



The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

September 2018

God is still at work!
Do you see it in the
world around you?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Ministry Series 2
- Blessing of the Pets..... 3
- Care/Stephen Ministry 4
- Adult Education 5
- Events 6
- Missions.....7
- Preschool 8
- Children’s Ministry..... 10
- Youth Ministry 13
- Birthdays/Anniversaries 14
- Finance 15
- Walk for UMOM 16



CHURCH OF GILBERT

331 S Cooper Road
Gilbert, AZ 85233

480-892-9166

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



In a world absorbed by technology and consumed in material belongings, it is time to stop, step away, take a breath, open our eyes, and see the work of God around us. God created this world—the air, the water, the sky, and all the creatures roaming in the wild and in our homes.

During the month of September we are going to take time to consider this creation and how God calls us to interact and love this creation. We will look at biblical imagery of planting, mountains, sky, harvest and blessing. God is still at work! Do we see it in the world around us?

On the last Sunday, September 30, we will have a blessing of our pets. Please see next page for more important information about this special blessing.



Week 1: September 2	Planting Sunday	Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Week 2: September 9	Mountain Sunday	Psalm 125
Week 3: September 16	Sky Sunday	Psalm 19
Week 4: September 23	Harvest Sunday	Psalm 1
Week 5: September 30	Blessing All Creatures	Psalm 124



Blessing of the Pets and Animals

On the last Sunday of the month, September 30, we will have a blessing of the pet pictures. Instead of having pets and animals brought in for blessing, we are asking for you to send in photos of your pets so we can extend a blessing to the beautiful creatures God has put into our care!

Please send those pictures to Pastor Diamond by September 15. Make sure to include the pet's name!

pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org



Take this chance to bless the animals that are close to your



The **2018 DSWUMC Conference Journal** is now available in print or online at:

dscumc.org/journal



Congregational Care Support Groups

For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Diamond at pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org



Saturdays
9:00 - 10:30 am
Room 140

For those grieving the loss of someone close to them



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 200

To join contact Lydia and Matt Ramirez at lydiamramirez@gmail.com

Living Grace



A Christ-centered approach for families

Start dates and times to come soon!

To join contact Dawn Sukis at dawnksukis@yahoo.com

stephen
MINISTRY

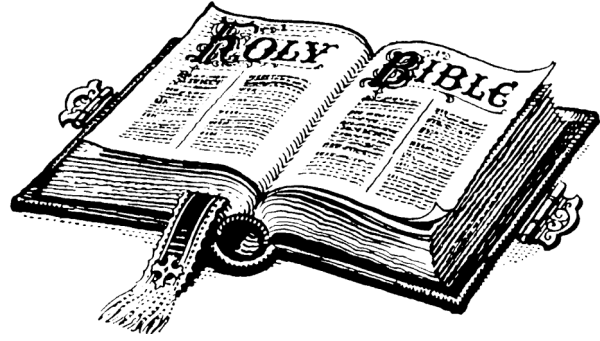
Christ caring for people through people



Do you want to learn more about Stephen Ministry?

Please contact Pastor Diamond at pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org

New Adult Education Classes Starting in September



Loving God • Sept 19 – Oct 24

Experience spiritual practices that will help you to love God and others.
Pastor Rick, facilitator (6 weeks)

Three Simple Rules • Sep 26 – Nov 7

A Wesleyan Way of Living: Do no Harm; Do good; Stay in love with God.
Pastor Diamond, facilitator. (6 weeks)

For more information and to enroll, please contact Office at 480-892-9166

teacher spirituality RECONCILIATION YOUTH

DISCERNMENT FORMING DISCIPLES

ON THE ROAD WORSHIP mission FAMILY

STORYTELLING SOCIAL MEDIA **CHRISTIANITY** CONNECTION

ADULT FORMATION INTERCULTURAL RESOURCES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES PARENTING & TRAINING

A LIFELONG CHRISTIAN FORMATION CONFERENCE

SENIORS
 AUGUST 17 | CHRIST CHURCH | NACOGDOCHES
 SEPTEMBER 7 | ST. MATTHEW'S | AUSTIN
 SEPTEMBER 21 | CCC | HOUSTON

The Church Office will be closed
Monday September 3 in observance of Labor Day

Gilbert Men's Ministry
Pathfinders Breakfast Invitation
"Last year's clothes don't fit"
Saturday September 15 • 7 - 8:30am •
Activity Center

Please RSVP to MensGroup@gilbertumc.org

- 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



2018 Mingus Mountain Family Camp Registration

Registration for the Family Camp at Mingus Mountain is now open! Adults are welcome – you do not need to be a family with children to attend the camp.

