

The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

January 2020



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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

Attendance on December 15, 2019 335	General Fund Giving December 15, 2019 \$13,680	General Fund Giving for November, 2019 \$51,574	Expenses for November, 2019 \$59,484
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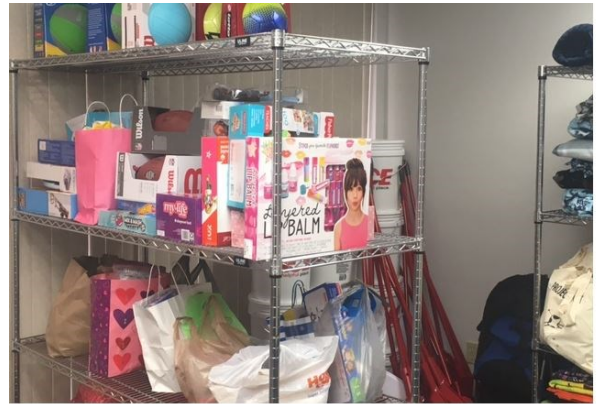
Missions Update

FUMC-Gilbert’s tradition of sharing continued this year with many different ways of giving to our community.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Turkey Drive. Whether you donated funds or were one of the 25 volunteers that delivered the boxes, you helped provide 124 Thanksgiving turkey dinner boxes to our East Valley neighbors.



Congregants donated 30 gifts that were given to participants of the nationwide Family Promise program who have “graduated,” gotten jobs, and secured housing. Family Promise will set up a store using these gifts for parents of the program to shop for Christmas presents for their children.



We donated 50 beautifully wrapped presents to Home Instead’s “Be a Santa to a Senior” program. This program is set up for senior citizens who have no family and probably wouldn’t have received a Christmas gift.



Twenty-four children in Foster Care were also given gifts by our congregation through Arizona’s Children Association’s Gifts of Hope program.

We are truly a very gifting congregation!

Meet our new members please greet them when you see them on campus!

Nick Karavakis joined the church and **Eliana Sophia** was baptized. Jennifer and Eliana sisters, Lorelei and Victoria with Nick's brother James, parents Gus and Helen Karavakis plus Jennifer's parents Don and Kathryn Harrison and grand parents Martin and Marcia Grantham were there to join in the celebration at the 8 am service December 8th.



Nicholas Diaz is joining our church from a transfer from a UMC in North Little Rock , Arkansas. He is joining his father Marc Diaz and brother Justin Diaz. He will be attending school here.



Francoise Kaj and her adult children **Gloria Kapend, Isaiah Kapenda, Magaly Kon, Signory Mutach, Divina Katching, Samantha Mutach, and Israel Mutach** are joining our church by transfer from a couple of churches in upstate New York. The three children have jobs and the rest are students.



Over this last year Pastor Rick and Pastor Diamond have had 11 baptisms and 36 new people join our church. We are doing Christ's work on the earth. And thru the children and youth ministries we are growing new followers of Christ.

Our mission is to lead people of all ages on the journey to become deeply devoted followers of Jesus is being realized !



What's been happening?

The Preschool Christmas Program, "The Colors of Christmas" was performed on Dec. 12th in the sanctuary. Our 50 preschoolers, in the 3s and PreK classes, did an amazing job of celebrating the Christmas story through classic Christmas songs, and they wore their best Christmas clothes! A wonderful evening was enjoyed by family, friends, and loved ones! Thank you to Melissa and Randy Van Der Pol for singing for us and to Pastor Rick for being our narrator! Thank you also to Therese Pineda for helping with our slides and to Brian Fisher for helping run the AV! We love all the support we receive from the church community!

Christmas Celebrations- The preschoolers had a party for Jesus' birthday where they decorated Graham Cracker Houses, made ice cream cone Christmas trees, and read the Christmas story. It was a wonderful way to close our semester!
Our first day back to school is January 6th!



Parent/Tot class, enroll today- Your 2-year-old can come to preschool, with the comfort of their own special adult! This special class, taught by Tiffany Scharff, has openings in the Tuesday class from 9-10:30am. Sign up now! Check out our website for more information about the class or come by the preschool office!

What's coming up?

