | 24 Glen Compton |
| Lisa Strazz | 25 Kyle Gill |
| Cameron Williamson | Chinua Hadson-Taylor |
| 12 Patricia Dill | Dan Vrana |
| Carlene DuAmarell | 28 Janelle Chiricuzio |
| Dorinda Johns | Mary Decker |
| June Morrison | 29 Rick Frazier |
| Scott Ouellette | |

February Anniversary Celebrations

- 3 Andre & Jennifer St. Pierre - 11 yrs
 6 David & Susan Waechter - 28 yrs
 14 Bruce & Terry Bettis - 12 yrs
 Wes & Carlene DuAmarell - 47 yrs
 20 David & Marisol Harriss - 17 yrs



If we have inadvertently missed your birthday or anniversary, contact Adriana at 480-892-9166 or secretary@gilbertumc.org

Youth News

SUPER BOWL PARTY

Join us on Sunday, February 7th from 4:00-8:00pm in the Activity Center for Super Bowl Sunday! There will be a lot happening on Super Bowl Sunday: the big game projected on the big wall, gift card giveaways, inflatable fun, and food! We are doing “potluck style” where each student needs to bring a gameday snack/appetizer to share and one drink. Invite a friend, cheer on your team, and have some fun!



NO SUNDAY GATHERINGS – WINTER CAMP

Because the youth will be at Mingus Mountain for Winter Camp on February 14th, there will not be any Sunday School or Sunday Evening Youth Group. We will resume normal gatherings the following week, February 21st.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

On Saturday, February 20th, the FUMC-Gilbert Youth will pack food boxes at Feed My Starving Children from 2:00-4:00pm. Spaces are limited for this fun event, so please make sure to reserve your spot with Ryan by contacting him at youthministry@gilbertumc.org.

NEW TEXT MESSAGING PLATFORM

We have a new text messaging subscription platform because our old one decided it was done sending text messages and would rather send telegrams (not really, but it’s gone for good). To subscribe to all Youth updates through text, please text **@fumcgil** to phone number 81010. Follow the instructions and you’ll be signed up!

Looking for Gently Used Computers and Wi-Fi Equipment



Have you bought a new Wi-Fi router, computer, tablet, or laptop recently? If so, you may have your “old” equipment laying around and taking up space. Donate them to Church’s IT program and help us refresh some of the computers in the Wesley Room and Youth Room.

Concerned about your data? We will securely wipe your computer before using it, or give you a CD that you can use to wipe it yourself. Drop off computers at the Church Office or Wesley Room. Questions? Contact Philip Tesarek at ptesarek@hotmail.com or (480) 510-4588. Thank you!

UMC Book Club

February 18th 11:30am at June Morrison’s home. The book is “Cutting for Stone” written by Abraham Verghese.

Contact June at 480-892-4777 or email Jnmorrison10@aol.com to notify her if you plan to attend. Bring a sack lunch or snack. Call Chris Thompson with any questions, 480-201-1152.



Contact Us

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

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Gilbert, AZ 85233
480-892-9166

www.firstgilbert.church
info@gilbertumc.org
<http://www.facebook.com/FUMCofgilbert>

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:00 Traditional Service
9:00—9:30 Coffee Hour
9:30 Traditional Service
10:30—11:00 Coffee Hour
11:00 Contemporary Service

Adult Sunday School
8am, 9:30am & 11am
FirstKIDZ 9:30am & 11am
Professional Nursery
7:45am—12:30pm

Not an equal share, but an equal sacrifice.



UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF GILBERT