Our theme for the weekend is "Walking with Jesus." This will be a relaxing and fun weekend, beginning Friday, October 12 at 7:00 pm, ending after lunch on Sunday, October 14. Depending on the weather, activities including the zip line, climbing wall, and archery will be offered. We are hoping to offer a hayride and campfire with s'mores. A craft time and hiking will also be available. We will experience informal devotionals and outdoor Sunday morning worship.

For more information, contact Katharine Keller at
480-982-3776 or ladiebug1214@gmail.com

Register online at dscumc.org/family-camp-2018/



Medical Mission Trip to Guatemala

Paradise Valley UMC is inviting anyone interested in a week long medical mission trip in March of 2019 to come to a luncheon meeting at noon on September 9th for more information.

The trip is contingent on having enough doctors / nurse practitioners.

Team lead is Don Wall Donald.wall@squirepb.com

The Busiest Time of the Year

Although it remains to be incredibly hot outside, our mission hearts start preparing for the upcoming holiday season. First UMC Gilbert has faithfully supported Thanksgiving Turkey Dinners for families, Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes, and Senior Angels. This year we will be working with Gilbert Elementary School to help children and teachers with need they may have this fall and Winter. The marvelous thing about supporting is that you can do little thing or several little things. All help translates to making the body of Christ stronger and more powerful.

If you are interested in helping please contact Adriana at adriana.143.10@gmail.com or please join us at our monthly Mission Meetings. The meetings are the second Sunday of each month at 12:30 pm in room 133. Anyone can join us! Even if you are curious and not ready to join, reaching out is the first step to opening a new and exciting door .



Lora Norris
Adrienne Mesa
480-892-9166
preschool@gilbertumc.org

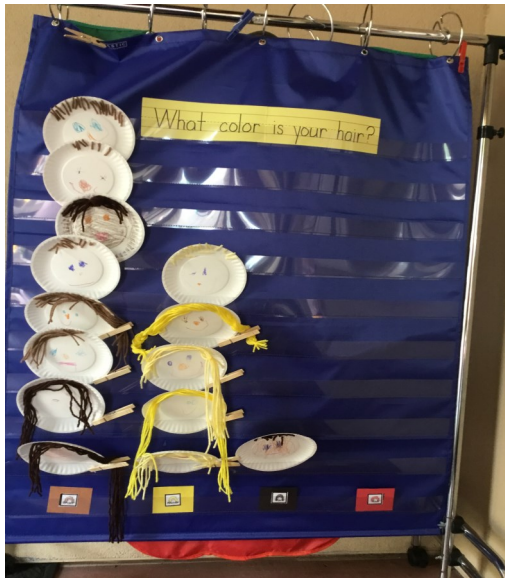
Preschool News



What a great start to the school year! We had a great first few weeks with over 50 preschoolers on campus each week. Our classrooms are filled with 2, 3, 4, and 5 year olds, with both new and returning families. Thank you to the church community and the Preschool Ministry Team for helping to create such a loving, welcoming environment for the preschoolers and families!

During August, the students and teachers spend time getting to know one another, learn the classroom routine and behavior expectations. On the third week of school, we dove into academics, learning about God's Creations.

Bible Verse - "And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."



Parent/Tot class, enroll today-
Your 2-year-old can come to preschool with the comfort of their own special adult! We have openings in our Wednesday class! Invite a friend to come tour the school and learn more about our Parent Tot program!



Fry's Fundraiser- Did you know you can support our church preschool just by shopping at Fry's? It's easy when you enroll in Fry's Community Rewards! Just go online to FrysCommunityRewards.com, log in to or create your account, scroll down to community rewards, and type in **80635** , click save. You'll find us under "Faith Based" or "all". You're all set! Your savings help us to earn money for our wonderful program. Thank you!