The lost sheep, baby Moses, lions in the den, pets, you and me... God loves us all! January is a month full of bible stories! As we discuss the parable of the Lost Sheep, we'll relate it to our lives by letting the preschoolers know that each one of them is important to us, to the class, and to God. They are learning so much about who they are and how to be a good friend!

Donuts with Dads



On January 22nd or 23rd, the children will have a special day to show their Dads how much they're loved. A breakfast snack will be provided in the activity center from 8:15-9am and they'll enjoy some fun games together.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins in January! Registration for church members and current and previous preschool families begins on January 13th. Open registration, for all our friends, begins on January 21st! Registration information and registration documents are available online or in the church and preschool offices. Spread the word!

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter and on our website: gilbertpreschool.com!



FUMC of Gilbert Preschool



Gilbert preschool



@gilpreschool

Missions –

This month the preschool will collect coins to benefit the American Red Cross. Students can bring in coins to our collection jar in the preschool office. All donations will go directly to the Red Cross.



American Red Cross



Community Rewards Program

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!

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

January 2020 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Preschool and Kinder



It's time for a Beach Party—sand, sun, and a whole lot of fun! Jesus spent a

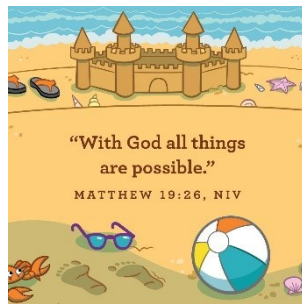
great deal of time on or near the beach. In fact, He performed MANY miracles near the water. So, the beach is the perfect environment for our preschoolers to learn that Jesus can do anything. Our preschoolers learned that God gave us Jesus in December, and now they will learn that because Jesus is God's Son, He can do anything! With God all things are possible! Throughout their lives, children will encounter things they can't do. But, in Jesus, they have a friend who can do it all. There is no better friend than Jesus, and He.

Week 1: Water to Wine John 2:1-11 Jesus can do anything.

Week 2: Catching Fish Luke 5:1-7 Jesus can do things we can't.

Week 3: Feeding 5,000 Mark 6:31-44 Nothing is too hard for Jesus.

Week 4: Walking on Water Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus can do what is impossible



1st-6th graders



God is the author of knowledge. Everything we know to be true about the world is because of God. Knowing God is the most important Person to know. And while we may never know all there is to know about God, God gives us lots of ways we can know Him. We can know Him best through Jesus, who showed us how much God loves us. We can pursue knowing more about God through Jesus, who showed why knowledge is so important. The more we know God, the better we can live His way each day.

JANUARY 2020 | ELEMENTARY



<p>WEEK ONE LUKE 2:41-52 The Boy Jesus at the Temple</p> <p>SAY THIS: Knowing God is the most important thing.</p>	<p>WEEK THREE LUKE 4:1-13 Jesus is Tempted in the Desert</p> <p>SAY THIS: Discovering what's in the Bible can help you make the wise choice.</p>
<p>WEEK TWO JOHN 1:19-42, JOHN 3:22-36 Jesus' Baptism</p> <p>SAY THIS: If you want to know God, start with Jesus.</p>	<p>WEEK FOUR MATTHEW 11:1-6 Jesus and John the Baptist</p> <p>SAY THIS: If you don't understand something about God, ask.</p>

KNOWLEDGE:
LEARNING SOMETHING NEW
SO YOU CAN BE BETTER AT
WHATEVER YOU DO

REMEMBER THIS:
"The Lord gives wisdom.
Knowledge and understanding
come from his mouth."
PROVERBS 2:6, NIV

Wednesday Wilds

We will explore through brick building and crafts the parables of Jesus

Mission: : We will be restocking school supplies for a couple local schools! Bring in some or have your kids bring in an offering.



Youth Communications
 TEXT MESSAGE UPDATES & REMINDERS
 Youth updates via Remind app.
 TEXT: @fumcgil to 81010 Youth News.
 Make sure we have your email &

Director of Youth Ministries
Re-posting of Part-time Position Open—25 Hours Per Week
First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

The First United Methodist Church of Gilbert is seeking an energetic, outgoing, creative person with strong organizational and communications skills to direct our youth programs. This person will lead and support the youth (7th through 12th grades) as they develop as Christians through programming and educational opportunities. In collaboration with the Youth Council, he or she will provide Sunday School, youth fellowship, retreats, service projects, outreach and other faith-based growth opportunities. This is a part-time, highly responsible position. The Director of Youth Ministries reports directly to the Senior Pastor. Candidates should have a bachelor's degree in education, religious studies or a related field or the equivalent in experience and education. We are seeking someone who can work both independently as well as collaboratively with youth, parents, church staff and volunteers. Experience in leading a robust, engaging program of activities and events is a plus. We seek someone with a love for working with youth who is enthusiastic about this role and has a strong personal faith consistent with United Methodist teachings.

