The Evangel First United Methodist Church of Gilbert Sapril 2020



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331 S Cooper Road Gilbert, AZ 85233 480-892-9166

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

Attendance on		
March 22, 2020		
1722		
Virtual views		

Meet our new members Please welcome them when you see them on Campus



Nate Pearce comes to us from Calvary UMC in Johnstown PA. Where he was a very active member. He works as an accountant, loves to read and work on his motorcycle and car, go to the gym and gardening.



Sylvia Moore comes to us from Southern Baptist church. Where she was very active in the music and prayer ministries. She has be of several other churches including Methodist. She started coming because of her sister DR. Rev. Joyce Steiner. Her hobbies and interests are music, sewing, knitting, embroidery, and reading religious history, historical fiction, mystery and politics.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GILBERT

CAMPUS CLOSURE

The First UMC Gilbert Campus will be closed to all functions until further notice for COVID-19 considerations.

Offices are open by appointment only.

Please view **gilbertumc.org** for latest information. Contact us at 480-892-9166 or info@gilbertumc.org.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday services will be livestreamed on Facebook at 9:30 am Join us at **gilbertumc.org** or **facebook.com/FUMCofGilbert**



Know How it Spreads

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

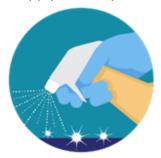
These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.



Wear a facemask if you are sick

If you are sick: You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room. Learn what to do if you are sick.

If you are NOT sick: You do not need to wear a facemask unless you are caring for someone who is sick (and they are not able to wear a facemask). Facemasks may be in short supply and they should be saved for caregivers.



Clean and disinfect

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. From cdc website.

Health Ministry

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing respiratory illness in people. Signs and symptoms, similar to the common cold or the flu, include a runny nose, cough, sore throat, fever, and general feeling of being unwell. Currently there is an ongoing outbreak going on throughout the United States and the world.

On March 30, 2020, the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, based on an epidemiological assessment of Arizona specific data and in alignment with CDC guidance, recommended the state implement enhanced mitigation strategies.

Arizona Governor Doug Ducey issued an executive order restricting residents to their homes as the number of reported coronavirus cases continues to rise in the state, topping 1,000 cases for the first time on Monday March 30, 2020.

The stay-at-home order will goes in effect Tuesday March 31 at 5 p.m.

The order is in effect through April 30, 2020 to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. Arizona shall institute a "Stay home, Stay healthy, Stay connected" policy that promotes physical distancing, while also encouraging social connectedness. This builds on actions the state has already taken, and further memorializes some already in effect, to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect our citizens.

Stay safe and keep informed. There is a lot of great information available but there is also a lot of misinformation.

The Arizona Department of Health Services is found on line at <u>azdhs.gov</u>. Information on this site is frequently updated.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is found at cdc.gov

Stay informed but also turn off the TV and Radio and take a break from it all. You can maintain social distancing of 6 feet and take a walk and enjoy our beautiful weather.

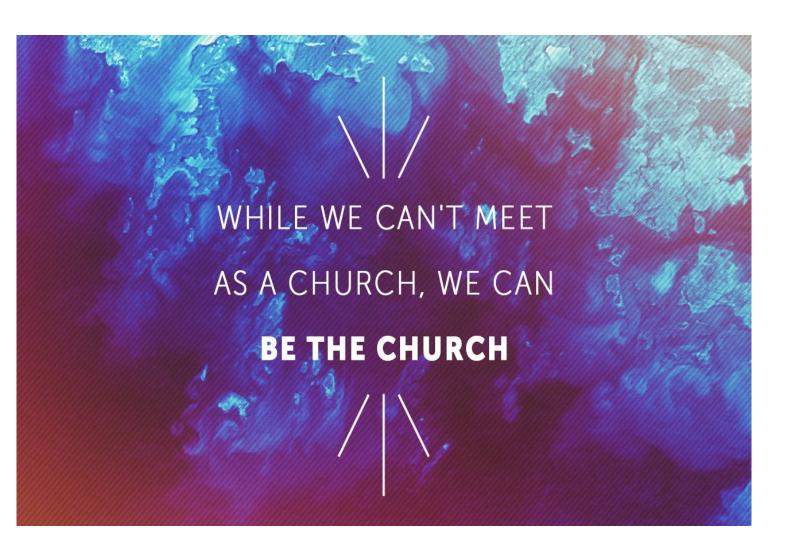
We are encouraged to stay connected through phone calls, emails and texting. Call your friends or an Aunt you have not heard from in a while. Find your favorite prayer or bible passage and read it to them. Play a game of charades at home with the kids and solve all those cross word puzzles you tucked away.