Missions- Our preschool contributed to the Gilbert Food Bank by donating peanut butter and jelly to make back to school lunches for local families.

Way to go!


Grandparents' Day Breakfasts- September 5th or 6th from 8:15 9:00am
We love our Grandparents and special loved ones! The preschoolers will host




their special person on one of these mornings in the Activity Center. They will eat a breakfast snack, play a game and spend some memorable time together.

“Grandparents Brighten Our World”

If you have any questions about the preschool, please contact Lora Norris or Adrienne Mesa at preschool@gilbertumc.org or call 480 892 9166.

 FUMC of Gilbert Preschool

 Gilbertpreschool

 @gilpreschool



September 2018 Children's ministry

September 2018 - Monthly Preschool Parent Cue

 **SEPTEMBER 2018** 

COLORIFIC

WEEK 1

EXODUS 3, PSALM 118:7
God speaks to Moses from a burning bush to tell him what to do and promises to be with him.

WEEK 2

EXODUS 13:17-18; 14
God parts the Sea so Moses can safely lead the Israelites across dry ground.

WEEK 3

GENESIS 12:2-3, 18:1-15, 21:1-6
God keeps His promise and gives Abraham and Sarah a son after they had waited a long time.

WEEK 4

GENESIS 6:8-33, 7:1-20
Noah trusts that God's plan is best and obeys everything God tells him to do.

WEEK 5

GENESIS 8:1—9:17
God keeps Noah and his family safe and then gives the rainbow as a sign of a new promise.

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.

SAY THIS:

Who keeps His promises?
God keeps His promises.

REMEMBER THIS:

"Trust the Lord with
all your heart."
PROVERBS 3:5, NCV

BASIC TRUTH: God loves me.



It's time for our 3rd graders to receive their bibles and this year we will be having a bible exploration class for them to explore with their bibles! Aryn Peppin and Janelle Chiricuzio will be leading this class as we

encourage them to take an interest in their very own Bibles, and help them learn to navigate through them. This class offers a fun, hands-on approach, with maps, games, and charts! Please register for this class by August 26th. Starting on September 9th, this class will run Sundays during the regular small group time 9:30 in room 204.

Our offering this month will go towards the UMOM shelter. Consider signing up for the family walk at the zoo Sept 22nd!



We are looking for more leaders and helpers in our children's ministry! If you have a talent or calling to help minister to our kids: now is the time to volunteer! Please email children's ministry to find out the different needs we have open.

childrensministry@gilbertumc.org

252 KIDS**SEPTEMBER
2018**GRADES
K-5**MONTHLY OVERVIEW****GOD VIEW: THE CONNECTION BETWEEN INITIATIVE AND GOD'S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD'S BIG STORY**

All month long, we'll be taking a closer look at one of the best examples of someone who showed initiative even when he didn't have to.

When God saw our sin, He took initiative. He sent Jesus to make things right. When we see a need and choose to do something about it, people can see the reality of God's love for them.

**WEEK
ONE****BIBLE STORY:**
Nehemiah Hears About the Wall
Nehemiah 1:1-2:1-9**BOTTOM LINE**
Be on the lookout for what needs to be done.**WEEK
TWO****BIBLE STORY:**
Nehemiah Plans to Rebuild the Wall
Nehemiah 2:11-18**BOTTOM LINE**
Don't wait for someone else to do what needs to be done.**WEEK
THREE****BIBLE STORY:**
Nehemiah Helps the Poor
Nehemiah 5:1-12**BOTTOM LINE**
Don't wait for someone else to help people in need.**WEEK
FOUR****BIBLE STORY:**
Nehemiah and Sanballat
Nehemiah 2:19-20, 4,6**BOTTOM LINE**
Stay focused on what needs to be done.**WEEK
FIVE****BIBLE STORY:**
The Wall is Rebuilt
Nehemiah 3-4, 6:15-16, 8:1-17**BOTTOM LINE**
Look for ways to celebrate what God has done.**MEMORY VERSE****"WORK AT EVERYTHING YOU DO WITH ALL YOUR HEART. WORK AS IF YOU WERE WORKING FOR THE LORD."**COLOSSIANS 3:23A,
NIRV