Interested candidates should submit a resume, letter of interest and contact information for three professional references to secretary@gilbertumc.org. The position is currently open; applications will be accepted until the position is filled. A background check will be required for the candidate selected for this position.

Youth Director youthministry@gilbertumc.org

Youth News • 7th-12th Grade

A big “Thank You” to everyone who supported our Unite Phoenix Toy Drive. On December 14, 14 Youth and 6 adults from First Gilbert delivered 138 toys to Garfield Elementary school, where Unite Phoenix threw a Christmas party for 1000+ children in central Phoenix. We also brought several activities to entertain the kids while they waited to pick out a toy. More pictures on next page.....



**Garland Unite
 Phoenix Toy Drive**

Music opportunities

Do you want your child or children to sing in a children's choir?

If they are ages 5-12 years (basically school elementary school age including middle school) please contact Randy Vanderpol at randallvanderpol@gmail.com or Melissa at melissa-vanderpol67@gmail.com and either myself or my wife Melissa will get back with them. We have started rehearsals in the music ministry office at 10:30 Sunday mornings.



Do you have a youth who would like to sing or perform in a youth band?

If they are interested in singing or playing in a youth Band please contact Randy Vanderpol at randallvanderpol@gmail.com or Melissa at melissavanderpol67@gmail.com and one of us will get back with you .

Or you can call Melissa at 314-570-5896.

Or you can call the office with your information.



Garland Unite Phoenix Toy Drive



Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

Don't forget to order your **Upper Room Disciplines for 2020**. If you want a copy please call the office at 480-892-9166. Large print \$18 and regular print \$15

Reminder you can no longer use the east parking lot after December 26th. As the new builder demolition will begin December 26. You may see other demolition activities beginning sooner on the southeast portion of the land.

Come and join our Preschool Family here at the First United Methodist Church of Gilbert Preschool! Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins in January! Registration for church members and current and previous preschool families begins on January 13th. Open registration, for all our friends, begins on January 21st! Registration information and registration documents are available online. Spread the word! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and on our website: gilbertpreschool.com!

"You shall teach these words to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up." Deuteronomy 11:19

Jaime Jorge The Healing Music Concert Tour will come to First UMC of Gilbert on Sunday January 19, 2020 at 4:00 pm SAVE THE DATE!



JOIN THE NEW ADULT VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE! MEETS 1-3 PM IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER

The kids got to play all summer—now it's our turn! League for adults 18+
Hosted by Jenny Vallera: jennyvallera@gmail.com or text 602.695.9411



Gilbert Men's Ministry

Pathfinders Breakfast Invitation

Saturday January 18th • 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



Happy and Healthy and Safe
New Year!
The church office will be closed
January 1st.



Come and join our Preschool Family here

at the First United Methodist Church of Preschool! Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins in January! Registration for church members and current and previous preschool families begins on January 13th. Open registration, for all our friends, begins on January 21st! Registration information and registration documents are available online. Spread the word! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and on our website: gilbertpreschool.com!

"You shall teach these words to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up." Deuteronomy 11:19

JAIME JORGE

THE
Healing Music

CONCERT TOUR



First UMC of Gilbert

331 S Cooper Rd., Gilbert, AZ

Sunday, January 19, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Adult Education Classes starting in January:



Wed. Nights with meal at 5:45, classes at 6:30, Begins January 8

After careful deliberation and a recommendation from the clergy in the area, Pastor Rick and I have decided that it is important that we change direction in January and teach a 6 week course called "Faithful and Inclusive- The Bible, Sexuality, and the United Methodist Church". This curriculum is offered through the Richard and Julia Wilke Institute for Discipleship (creators of Disciple series) and is meant to help UMC churches prepare for General Conference 2020. Pastor Rick and I are constantly receiving emails asking for more information regarding the subject and many of the churches in the conference have either done this curriculum or are planning it for January. The

Revelation and Wesley or Trinity classes will be held after Lent.

