

The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

May 2019



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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

Church Office will be closed
May 27th in observance of
Memorial day.

Be Safe and Have Fun!

A word from Randy Van Der Pol *Contemporary Worship Leader*

Q: How did you get involved in music?

I was very fortunate to grow up in a Christian home. My Mom played piano by ear, and I remember as a young child hearing her play hymns on the piano. I always felt that Music was the expression of the soul, and at a young age that was all I wanted to do. As I got older, I realized that there was nothing better than using the talents that God gave each and everyone of us for his glory and honor, which lead me into worship leading. It is very humbling that God has allowed me to be used in this way to help build his kingdom.



Q: Tell us about a significant moment in your journey to know Christ.

I gave my life to Christ at a Church camp when I was in the 8th grade. I remember it so vividly. I went down to the front, and dropped to my knees and prayed to God. I felt the Holy Spirit's power for the first time. It was overwhelming. I remember staying there for quite a while. I am certainly a "work in progress"! The one thing I do know is that the Holy Spirit has never, nor will ever, leave me.

Q: What role does music play in worship and enriching our relationship with Christ?

I feel music plays a very important role in worship. I know there are a lot of different styles of worship music: Traditional, Contemporary, Modern, and many others. I don't think God cares about what style of music we worship him with. I think what he really cares about is that we worship him with an "Open Heart."

Just as there are scriptures that come to mind when needed in difficult times of your life, praise songs and hymns can be used that way as well.

It can certainly lift up your soul! Have you noticed that it is really hard to be in a bad mood when you are singing worship songs to God?



The Praise Band will feature regulars and guest singers and musicians. Pictured here from left: Tim Ryan, David Dustman, Jackson Van Der Pol, Singlia Kopp, Melissa Van Der Pol, Randy Van Der Pol, Dirk Smith, Nathan Van Der Pol and Anthony Airdo. Not pictured Chris Slayton, Sherry Clack, Fred Perez, and Mark Turner.

Q: What vision do you have for the contemporary service at FUMC Gilbert?

I have a huge vision for FUMC Gilbert! I really think this service could grow tremendously. We have a great Church! My vision for the Contemporary service at FUMC Gilbert is to reach more people for Christ. The service has many intentionally “personal elements” about it. The purpose is for each person who attends to have a personal connection with Christ for all generations—*Randy*

Welcome New First UMC Gilbert Church Members

Be sure to say hi when you see them on campus and welcome them to the family of Christ at First United Methodist Church of Gilbert.



Brenda and Stan Strom have been long time members of the Methodist Church family. Originally, Brenda attended the ASU campus UMC while in college. They joined that church after they were married and baptized their first two sons there under Pastor Jane Tews. They followed her here and joined FUMC Gilbert where they completed their family baptisms with daughter Jackie. For the past five years, they helped start the Paloma Community Church which has a large outreach through youth soccer.

Now they are now empty nesters and are glad to rejoin our ministry with FUMC Gilbert. Their eldest son Jordan was married here in a private ceremony on Feb 8th, having found his bride Chancal in India after a two-year job assignment there. Brenda is a registered nurse at Phoenix Children's Hospital and Stan is a financial services professional in securities, insurance, and real estate. Pam Stressman is Stan's step-sister.

Kathy and Christopher Slayton moved from Alabama because of a job transfer for Chris. Since they moved, Kathy has found employment and they are settling into life in the desert. Chris has been using his musical gifts to bless us in the third service as a guest member of our Praise Band. Kathy enjoys art as well as sports, including baseball and softball.



Methodism 101

First UMC Gilbert will be starting a new two-hour class called Methodism 101.

This class will review the history of the church and what it means to call yourself a Methodist. We will explore the parts of our church that set us apart from other denominations as well as what we have in common with the Christian community as a whole. This class is the first step toward membership in our newly revised membership process but is open to all individuals in the church who want to learn more about the Methodist heritage. The classes will be held quarterly starting Thursday, May 9th at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Sylvia Harris at connection@gilbertumc.org. Childcare is available to those who RSVP by Monday, May 6th.



