

The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

August 2019



Inside this issue

Mission trip.....,2	Adult Classes10
Renovation Update.....3	Note from Adriana.....11
Preschool News.....4-5	Congregational Care.....12
Children’s Ministry6	Finance.....13
Youth News.....7	Calendars.....14-15
Upcoming Opportunity....8-9	Birthday/Anniversaries....16



CHURCH OF GILBERT

331 S Cooper Road
Gilbert, AZ 85233

480-892-9166

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

Attendance on July 28,2019 261	General Fund Giving for July 28,2019 \$24,032	General Fund Giving for June 2019 \$61441	Expenses for June 2019 \$69590
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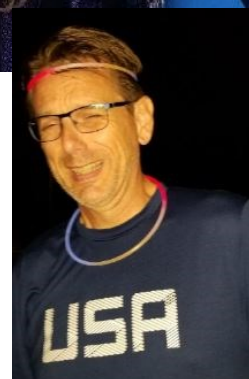
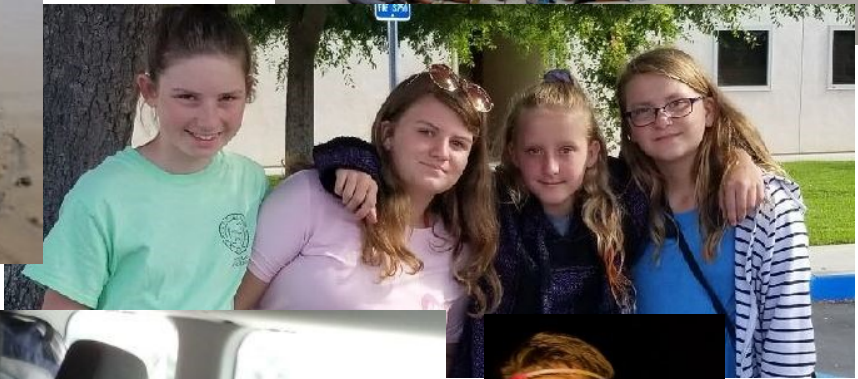
Mission Trip Perspective

I am Maia Chircuzio and I am in 7th grade. This year was my first time on the mission trip for the Youth of FUMC. The mission trip was very fun! I wasn't sure I would be able to go but we were able to earn money by helping out selling t-shirts. So that enabled me to go!

When I was there we helped out a lot of places like CCSA and a nursing home. While we were at the nursing home we helped make beads bracelets with the residents and we colored with them and just talked with them. We made a good conversation sometimes but it was hard other times because some of them were mute. We also met a guy named Daniel. He was the one of the residents there and he was super funny! Daniel thought that I was a Lost Girl and wanted to trade me in for some milk for some reason? "Woohoo" to Daniel! When I help other people I feel closest to God and it felt good to help people.

On our last day of the week of the mission trip we got to go to the beach and the amusement park and it was super fun to hang out with the youth and just do some rides and swim at the beach. I would really suggest going on this mission trip if you are able. It was a really fun experience and I loved hanging out with people and helping others!

Maia





Renovation Update



The Renovation Team in conjunction with the Trustees are taking first steps of the work process as your capital campaign and land sale funds are put to work:

- A new A/C unit to replace the one which cools the south side of the sanctuary has been ordered and installation will begin as soon as it arrives.
- Research has begun for a new digital sign for our entrance off Cooper Road.
- In the near future remodeling will begin on the bathrooms located in the education wing. Plans are being finalized to engineer and reconstruct the narthex, sanctuary bathrooms, and adjacent spaces.
- A campus walk-through, room by room, will be accomplished in the month of August to assess paint, carpet and repair status.
- IT is collecting the necessary financial information to rewire the phone, cable, and infrastructure necessary for security upgrades to our campus.
- Second-floor classroom accessibility options are being researched.
- Parking lot restoration is scheduled first of 2020, once the last phase of the Town of Gilbert's lift station upgrade project is complete.





We have some exciting things happening in preschool in August! We look forward to seeing both returning and new families and starting a very blessed year together!

Parent/Tot class, enroll today- Your 2-year-old can come to preschool, with the comfort of their own special adult! This special class is offered on Thursday from 9-10:30am. Sign up now!



Open House/Meet the Teacher- August 1st

Enrolled 3 and 4 year olds and their families, meet your teachers and classmates! Check your summer email, call the preschool office, or look on our website to see what time your class is meeting! We'll have school t-shirts to buy for \$15, and PreK students can sign up for lunch bunch!

gilbertpreschool.com

Follow us on social media! You can find out more about our programs by following us on social media! Find Gilbert Preschool on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!



Shop at Fry's Food Stores with your VIP card and get great savings, earn fuel points, and help our church preschool. Just go online to FrysFood.com, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Fry's Community Rewards under Community. Log on to your account and search our organization number, **DM609**. You're all set! Your savings help us to earn money for our wonderful program. Thank you!