Below I have included some information from the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Keep the faith and know you are loved. Therese Pineda RN Parish Nurse



Please be a Hero if you are well and meet the requirements above please give blood in these uncertain times. This is something you can do to help.



Per CDC and the President of the US Social distancing will continue until 4/30/20

So we will continue with the church campus will be closed. And we will continue to livestream. We are reaching more people thru livestreaming. Praise be to God for this technology and the willingness of a core group of people to go thru the extra work to get this out to us.

Per Governor Ducey All Arizona Schools will close through for the rest of the school year.

So the Gilbert UMC Preschool will remain closed through the school year. We will keep everyone notified as the news as we know more.

Over 65 shopping hours for Senior only
Costco 8-9am Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
Bashas, AJ's, Food City 5-6 am Wednesday
Safeway and Albertsons 7-9am Tuesday and Thursday
Fry's 6-7 AM Monday through Thursday
Whole Foods first hour of the day
Target first hour of opening on Wednesday
Walmart 6-7 am on Tuesday.

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN AND DO NOT TOUCH YOUR FACE.



Office will be open by appointment only please call and set up appointment





If you need resources please reach out to Pastor Diamond and let her know what you need . She is also collecting hard to find items. So please call the office to talk to her about what you need or what you have . I you have been called by a volunteer please let them know what you need and we can get them to you if we have them . Thank you for the generosity you have shown! You are all being the Hands and feet of Christ!











Annual Spring Picnic

By Michelle Butler of Family Ministries

We're having the picnic in February? Doesn't this seem a bit early? Even I had my doubts about the not-quite-spring date when the time came to advertise the event in the bulletin. I almost missed the Evangel deadline! But the family ministries team had decided long ago to have it early, to take advantage of the nicer Arizona weather so it can be held outside, like a true picnic should be.

The guys started grilling outside during the 11am service, and the smell of hot dogs and hamburgers filled the air. The side dishes, desserts and salads started coming in and everyone's tummies started to rumble. Our awesome praise band started playing and finally, it was time to eat – outside – on picnic tables in the almost-spring air.

Even though it had rained quite a bit the day before, God blessed us with a perfect day – not too cold and not too hot. There were bounce houses, fun games to play hosted by children's ministries to promote upcoming VBS, corn hole and a fun game of Frisbee being played by the youth. It all came together with awesome live music from our very own band who played a mix of praise songs and good old rock-n-roll.

Many thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy the day. A huge shout out to those who helped set up, cook, clean up and organize games. We had over 100 in attendance – a great start to the Easter season!























Preschool News www.gilbertpreschool.com





We are NOW enrolling students for the 2020-2021 school year. Our preschool has classes for ages 2, 3, and 4/5 year olds! Check out our website and give us a call for a tour! Please share this

What's been going on?

Dr. Seuss Week- We celebrated reading with a week of rhyming and silly dress up days inspired by Dr. Seuss! We played Green Eggs and Ham tic-tac-toe and made red and white striped Dr. Seuss hats. Students were inspired to read, write, and to "think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!"





Kindness Rocks! - The preschoolers enjoyed painting river rocks as part of a Kindness Rocks project! The rocks will be on display in April when we open the new preschool office and show off the renovations to our preschool families. Students will be able to choose a rock at that time to give to a friend, family member, or other person

in the community to spread love and kindness





Gardening with Preschoolers-

Did you get a chance to see the Children's Garden in the courtyard? We grew spring mix lettuce, snap peas, romaine lettuce, and rainbow carrots! The preschoolers harvested their produce, enjoyed it for snack, and brought some home. This was such a great learning experience for them to see how these vegetables grow!





Spring Themes – Right before Spring Break in March, we had a week to learn about the lifecycle of a ladybug. Students observed ladybugs in class and were able to hold some before they were released. We'll begin to learn about the caterpillar lifecycle the first week of March. Students will

observe caterpillars in class, watch them grow and change into a chrysalis, and then emerge as butterflies! This is such a fun life science time for the children!

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.