We are NOW enrolling students for the 2019-2020 school year.

Our preschool has classes for ages 2, 3, and 4/5 year olds! Our Parent Tot class with Mrs. Scharff is such great fun for two year olds and their caregiver!

Check out our website and give us a call for a tour! Please share this information with a friend.

What's been going on?

At the end of March the students enjoyed a study of Ladybugs in their classrooms! The four classes shared around 1500 ladybugs, learned about their lifecycle, what colors they could be, what they ate and how they help us in the garden. At the end of the week, they all got to take one ladybug home to their own gardens to continue their good work!



In April, we learned about eggs, gardens, and the butterfly life cycle! PreK students read their take home book "What Hatches?" to learn about what animals come from eggs.

Our study of the butterfly life cycle began with tiny caterpillars that came from Insect Lore! We watch them for several weeks. They got much bigger and fatter then turned into a chrysalis. After a few days, they emerged as painted lady butterflies! When we let them go, it's one of the most exciting days of the year!

May at FUMCG Preschool

On May 2nd, the preschoolers will perform their end of the year show, I Am Special, for their parents and families! We'll be in the sanctuary beginning at 5:30pm to sing songs and recite bible verses in celebration of the wonderful year we've had together!

On May 7th and 8th, we'll enjoy Muffins with Moms in the preschool courtyard. Moms come with picnic blankets and enjoy games and breakfast treats with their preschoolers. It's such a fun and sweet spring event!

Our last day of regular classes is May 10th!

Summer Camps!

During the week of May 13th, students have the option of joining one of our summer camps. This year they can sign up for Space Camp where they'll learn about the stars, planets, astronauts, and rockets or Critter Camp where they'll have real animals to pet and observe. Our students always have such fun with these extra days of learning before summer begins!

Children's Ministry



Throughout history, God has offered strength to help people persevere through difficult situations. Jesus persevered through death itself to make it possible for us to have a forever relationship with God. Because of what Jesus did for us, we can trust Him to help us find the strength to persevere through whatever we face. Our Elementary kids will talk

about Perseverance with the Disciples and Apostles after Christ gives them the great Commission.

When our preschoolers are faced with big things, we want them to remember to hop to it, because God will help them. So they will learn some bible stories to help with this theme.



“BUT THOSE WHO TRUST IN THE LORD WILL RECEIVE NEW STRENGTH. THEY WILL FLY AS HIGH AS EAGLES. THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GET TIRED. THEY WILL WALK AND NOT GROW WEAK.” ISAIAH 40:31, NIRV

Upcoming Events:

May 19th is **“move up”** Sunday school day!
June 2nd Summer **Sunday School Starts!**
June 3rd-7th 9am-12 noon **VBS.**

Vacation Bible School 2019

June 3rd-7th from 9am-12 noon

Join us for a fun week of bible stories, crafts, games, missions, and friendship as we **power up!**
Cost is \$35 per child with a \$75 family cap, financial assistance available upon request.
Register here: <http://gilbertumc.org/vbs>

We need volunteers from youth to adults; and donations or loans vintage gaming stuff—if you are can help please email Janelle at childrensministry@gilbertumc.org

Watch for the E-news updates!

Highlight:

Our Wednesday Wilds have been learning all about the many miracles of Jesus! While building with art supplies and Legos they get a chance to recreate what they learn about. We have a lot of fun learning more about Jesus each week!



May 2019 Youth Evangel News

Youth Volunteering and Community Service

On March 9th, 4 senior high representatives went to help serve dinner at the UMOM Halle Center. Ron Mason and 7 of our youth worked at St Vincent De Paul's Mesa Farm near Broadway Rd and S. MacDonald on March 23rd. Here is a quick note from Ron:

"The trip to the "farm" was great – the kids enjoyed the work, and the staff had great things to say about them – and the weather was phenomenal. We should definitely do this one again!" First Gilbert UMC and St Vincent's extends a big Thank You! THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE, TO FEED, CLOTHE, HOUSE AND HEAL THOSE IN NEED!