Back to School Time- How can you make the transition into a school routine easier on the kids and on parents? Try these fun and easy ideas even before the school year begins:

- Set out clothes the night before
- Get up at the same time each morning
- Give everyone a morning hug
- Walk through the steps together to get the kids ready, gradually having them take on one responsibility at a time themselves. It's ok if their hair is combed in a funny way or their hairclips don't match their shirt!
- Sit down and eat a healthy breakfast
- Brush teeth ... Yeah! What a great start to the day!

Our First Days of Class are August 5th and 6th, 9am

“This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad today.”



WEEK ONE

Preschool

**PSALM 119:72;
JEREMIAH 31:3**



The Bible teaches that God loves us with an everlasting love, and that is worth more than gold. The Bible teaches me: God loves me all the time.

WEEK TWO Preschool

JOHN 3:16

The Bible teaches that God loves us so much He gave us Jesus, and that is worth more than gold. Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WEEK THREE Preschool

MATTHEW 7:24-27

The Bible teaches us how to live like Jesus, and that is worth more than gold.

WEEK FOUR Preschool

ACTS 2:45; LUKE 12:16-21

The Bible teaches me how to share what I have, and that is worth more than gold.

WEEK ONE Elementary

PSALM 119:105

What Is the Bible? When you learn about God, it's easier to follow Him.

WEEK TWO Elementary

GENESIS 3:1-24

We learn about the Fall. Trust and obey even when you think your way is better.

WEEK THREE Elementary

GENESIS 6-8

We learn about Noah. Trust and obey even when others don't.

WEEK FOUR Elementary

GENESIS 12-21

Abraham to Isaac. We learn about God's promise to Abraham. Trust and obey even if you don't know how it will work out.

August Children's Ministry

Inside Look

Trust. This can be a hard thing to give out and maybe receive. But as we have heard from Pastor Rick this past month, it's the glue that binds every relationship we have together.

We learn to trust at a very early age and trust seems to come easier for our kids. Maybe they haven't yet felt the sting of disappointment from people or in what they believe God should be doing.

But trusting in God is the backbone of our relationship with Him as well. We grow in our faith when we do not lean on our own understanding but walk faithfully into what God has already planned for us, trusting that the good work he started in us he will be faithful to complete! Let's help our kids build their faith and feel free to talk about their doubts and worries.

This month help your kids grow in their faith:

Take time to read the bible with your kids and answer questions they might have.





August 2019 Youth & Family Evangel

It's with a heavy heart that I, Ray Vallera, have resigned from the youth and family director position, due to significant adjustments in pay and hours starting August 1, 2019. I do plan to be around to help with the transition to a new youth director but am also seeking a new full time job that could impact this. I've enjoyed and cherished my time with the awesome youth and leaders here at 1st Gilbert, and greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve God and the church in this role. My life has been altered forever from all the different opportunities I've had here at 1st Gilbert in various ways including the youth director job. The experiences I've gained during the last 2 1/2 years have been fantastic, challenging, fun, loving, and heart breaking at times, but a necessary part of my spiritual journey. It's also been very eye opening and given myself a greater appreciation for all teachers and people working with kids. I thank everyone for your support, guidance, help, prayers and volunteering to help impact the youth and family ministry during my tenure. 1st Gilbert will always hold a special place in my heart, and my family does plan to continue to attend 1st Gilbert. Again, I thank you all for the opportunity to serve you, and I especially appreciate the past 2 1/2 years.

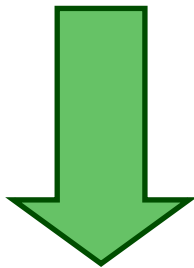
May God bless you all!

Ray Vallera

Family Ministry News

Please join us - Friday September 13th

D-Backs baseball game w/ Faith & Family Night starring "King & Country" and a fireworks display immediately after the game.



Watch for a new opportunity to work with the Awesome Youth of this church.....If you love youth Stay Tuned !



Ray Vallera, Youth Director youthministry@gilbertumc.org

Youth News • 7th-12th Grade

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

Ministry Fair August 25 In-between the services in the activity center. Come and look to look at all the things happening at UMCOG and how you can be included in our mission to lead people of all ages on the journey to become deeply devoted followers of Christ.

Friday September 13 is D-Backs Faith & Family Night
Baseball game, fireworks, & starring the Christian band "King & Country"

2019 "Lights of Hope" 6:30-8:00PM Since September National Recovery Month come and join us for uplifting night of hope.