September Youth News

CHRYSALIS / Oct 12-14, 2018

CHRYSALIS is the name for the **Youth Walk to Emmaus**. This is a 3 day spiritual renewal retreat providing an opportunity to learn more about faith, experience Christian love & support, and a chance to make new commitments in their faith journey. Content focuses on; God's grace, how one experiences Christ, and how one is called into discipleship. CHRYSALIS is open to young people 15-23 years old of any denomination. If you're interested or have questions [please contact Barb Burford @ 602-616-2567](mailto:barb.burford@gilbertumc.org)



Wednesday 9/12 – Youth Dinner w/Mission Trip Pictures & Reports

Seeking volunteers to help us with dinner, share their testimony and gather pictures students or leaders have from trips. We also need help with putting together the slide shows. If you'd like to help in any way, please email Ray a.s.a.p. We'll also have a youth & family mission trip dinner gathering Sunday 9/16/18.



Ray Vallera- Director of Family & Youth Ministries

Contact info: youthministry@gilbertumc.org or 602-291-1968

Birthdays / Anniversaries

Birthdays in September

Audrey Lutes	1
Gail Greely	2
Catherine Panella	
Kimberly Fairley	3
Harper Leinhase	
Julie Brooks	6
Emliy Crann	
Melissa Coleman	7
Chris Cantwell	8
Tom Knoll	
Dan Hahn	9
Ashley Minks	10
Cindie Remopel	12
Lindsey Sutton	
Kathryn Church	13
Eric Butler	14
Page Cantwell	
Robert Hartmann	
Sarah Metz	
Laura Boever	15
Leah Harris	16
JoBeth Minks	
Christopher Odell	17
Ryan Palmer	19
Marilyn Pell	



Maia Chiricuzio	20
Zachary Young	
Alexandra Housemann	21
Andrew Ball	22
Katie Bouchie	23
Cayden Bruce	
Addie Fairley	
Jeannie Hirsch	
Bruce Woolsey	
Elinore Englebrecht	24
Lisa Martin	
Danny Minks	25
Alexis Ryan	
Chloe Smith	
Adrian Kurtyka	26
Alexander Martin	27
Lydia Ramirez	
James Shuler	
Julia Thompson	

Anniversaries in September



Anniversary Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
2	Greg and Kelcy Skinner	18
7	Leroy and Elinore Englebrecht	71
7	Bill and Lisa Martin	27
8	Jim and Pat Bohart	49
9	Stuart ad Lori Wiemers	23
12	Richard and Judy Pierce	59
15	Lynn Ingalls and JoAnn Mannion	21
19	Michael and Sylvia Harris	9
20	Kenneth and Julie Brooks	38

Look What You Have Helped Us Do!

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our church.

During the month of August, your donations to the church's General Fund:

- Provided staff, volunteers, space and support for our new Alpha class that started on August 2. 4 volunteer leaders and 16 students are attending this Thursday night class.
- Provided space and support for our Preschool, with classes for the 2018-2019 year starting on August 6 and 7. This school year we have 4 preschool classes with a total of 50 children, plus 2 parent tot classes with a total of 9 adult/child pairs, and 2 Lunch Bunch groups.
- Provided staff, volunteers, space and support for our new Wednesday night support group, Family Grace, which started on August 8. This group provides support for families impacted by mental illness. 74 people are attending this support group.

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"!

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the letter that was mailed to the congregation at the end of June, requesting pledges or financial gifts to enhance our financial stability through the end of 2018. To date we have received a total of \$36,290 in one-time gifts and weekly/monthly pledge increases. What an outstanding response! This has been a huge help in getting us through these summer months.

July 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) or Deanna Helland, Treasurer/Church Accountant (480-892-9166, accountant@gilbertumc.org).

No matter where you happen to be on any particular Sunday, 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 to 480-712-1057. Why not make it a priority to set up your online or digital giving option? Then you can set it to reoccur automatically whether you are at worship or out of town. There is no better show of loyalty and care for our church than to support it even when you can't make it to Sunday morning worship.

If you have any questions about electronic giving options, or if you need help setting it up on your phone, tablet or computer, please contact:

Financial Secretary, Taleen Carpenter (480-892-9166, financialsecretary@gilbertumc.org), or Deanna Helland (480-892-9166, accountant@gilbertumc.org).



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 with any questions.