"Do Something!" Shirts
Our new shirts have arrived and remind us all to "Do Something".
See Ray to buy 1 for \$15



2019 Confirmation trip to an African Methodist Episcopal Church

Seven students along with Pastor Diamond, Ron, and Ray attended a 2-hour worship service on April 7th at the historic A.M.E. church in downtown Phoenix. We felt very welcomed and loved by our brothers and sisters at Tanner Chapel. We stopped for lunch at IHOP and shared wonderful conversation before returning to campus. Students enjoyed the music and sermon, and appreciated all of the differences and similarities between our churches. We were able to participate in Communion too. This is a wonderful trip worth all the time and effort, as it's filled with great worship and love for others.



Thank you for your financial support, making trips possible for our young adults!





Join **Randy Van Der Pol and the Praise Band** for a concert to benefit Gilbert school children
Saturday, May 4th at 7 pm

 331 S. Cooper Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85233
gilbertumc.org facebook.com/FUMCofgilbert 480-892-9166 




Donate Purses for Moms!
Help make Mother's Day special for moms in local domestic violence and family shelters.

Donate your new & like new purses filled with goodies like cosmetics, lotions, toiletries, bath gels, manicure items, and hair accessories. Please bring all donations to the church by May 5.

For more information, please contact Stacy Cantwell at 795-993-0293 or stacycantwell78@yahoo.com

Calling all graduates!
If you have a graduate (of any level) contact the office by May 12 to share their achievement. We will be blessing graduates during services on Sunday May 19 2019.





Youth author of “Jesus Wants to be Your Buddy” Visits the Preschool

A young author and family member of the preschool, Markelle, came to chapel to read her book “Jesus Wants to be Your Buddy” to the students. What an amazing young woman! Her book is for sale in the preschool office for \$14 or contact@markellebooks.com to purchase. This book is perfect for children of any age including preschoolers!

Shop at Fry’s—Help the Preschool

It’s a great time to register your Fry’s grocery card online so that the church preschool receives money back! The process is done online in just a few simple steps. Our account number is 80635. Throughout the years, we’ve bought playground toys, purchased a portable stage, and lots of other great items with the Fry’s money. Thank you!

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

May 5 at 12:30 pm and 6 at 6:00 pm • **Safe Sanctuary** classes for staff and volunteers. Contact Sylvia at connection@gilbertumc.org for info.

May 19 is **Graduation Sunday**—Please contact office at 480-892-9166 by May 13 to include your graduate (of any level) for recognition in the Worship bulletin.

June 3-7 • **VBS** • Donations and volunteers needed! We need 80’s or 90’s themed video game paraphernalia. Contact Janelle at childrensministry@gilbertumc.org

June 3 through July 13 there will be several opportunities for our youth to experience the •**Mingus Summer Camp**•. Visit www.dsccamps.org for more information.

June 15th **Gilbert Men’s Golf Tournament** for Student Scholarship Fund for either College or Trade School assistance. Call Michael at 602-510-6562 or Sean 630-730-5698 to register or for more information.



Gilbert Men’s Ministry Pathfinders Breakfast Invitation

Saturday May 18 • 8 - 9:30am • 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

>> Save the Date <<

VBS 2019

June 3-7 • 9am-Noon



SUMMER CAMP 2019

Mingus Mountain Camp & Retreat Center

DSCCAMPS.ORG



Troop 3088
An All-Girls Troop, is actively meeting
Mondays @ 7 pm at 331 S Cooper Rd in Gilbert

welcomes girls 11-17 years old to explore leadership, friendship, 100+ merit badge choices, and lots of outdoor adventure!

Join us for weekly, fun meetings with fire-starting, knot tying, s'mores, and lots of information on how to get your journey started as a Founding member!