Walk for UMOM at the Phoenix Zoo September 21st 6-9 am



Gilbert Men's Ministry
Pathfinders Breakfast Invitation

Saturday August 17 • 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

LET'S DO IT AGAIN!
 Last year we broke the Guinness World Record for the largest 1k thong sandal race. We need your help defending that record and raising funds and awareness for UMOM!
REGISTER NOW at umom.org/walk

SATURDAY
SEPT 21
6-9 am
 Phoenix Zoo

2019 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 help support UMOM to raise money and awareness for families, single women, and youth experiencing homelessness.

Help make history as UMOM defends their Guinness World Record!

Each ticket purchased includes a swag bag, 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 9th and get early bird rates!

To register to join our First UMC Team or to donate go to: <https://fundraise.umom.org/team/241406>

E-mail Sherrona Johnson at mysherrona.johnson@gmail.com with any questions.



What does it take to be a superhero? Do you need to fly? Leap tall buildings in a single bound? Have the strength to lift a building? Perhaps you need a prop, like a lasso of truth or a cape or face mask to hide your true identity. Do you need a super-secret lair or side kick to help back you up? Maybe all it takes is the willingness to go a little bit longer or father to help out someone in need. Maybe it's just using the gifts and skills you are already given in a new way. Perhaps super heroes aren't really all that different from you and me.

There are many opportunities to explore the super hero inside of you here at First United Methodist Church of Gilbert. We have opportunities from scouting programs to preschool to helping usher in worship. There are places for you to connect in our adult education or missions' ministry teams as you expand and grow your faith. Have you ever felt the connection between your faith and your finances? You may have the hero's gift for helping with our finance or generosity teams. Perhaps you understand the maintenance of a building or the gift of teaching a child, which could mean you are a hero for trustees or children's ministry. On and on the list goes on the multitude of ways you may be equipped as a hero in ministry. We are a priesthood of believers, all of us given the sacred task of caring for and expanding the church. We are all able to serve and give, creating a family of God in which each believer becomes a hero. We want you to become a hero as well. So join us on Sunday, August 25th in the Activity Center to explore the many different ways you can embrace the Avenger within and become your own super hero.

Adult Education Classes starting in August:

Wednesday Nights beginning August 7
Meal at 5:45 pm; Classes at 6:30 pm



Led by Pastor Rick

A Study of the Book of Daniel August 7 – November 13
(15 weeks) Study Daniel from a different perspective.

Adult Advent Study November 20 – December 18
(4 weeks)

Led by Pastor Diamond

Journey 202: Follow Me August 7 – September 11
(6 weeks) Two simple words that change everything.
This call is not an invitation to pray a prayer, it's a summons to lose your life. Come see how you can do this.

A Study of Prayer Practices September 18 – November 13
(9 weeks) Prayer is more than saying the right words at the right time. Learn how to make prayer a time to be in personal relationship with God and unleash the creative power of the Holy Spirit.

Youth Advent Study November 20 – December 18

Led by Sylvia Harris

Disciple III September 11 – December 11
(13 weeks) Remember who you are - The Prophets.

Thursday Nights beginning August 8
Meal at 5:45 pm; Class at 6:30 pm

Alpha Welcome Dinner 5:45pm Thursday August 8

Alpha Class August 15 – October 17
(12 weeks) Led by Mike Miller

Pastor Rick's class will start one week later on August 14th in room 142 due to a conflict in his schedule.



**August 17 at 5:30 pm
For Our Volunteer
Appreciation Supper
Will be held in Activity
Center**

A Note from Adriana Hernandez

By the time this month's edition of The Evangel is published, I will be nestled in beautiful Denver, Colorado attending Local Pastor school at Iliff School of Theology. Nestled in my heart, wherever I go, are all the beautiful people that I have worshiped with, sat in classes with, taught classes with and served on committees with. My heart is full! It has been twenty-seven years that I have been a member here at First UMC Gilbert. This transition to a local pastor at St. Paul's UMC in Globe has been going very smoothly. Part of the reason for that is all the love, support, prayers and faith that my church family has for me.

As I reflect on my amazing church family, this scripture resonates with me. "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you." 1 Thessalonians 3:12 The good Lord sent me so many people, life experiences and opportunities that I now have the confidence to show God's loves to another congregation. Thank you for making love increase in my life.

First UMC Gilbert, your awesome cup overflows!





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



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.

A hearty thank you to all who provided much needed food and overnight accommodations to some special families who are working so hard to get out of homelessness! ♥ We were once again blessed by the opportunity to put our faith to work! We will be serving Family Promise again the week of November 3 - 10. We are in need of more volunteers to join us in this important work! To see how our work with Family Promise is helping families move from homelessness to self-sufficiency, check out www.familypromiseaz.org.

DyAnn



From the Finance Committee

General Fund Giving for	Expenses for
June 2019 \$91,278	June 2019 \$64,456

Did you see the June Income and Expenses listed in the bulletin? Did you think there was a typo?