The six-part video series evolved out of study sessions that Rev. Dr. Fuquay led in his church earlier this year. Unable to find United Methodist curriculum that addresses the handful of Bible passages used to form church policy, Fuquay developed his own, employing a Wesleyan approach to biblical interpretation.

Adapted from those church sessions, the video series is designed to help participants learn what the Bible says and then form their own opinions. All six parts allow ample time for thoughtful discussion, as well as moving faith stories of LGBTQ United Methodists and their family members.

"I know this is an issue that many people shy away from, but this study was created with the conviction that it's time for every United Methodist to engage in this discussion," Fuquay said. "The future of the denomination is now at risk. Only the people in the pews can offer any hope for healing and resolution."

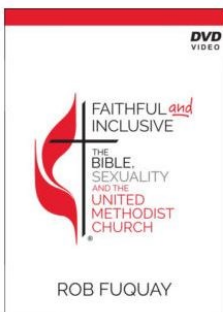
Pastors Rick and Diamond will be leading this study.

Come and join us for Dinner and studying the Bible!

Meals start at 5:45

Class starts 6:30

Starts January 8th until Feb 19 with no class 1.22.19





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 will be starting in January

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.



Living Hope Support Group

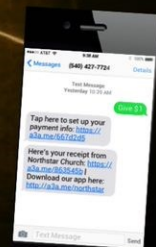
A group for those experiencing trauma or dealing with PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). This group meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm.

Text-to-Give

- † Text 480-712-1057
- † Enter amount with \$ sign
for example: 

For first usage only:

- † Register with link provided
- † Click "Process"



January Calendar of Events 2020

			<p>1 office closed</p> 	<p>2 Christian women's Fellowship 11am</p> 	3	4
5	6	<p>7 Tues Morning Bible Study</p> 	<p>8 Wednesday night fellowship and classes</p> <p>Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in Rm 133</p>	<p>9 shawl meeting 1PM</p> 	10	11
12	13	<p>14 Tues Morning Bible Study</p>	<p>15 Wednesday night fellowship and classes</p> <p>Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in Rm 133</p>	<p>16 book club 11AM</p> 	17	<p>18 Men's Breakfast 8-9:30</p> 
<p>19 Jaime Jorge Concert at 4:00 Pm</p> 	<p>20 Martin Luther King Holiday</p> 	<p>21 Tues Morning Bible Study</p>	<p>22 Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in Rm 133</p> <p>Wednesday night fellowship and classes 545</p>	23	24	25
26	27	<p>28 Tuesday Morning Bible Study</p>	<p>29 Wednesday night fellowship and classes Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in Rm 133</p>	30	<p>31 UMC statics due to district</p>	

February Calendar of Events 2020

						1				
										
2	3	4 Tues Morning Bible Study		5 Wednesday night fellowship and classes Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in Rm 133	6 Christian Women's Fellowship 11am		7	8		
9	10	11 Tues Morning Bible Study		12 Wednesday night fellowship and classes Lincoln's birthday	13 Shawl ministry 1pm		14 valentine's day		15 Men's breakfast 8-9:30 am	
16	17 President's day	18 Tues Morning Bible Study		19 Wednesday night fellowship and classes Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in Rm 133	20 Book Club 11AM		21	22 Washington's Birthday		
23	24	25 Tues Morning Bible Study		26 Ash Wednesday	27	28	29			

January Birthdays



Carolyn Phelps	2
Don Adams	3
Stan Strom	4
Ashley Askeland	4
Pat Bohart	4
Charles Bowser	8
Addie Compton	8
Karl Kotsonas	9
Trish Jung	10
Hailey Palmer	12
Dawn Harvey	13
Jennifer Karavakis	14
Carrie Mueller	16
Mae Carmichael	17
Jo Lynn Harder	17
Elice Province	18
Mike Griffith	19
Jenna Bose	19
Lori Wilkins	21
Jeannie High	21
Keely Orndorff	25
Beth Boesch	25
Makena Sy	26
Aaron Province	28

January Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
02	Shawna and Eric Palmer	27
06	Gayle and Garry Disch	24
18	Ava and Philip LaRose	61
19	Claire and Jake Regnitz	07
28	Anna and Matthew Trinidad	03