Contact Philip Tesarek via email at
scouting@gilbertumc.org or call 480-510-4588



Congregational Care Support Groups
For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Diamond at pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org or 480-892-9166



Divorce Care is meeting on Tuesdays at 6:30pm through June 4 in the Sanctuary. Please join any time, all are welcome. Facilitated by Adriana Hernandez and Ruth Lee. Please contact Adriana at adriana.143.10@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.



Grief Share Support Group

For those grieving the loss of someone close to them. This support group Led by Kay Pealstrom is meeting on Saturdays from 9am-10:30am in Room 133.



Parents with Young Children

This support group is for parents who have new babies or a child under 12 months. To join contact Lydia and Matt Ramirez at lydiamramirez@gmail.com



Living Hope Support Group

A group for those experiencing trauma or dealing with PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). This group meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm.

We want to apologize to all those who had a birthday or anniversary in April. They were not updated correctly in the April issue of the Evangel. We are sorry and hope that your birthday or anniversary was blessed.

A black speech bubble with the word "oops!" written inside in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

A Letter from Bishop Hoshibata and your Council on Finance and Administration



April 22, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of the Desert Southwest Conference,

Grace and peace to you in these days when we joyfully celebrate that we are people of a resurrection faith!

Recently, your Conference Council on Finance and Administration met in one of its regular quarterly meetings. Among other topics, we discussed General Conference 2019 and its aftermath. Of interest to us was whether the Desert Southwest Conference would continue to encourage our churches to pay their apportionments and whether we as a Conference would continue our long-standing practice of paying 100% of our General Church apportionments. There has been discussion of whether we would accommodate or facilitate the withholding or redirection of a portion or all of a church's apportionments as a means of protesting the actions of the General Conference.

We understand the depth of pain that has been and continues to be experienced by many because of the restrictive, punitive, harmful actions of General Conference. We acknowledge that faithful persons on both sides of the debate about the inclusion of LGBTQIA persons in the life and ministry of The United Methodist Church are hurting because of the deep divide that threatens the unity of our church. Because of this deep pain and disappointment, some would like to resist the injustice of the Traditional Plan by withholding apportionments.

The matter of apportionment giving is very complex. It is not as simple as withholding a percentage of the apportionments from the General Church because some extraordinary ministries depend on your apportionment dollars. For every apportionment dollar contributed by one of our churches, 82 cents stay in this conference supporting our efforts to promote growth and vitality in our congregations and ministry settings. We respectfully ask the churches of the Desert Southwest Conference to continue to fully support the wide breadth of extraordinary ministries of our churches and our conference.

- This year, part of your 82 cents per dollar goes to financially support 13 new faith communities.
- You support our campus ministries at four universities in the Desert Southwest Conference.
- Because of your generosity, lives are touched with love, grace, and acceptance at our social service agencies.
- You help feed the hungry, provide shelter and haven for many who live on the margins of society.
- Your apportionment dollars come back to the DSC to assist churches who receive salary supplements through the equitable compensation grants. Today, 23 congregations are receiving this support.

These are just a few of the examples of the way your apportionment dollars give life to ministry in the Desert Southwest Conference. On the global scene, out of every dollar, 18 cents go to fund other ministries in the wider United Methodist connection.

- Throughout the world, the love of Jesus Christ is made known through United Methodist hospitals, orphanages and schools supported by your apportionment dollars.
- Through UMCOR which springs to action to assist when there is a disaster across the globe, your gifts bring help and hope in material and spiritual ways.
- The Ministerial Education Fund provides assistance in the recruiting and educating of ordained and diaconal ministers primarily through our 13 United Methodist seminaries.
- The Episcopal Fund supports our bishop and his office as well as all active and retired bishops in our denomination.

Because of the many ways apportionments support the ministries of the Desert Southwest Conference as well as the mission of the global church, your CFA urges all of us to continue to support the apportionments.

