

# The Evangel



First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

July 2018



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CHURCH OF GILBERT

331 S Cooper Road  
Gilbert, AZ 85233

480-892-9166

Office Hours:  
Monday-Thursday  
8:30am-4:30pm  
Friday by appointment

## Volunteer Opportunities



### Prayer Note Writers

Our Congregational Care prayer team is in need of persons who can assist with writing notes to persons sending in prayer requests each week. The ideal candidate would have the gifts of encouragement and faith, know the Bible, be able to keep the confidentiality of the requests, and be a person who cares deeply for others. The note writers meet Mondays at 9:30 AM in room 133. Training will be provided.

### Birthday/Anniversary Cards

Congregational Care sends out Birthday and anniversary cards to all our members and constituents each year. If you would like to join the group that makes the cards, we need you! We also can use your extra new store-bought cards. To join in this effort, contact Molly Belcher at [billandmollie@hotmail.com](mailto:billandmollie@hotmail.com) or Pastor Diamond at [pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org)

## Congregational Care Support Groups

For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Diamond at [pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org)



New session starts  
August 11th Saturdays  
9:00 - 10:30 am  
Room 140

For those grieving the loss of  
someone close to them



Wednesdays  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

A support group for those  
experiencing Trauma or PTSD

## New Congregational Care support groups:



### Parents with Young Children

This support group is for  
parents who have new  
babies or a child under 12 months.

**Sundays 9:30 am • Room 201**

To join contact Lydia and Matt Ramirez at  
[lydiamramirez@gmail.com](mailto:lydiamramirez@gmail.com)

### Living Grace



A Christ-centered approach for families

Start dates and times to come soon!

To join contact Dawn Sukis at  
[dawnsukis@yahoo.com](mailto:dawnsukis@yahoo.com)

## Adult Education Classes coming in August:

### Wed Nights with meal at 5:45, classes at 6:30, Begins August 8th

#### Journey 101 – Prerequisite Alpha

(Pastor Rick, facilitator) – Room 133

While Alpha is about the faith, Journey 101 is a series of three 6 week classes that give the essentials to live out the Christian faith. It is designed to help us grow as Christians.

Knowing God (Aug 8 – Sept 12) – Discover tools to deepen your understanding of God and the Scriptures. (6 weeks)

Loving God (Sept 19 – Oct 24) – Experience spiritual practices that will help you to love God and others. (6 weeks)

Serving God (Nov 7-Dec 19) – Learn how you can serve others and share Christ. (6 weeks)

#### Journey 202 – (Classes are open to all)

Disciple II Bible Study – Aug 8 -- ending Feb 2019, —Into the word into the world. Molly Hahn, teacher. (24 weeks) Room 201

Becoming a Contagious Christian – Aug 8 – Sept 12 Learn how to share your faith. Pastor Diamond facilitator. (6 weeks) –Room 142

Three Simple Rules -- Sept 26 – Nov 7 A Wesleyan Way of Living; Do no harm, Do good, Stay in love with God. Pastor Diamond facilitator. (6 weeks)- Room 142

#### Starting in November

Disciple I Bible Study – (Starting Nov 14) Sylvia Harris, teacher, 24 weeks, Room 142

Disciple I will present an overview of the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Participants will read portions of the Bible and the Guidebook as homework each day and come to the study to discuss it. This study is a valuable resource to a general knowledge of the Bible.

### Wednesday Night beginning August 8th, 6:30-8:00 (meal at 5:45)

#### New! Thursday night with meal included!

Alpha - Thursdays, August 9- October 25 - 6:00pm – (Leadership team – Pastor Diamond and Mike Miller) – Activity Center

Alpha begins with a Celebration Dinner on August 2nd at 6:00pm. The eleven-week class follows starting on August 9th. This class is an excellent refresher course for longtime Christians, and a chance for exploring Christians to ask questions about the faith. It gives you everything you need to know that is foundational to our faith.

**Look for these classes in Spring 2019** Leadership from the Heart, Five Practices of Fruitful Living, Serving from the Heart, Follow Me, Financial Peace, Bible Study, Alpha, Disciple 1 continued, Disciple 2 continued



**Gilbert Men's Ministry**  
**Pathfinders Breakfast Invitation**  
**"Being a Christian Man in a Me Too World"**  
**Saturday July 21 • 7 - 8:30am • Activity Center**  
Please RSVP to Sean Comstock: [seanrcom@gmail.com](mailto:seanrcom@gmail.com)

- Come enjoy a hearty breakfast
- Meet men for spiritual growth and support
- Personal testimonial & life sharing
- Audio & Video correlation
- Opportunities for involvement in Gilbert Men's Ministry

## Family Promise July 15 – 22!

Family Promise partners with over 30 interfaith congregations across the Valley to provide safe overnight shelter, food and compassion to families in crisis. Each congregation hosts up to 4 families for one week at a time.