The Finance Committee can assure you there was NO typo, but did want to offer an explanation as to why the income number was significantly higher. The primary reason being that several people took their covenant seriously as it applies to stewardship.

Below are some of the items that occurred in June:

Second quarter payments hit our account in June from people who give on a quarterly schedule.

We had some who caught up on their 2019 pledge.

Others went ahead and gave their pledge in full.

A rebate check that was unexpected came in.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, we thank you for your continued faithful support of our church.

We know many of you sought out church leadership and staff to ask about the numbers above. If you didn't have a chance to ask, we hope this answers any questions you had. If there is anything else you'd like to know, please contact Brian O'Brien Finance Chair (Financechair@gilbertumc.org) or Casey DeWitt, Treasurer/Church Accountant (480-892-9166, accountant@gilbertumc.org).



August 2019 Event Calendar

				1 Open House for Preschool 5-7PM Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30Am	OPEN HOUSE 2 HOUSE 3 Gilbert First day of School on the First	
4	5 First Day of Preschool 	6Tues Morning Bible Study Mesa School district first day of school	7 Wednesday night fellowship and classes Begin Alpha Dinner	8 Shawl Ministry 1 PM 	9	10
11	12	13Tues Morning Bible Study	14Wednesday night fellowship and classes 	15 Book Club 11AM Alpha Class 6:30 Begins 	16	17 Men's breakfast 8-9:30 am Volunteer thank you supper 5:30pm
18	19	20Tues Morning Bible Study 	21Wednesday night fellowship and classes	22Alpha Class 6:30	23	24
25	26	27Tues Morning Bible Study	28Wednesday night fellowship and classes	29Alpha Class 6:30 	30	31

September 2019 Event Calendar

1	2	<p>3 Tuesday morning Bible Study</p> 	<p>4 Wednesday night fellowship and classes</p>	<p>5 Christian womens Fellowship Alpha Class 6:30</p> 	6	7
8	9	<p>10 Tues Morning Bible Study</p>	<p>11 Wednesday night fellowship and classes Disciple III begins</p>	<p>12 shawl meeting 1PM Alpha Class 6:30</p> 	<p>13 Faith and Family night at the Diamondback game</p> 	<p>14 "Lights of Hope" at FUMC of Gilbert</p> 
15	16	<p>17 Tues Morning Bible Study</p>	<p>18 Wednesday night fellowship and classes A Study of Prayer Practices begins</p>	<p>19 book club 11AM Alpha Class 6:30</p> 	20	<p>21 Men's Breakfast 6-9am UMOM walk at Phx. Zoo</p>
22	23	<p>24 Tues Morning Bible Study</p> 	<p>25 Wednesday night fellowship and classes</p> 	<p>26 Alpha Class 6:30</p> 	27	28
29	30					

August Birthdays



Gayla Sutton	1
Norma Mayne	2
Emily O'Brien	2
Summer Rickert	2
Linda Cranford	4
Anita Broughton	5
Rick Casebolt	5
Keela Clark	5
Jackie Holmberg	5
Eric Palmer	6
Nyambe Hadson-Taylor	7
Laura McLeod	7
Dirk Smith	7
Evan Houseman	8
Madelyn Mueller	8
Katherine Rowley	8
Suzann Todd	8
Lori Wiemers	8
Katie Wyatt	8
Eli Chiricuzio	9
Dixon Askeland	10
Matthew Koenig	10
Amanda Martin	10
Katie Turner	10
Judy Bristow	12
Rebecca Hernandez	12
Abigail Rhoden	12
Diane Crann	13
Daniel Harvey	13
Drew Martin	14
Tom McKinley	14
Alan Ball	15
Jim Hall	15
Tim Killen	15
Tyler Carpenter	16
Adrian Golden	17

Alya Nicks	17
Tina Rees	17
Jennifer Burks	18
Carter Carmichael	20
Carlos Flores	20
Julia Strazz	21
Lara DeRoule	22
Jim Johns	22
Brittany Norris	22
Kylee Wilkins	22
Molly Hahn	26
Midori Hall	26
Andy Martin	26
Harris Compton	27
Reagan Metz	27
Caroline Ward	27
Scott Bouchie	28
Lori Van Dam	28
Sadie Fairley	29
Jackson James	29
Kevin Boesch	31
Kein Curran	31

Celebrations



August Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
3	Jo and Keith Asplin	62
3	Gloria and Jim Eggen	23
3	Trish and Christopher Odell	45
4	Mary Ellen and Bob Chuk	46
5	Sharon and Ronald Dalton	21
6	Garin and Rob Campbell	25
7	Heather and Greg Ford	20
8	Peggy and Malcolm Herring	6
10	Kathy and Christopher Slayton	6
12	Sarah and Charles Bowser	53
12	Barbara and Lynn Carroll	52
23	Phyllis and David Spittell	21

Birthdays / Anniversaries