Your CFA understands that the much-anticipated ruling by Judicial Council may result in some consequences both expected and unexpected. To this end, the CFA is carefully watching developments, keeping abreast of the possible changes that may be necessitated by the ruling. We will be meeting in May to assess where we are in our stewardship and vitality. And we will continue to keep you apprised of any decisions that will impact local churches and ministries in this very challenging time for United Methodism. But for this moment, we ask you to keep faithfully supporting the many ministries that are made possible by your continued support of global and local ministry.

If you have any questions related to the information we are sharing, please contact our Conference Treasurer's office. Randy Bowman stands ready to assist with information or suggestions (602.266.6956 ext. 212, or at rbowman@dscumc.org).

As we walk into the future, let us remember always that God is with us. We lean on our Creator God even in times of uncertainty because "we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose." (Romans 8:28) We hold you in prayer with the hope that we will all live into this high calling we have because of the God who gives us life; who offers us hope in Jesus Christ, and who through the Holy Spirit, walks alongside of us and never lets us go.

In the peace of Christ,



Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata
Resident Bishop, Phoenix Area



Rev. Matthew Ashley
Chairperson, Conference Council
on Finance and Administration

The following article was produced by Thrivent Financial and you may see the full version here:
https://www.infaithfound.org/sites/default/files/pdf/Church_Endowment_Guide.pdf



What Is an Endowment?

Endowment funds and planned giving programs are ways for a church to make commitments and plans for its future. They are to be understood in the context of a church’s overall stewardship for the financial support of its mission. This overall plan has several components, including:

- Annual budget campaign
- Periodic capital campaign
- Designated giving
- Endowment and ongoing planned giving program

A church’s understanding of its mission is essential to the creation and ongoing support of an endowment fund. This clear understanding of mission is owned by clergy and lay leadership alike, as well as the members of the church.



The Difference Between Just Getting By and Bringing the Mission to Life:

Webster’s Dictionary defines “endowment” as “funds or property donated to an institution, individual, or group to produce income.” For your church, that income can mean the difference between just “getting by,” and the security of bringing your church’s mission and vision to life for generations to come.

Mutual Stewardship:

Endowment funds are partnerships between church members and the church itself—partnerships based on the idea of mutual stewardship. By supporting the endowment fund, church members act as stewards to and for their church. And by using the income generated by the endowment to fulfill its mission, your church acts as a steward to and for your members and the community.

Local Control:

An endowment fund is a single pool of resources set up by your church to receive gifts. Distributions from the fund are typically consistent with one of the following policies: Income only: Distributions are made only from the income (usually interest and dividends) the endowment fund produces; the principal remains intact. Because the principal is left untouched year after year and increases as people contribute to the endowment fund, the

fund will provide a secure financial base from which the church can realize its future vision. Percent of value: Because determining income is difficult since long-term endowment investors tend to invest for growth using balanced portfolios that are heavily invested in equity mutual funds, some churches have moved to a distribution policy based on a percentage of the fund value. Usually it's between 4% and 6%, which means that in years when investment return in the fund exceeds that percentage, the fund grows. This growth permits distributions in other years when market performance is poor. The ability to make regular annual distributions in spite of market performance is believed by many to support a more active endowment program that generates more interest and commitment to giving.

The Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA), which has been adopted by most states, addresses the total-return approach along with other issues. Donors to the endowment should be informed of the possibility that principal will be spent if this approach is adopted.

Donor Choice:

When making gifts to the endowment, donors can designate if the gift should be used for a particular purpose or whether the church should decide how to spend it. Keep in mind that donor designations may restrict the use of the gift to a purpose that is not consistent with the fund's mission or that cannot be adequately funded. Encouragement of undesignated gifts provides the flexibility to meet needs where they exist. Gifts of cash, life insurance, and assets that can easily be converted into cash, such as publicly traded securities, are appropriate to donate to an endowment fund. Other assets, such as certain types of unencumbered real estate, closely held stock, livestock or crops, also may be appropriate gifts. But they should be accepted only when consistent with a gift-acceptance policy that has been carefully considered and adopted by the endowment committee so that any risks or liabilities can be minimized or eliminated. Gifts to endowment funds are easy to facilitate during life and after death, and can provide significant tax advantages to donors whether they give cash, stock, real estate or other assets.