Volunteers set up and breakdown sleeping rooms, help make dinner for the families, serve as an overnight host and do laundry. Please consider joining us in giving these families the hand-up that they need to get back to self-sufficiency.

To find out how you can get involved, for this and future weeks, email DyAnn O'Brien at [dyannob@gmail.com](mailto:dyannob@gmail.com). To learn more about this life-changing program visit [www.familypromiseaz.org](http://www.familypromiseaz.org).

Set course for the  
**Explorer's Luncheon**

A casual lunch where we can learn more about you and hear your questions about your faith journey and the church.

For more information, contact Sylvia at [connection@gilbertumc.org](mailto:connection@gilbertumc.org)

Aloha *from*  
Family Ministries



*Potluck dinner • Fun trivia • Hawaiian music  
Games • Bingo with prizes • Slip-n-Slide kickball*

**First United Methodist Church of Gilbert – in the activity center**

## Alpha

**Introductory Class and  
Celebration Dinner**



**Thursday August 2 • 6 pm • Activity Center**

Previous Alpha attendees are encouraged to participate and bring guests.



Lora Norris  
Adrienne Mesa  
480-892-9166  
[preschool@gilbertumc.org](mailto:preschool@gilbertumc.org)

**A** Always read a bedtime story... and a mid-morning story, when the kids aren't too tired!

If they want to read the same story over and over, then follow their lead and go for it! If they want to "read" the book and it's

not completely accurate, it's ok! Let them pretend to read!

"As your young child listens to stories, he learns that all good stories have a beginning, middle, and end. He also learns to predict, based on the book cover, what the story will be about, as well as what might happen next or how the story will end. Young children learn that there are characters in stories and a particular setting (where and when it takes place). Your child will enjoy comparing the characters in a book to him/herself and to other real life people he knows." *Adapted from www.pbs.org*

**B** Bible Stories and Verses are important!

Invest in a children's bible. There are many to choose from at the Christian book stores. Choose one with lots of pictures. That will make it interesting and memorable for the preschoolers. Choose one bible verse a week to talk about and memorize. Choose one that is meaningful to your family. Here are some ideas to get you started:

"Love your neighbor as you love yourself" Luke 10:27b

"The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with JOY" Psalm 126:3

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above. " James 1:17

## **C Compare Objects and Investigate!**

Three and four-year-olds approach the world with great curiosity and use their imaginations to help understand it. Hands-on explorations help them to separate reality from fantasy. Encourage preschoolers to ask and answer questions about how, why, and what if...?

Find some fun Inquiry based Science activities at:

<http://www.education.com/activity/preschool/science/>

Enroll Today! We have openings in our T/Th 3s class and in Parent Tot, W or Th, for the 2018-2019 school year! We'd love to have you as part of our preschool family! If you're interested in more information, call us for a tour or visit:

<http://gilbertumcpreschool.com/>



FUMC of Gilbert Preschool



Gilbertpreschool



@gilpreschool



## June Program • Preschool



"I have hidden your word in my heart."  
Psalm 119:11

## Elementary

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" **Philippians 1:6**



## Preteen



### Sunday Mornings

FirstKidz  
Sunday School for  
Elementary Children  
at 9:30am  
Kid's Worship at  
11:00am

### Nursery

Professionally staffed  
nursery from  
8:00 am-12:30pm.

## Thank You Leaders!

Thank you to all our small group leaders for their commitment to our kids this past year! Your donation of time and love in helping each one with his or her walk with Christ is a blessing to our children's ministry.



## Adult Volunteers needed for 2018/19 Youth

Regular youth programs & Sunday school will return in August. Seeking 2 male & 2 female adults for each of our Junior high & Senior high class rooms. We wish to break up into smaller gender based groups for fruitful small group discussions. Please contact Ray asap if you are interested in helping our youth in any capacity.

## 2 Youth Mission Trips in July

Junior high: 10 volunteers head West to serve with the Youth Works organization in San Diego, Ca. Sunday July 1st and return Friday evening July 6th.

Senior high: 17 volunteers drive up North to serve with SSP in Tsaile, Az on Sunday July 8th & return late Saturday evening July 14th.

We thank you for all your financial & moral support and ask that you continue to pray for Youth Works, Sierra Service Project, the people & communities we will serve, for safe travels and all of us to be touched and used as God would have to further his kingdom.

## Family Promise Youth Dinner is Friday July 20th 4-9 pm

Volunteers needed to prep, cook, serve and hang out with families we've welcomed to our campus July 15-22. All are welcome to join us for part of or the entire evening.

## Youth Summer Volleyball

We have 2 teams of 31 total students with a mix between junior high & senior high students. The end of the season tournament will be on July 28th at First Mesa with an award ceremony & gathering here at 1st Gilbert on July 29th.

## \*Youth Praise Band- "Follow the Leader"

We're searching for 3 more youth to join the Youth Praise Band or we will not have enough youth to continue forward with this terrific program. Rehearsals are held during Sunday mornings before 9:30 am service. All are welcome. Contact Ray if interested.