Tax Advantages:

A gift to an endowment fund qualifies for a current income tax charitable deduction and for an estate tax deduction. Donors can use the amount of the income tax charitable deduction to purchase a life insurance contract to replace the amount of their gift for their family heirs. The proceeds of this life insurance contract may be exempt from estate taxes. Donors can realize even greater tax savings by giving an appreciated capital asset instead of cash, because this allows them to avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciation. A Thrivent Financial representative can provide additional information on the advantages of gifts to endowment funds.

May Birthdays



Joyce Steiner	2
Joyce Brown	3
Michael Clark	3
Heather Gomez	3
Mary Beth Ondulich	3
Ryan Sovchik	3
Anna Trinidad	3
JoAnn Mannion	4
Angela Mittner	4
Shawna Palmer	4
Marty Province	4
Simon Addison Daugherty	5
Brian Fischer	5
Joyce Metcalf	5
Alix Haugen	7
Abby Ramsey	7
Stan Gill	9
Jason Rempel	9
Paige Shanks	10
Richard Cantwell	11
Bruce Bettis	12
Steven Burke	14
Michael Harris	14
Cade Burks	15
Garry Disch	16
Rebekah Alls	18
Rachel Buhnerkempe	18
Michelle Comstock	21
Chris Thompson	21
Nathaniel Koenig	22
Pam Turner	22
Linda Hartman	25
Alaina Tesarek	26

Ashley Utton	26
Grace Wiemers	26
Jim Wilkins	26
Joe Mayne	27
Janet Bose	29
Michael Crann	30
Kyle Hanson	30
Judy Haugen	30
Katelyn Clark	31
Jimmie Galvin	31
Judy Strom	31
Megan Vancers	31



May Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
4	David and Colleen Gripentrog II	22
5	Justin and Singlia Kopp	1
6	Ashley and Trevor Askland	3
7	Carter and Ruth Lee	22
11	Richard and Paige Cantwell	45
12	Nick and Jennifer Karavakis	7
14	Jacob and Jimmie Galvin	3
15	Dan and Mary Vrana	37
19	Alan and Nancy Ball	29
24	Joe and Lisa Strazz	22
26	Tom and Margaret Knoll	40
29	Ron and JoAnne Goslar	15
29	Derek and Kim Updegraff	20

Birthdays / Anniversaries

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

May 2019 Event Calendar

			1 May Day Wednesday night Dinner and activities	2	3	4 FREE WILL CONCERT 7 pm in sanctuary! 
5 Cinco de Mayo PURSES DUE 	6 ASU Graduation 	7	8 Wednesday night Dinner and activities 	9	10 U of A Graduation 	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY 	13	14	15 Wednesday night Dinner and activities	16	17	18 MEN'S BREAKFAST
19 Graduation Sunday 	20	21	22 Last Wed. night Dinner and activities Queen Creek H. S. Graduation 	23 All Gilbert and Mesa H.S. Graduation 	24	25 CONFIRMATION SERVICE 
26	27 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE IS CLOSED 	28	29 Chandler High School Graduation 	30	31	

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

June 2019 Event Calendar

						1
2	<p>3 VBS 9-Noon COME AND POWER UP WITH US ! YOUTHMISSION CAMP GRADES 7-12</p>	4 VBS 9-Noon	5 VBS 9-Noon	6 VBS 9-Noon	7 VBS 9-Noon	8
9	10	11	12	13	<p>14 Flag Day</p> 	<p>15 Pathfinders- BREAKFAST</p>  <p>Golf Tourna- ment Gilbert Men's</p>
<p>16 FATHER'S DAY</p> 	<p>17 ELEMEN- TARY I CAMP GRADES 3-6 JR HIGH I CAMP GRADES 6-9 SR HIGH LEAD- ERSHIP CAMP GRADES 9-12</p>	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29/30