## School Returns

Chandler & Higley school districts return on Monday July 23, 2018.

Gilbert district returns on Thursday August 2, 2018

Mesa district returns on Wednesday August 8th, 2018.

\*Upcoming event: Salt River Tubing at Saguaro Lake Ranch in August 2018. Cost is \$18 per person this year.

Stay informed, watch for the weekly Youth News emails and Remind app updates that are sent out on Thursday's. We also have a Google calendar, link is in our Youth News.

# Birthdays / Anniversaries

## Birthdays in July

Sean Comstock	1
Sarah Lazbin	
Patricia Baker	2
Annabelle Ennis	
Deborah Lestor	
Leonidas Ouellette	
Kelly Sanders	
Helen Williams	
Lesieli Ouellette	3
Sarah Butler	7
Singlia Kopp	
Kamryn Bayer	9
Madison Lutes	
Sandra Campbell	10
Jeni Hemingson	11
Sydney Haugen	12
Xavier Ouellette	
David Yoder	
Kathryn Turnrose	13
Margo Doss	14
Trevor Lang	
Alma Riedek	
George Skinner	
Suzanna Lawson	15
Grant Lawson	

Jose Duran	16
Brianna Wiemers	
Ruth Heer	17
Carolyn Bilski	18
Stacy Cantwell	19
Odus Elliott	
Carlie Reidel	20
Steven Breedlove	21
Tyler Houseman	
Ronald Dalton	22
Linda McKinley	
JeanPost	
Lane Ramirez	
David Mittner	23
Joe Strazz	
Tom Bristow	24
Samatha Lawson	
Bill Van Dam	
Reagan Campbell	25
Benjamin Bouchie	27
Garin Campbell	
Kim Bowers	28
Kay Pealstrom	29
Jason Rowley	31



## Anniversaries in July



Anniversary Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
2	Steven and Jennifer Burks	24
2	Joe and Ruby Rosemond-Taylor	48
4	Lori and Bill Van Dam	42
11	Kyle and Sandy Kurtyka	9
22	Mike and Linda Cranford	57
22	Dwight and Joyce Metcalf	29
23	Leroy and Pam Johnson	30
26	Ernie and Anita Broughton	43
26	Bobby and Sarah Metz	21
26	Daniel and Brittainy Murphy	10
28	Kevin and Beth Boesch	17
28	Norma and Dorothy Haskett	45
31	Jerry and Caroline Ward	42

## Look What Your Giving is Helping Us Do!

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our church. During the month of June, your donations to the church's General Fund:

Provided space, staff and volunteers for our church's Vacation Bible School June 4-8. About 150 kids attended, including 91 kids from 52 families who are not currently part of our church family. What a blessing to our community, and our church.

Provided space, supplies, and farewell gifts from our church, as our Staff Parish Relations Committee organized the recognition and farewell reception for Pastor Gwen and Pastor Deborah. It's hard to say good bye to our pastors who have done so much for our church in their time with us, We pray that God will continue to bless them on their journeys.

Provided space, supplies and volunteers for our new Parents with Young Children Group, which began Sunday morning meetings on June 3. Seven people attended their first meeting. This group will meet starting August 5th. This group provides valuable support for these families. 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"!

May financial statement summaries are available in the church office. If you have any questions about the church's finances, or if you would like to receive a copy of the financial statements, please contact Brian O'Brien, Finance Chair ([Financechair@gilbertumc.org](mailto:Financechair@gilbertumc.org)) or Deanna Helland, Treasurer/Church Accountant (480-892-9166, [accountant@gilbertumc.org](mailto:accountant@gilbertumc.org)).

Whether you're at a beach, museum, amusement park, airport or resort a thousand miles from home, it's easy to make a gift to our church through one of your devices. You can use our on-line donation page, the QR code below, or the Joyfully 2 UMC app on your smart phone. You can even send your gifts by text with your smart phone. Before you go away on vacation, make it a priority to set up your online or digital giving option and then set it to reoccur automatically while you are away. There is no better show of loyalty and care for our church than to support it while you are away having fun.



Giving





## 2018 UMOM WALK to End Homelessness

You can talk the talk, but can you walk the walk...to end homelessness? Join us for a 1K race to raise money and awareness for families, single women, and youth experiencing homelessness.

Help us make history as we attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most people completing a 1k race (run/walk) in flip flops!

**Saturday, September 22, 2018**  
**Phoenix Zoo**  
**455 N Galvin Pkwy, Phoenix, AZ 85008**  
**6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M**

\*Each ticket purchased includes a commemorative t-shirt, flip-flops, and all-day access to the Phoenix Zoo on the day of the event. The Missions Committee will also be providing each person that signs up with a cooling towel\*

Sign up before September 10 and get early bird rates!

To register go to <https://walkthewalk.rallybound.org>

Click on **Register, Join an existing walk team, First UMC Gilbert**

E-mail Sherrona Johnson at [mysherrona.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:mysherrona.johnson@gmail.com) with any questions.