Children's Ministry

children ministry@gilbertumc.or

Director

April 2020 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Preschool and Kinder



We are using a lemonade stand theme this month to

welcome in the warmer days and

introduce preschoolers to the amazing truth that God loves me. We want preschoolers to know that God has put a lot of planning and

creating and love into each of them. And, just like you can't separate the water from the sugar from the lemon juice once you mix them, NOTHING can separate us from God's love.

Throughout the month our preschoolers will hear how the Bible teaches us that God made us in His image, has a plan for us, and will never stop loving us. So, think



a lot of love and a little lemon – mix it all together and we will get an entire month of God loves me! Our prayer is that every preschooler will walk away knowing that God

Mission:

We will start collecting for the mother's day purse drive! Bring in gently used items or purses! The UMOM shoebox ministry



allows the children to give these to their moms for Mother's Day! Let's help is sweet ministry!

1ST-6th Graders

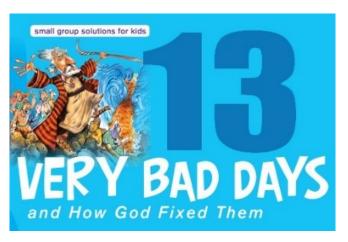


Throughout the Bible, we read about all sorts of people who showed determination in the face of hardship and difficulty. They relied on God's strength to get them through it. Even Jesus Himself endured through the pain of the cross so that we would be able to have a forever relationship with God. When it comes to the situations in our own lives, God gives us the Holy Spirit to empower us to keep going, even when life gets difficult.



Wednesday Wilds:

Look at some of the very bad days some of the people from the bible had and lessons we can still learn from them!



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

Serving at UMOM Halle Women's Shelter



Playing Gaga ball

SAVE THE DATE – Youth Group/ UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)

1st and 3rd Sunday's of each month this Spring

Sunday April 5th (5-7pm) UMYF at Islands Park for Sand Volleyball= (825 S. Islands Dr. Gilbert, 85233)

Sunday April 19th (5-8pm) = Bowling or Laser Tag, location and details TBD

Sunday May 3rd(5-7pm) = Dinner & Activity TBD (bring \$3 for dinner)

Sunday May 17th (5-8pm) = Take a break from studying for finals- Come Play with Us! Details TBD

(all small groups will contingent on how long the CDC recommendations.)







Summer Camp at Mingus Mountain

This is a camp run by the Desert Southwest United Methodist Conference. Enjoy the cool pines just north of Prescott, AZ. There are camps for 3rd-12th grades throughout the summer. Please visit the website for more details, and email Shayla with any other questions. http://www.dsccamps.org/summer-camps.html
Mingus Mountain Camp

- Elementary I Camp (grades 3-6) June 1-6
- Junior High I Camp (grades 6-9) June 1-6
- Senior High Ecology Camp (grades 9-12+) June 1-6
- Youth Mission Camp @ Trinity Heights UMC (grades 7-12+) June 14-19
- Elementary II Camp (grades 3-6) June 22-27
- Junior High II Camp (grades 6-9) June 22-27
- Senior High Spiritual Formation Camp (grades 9-12+) June 22-27
- Elementary III Camp (grades 3-6) June 29-July 4
- Junior High III Camp (grades 6-9) June 29-July 4
- Senior High Camp (grades 9-12+) June 29-July 4









Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

(all small groups are contingent on the CDC recommendations.)

Family Promise April 5th –12th. We have an update regarding our next Family Promise hosting week April 5 - 12. It is now confirmed that the families will not be staying overnight at our campus but we are still asked to provide food for them if possible. They estimate that we will need to provide dinner for 12 people, and will let us know the Thursday before (April 2) ages and any food allergies, like usual.

Save the Date for VBS July 13-17, 2020 9:00 to Noon (note change in date) We will need Volunteers and donations for this ministry to the community. Contact Janelle at ChildrensMinistry@gilbertumcorg



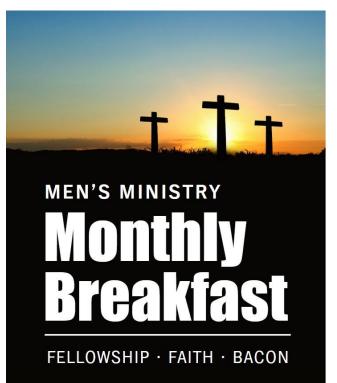
EASTER BAGS

Our annual Easter bag project is underway. The children's'



Sunday School classes and Preschool are collecting items to fill bags. The missions team will distribute them among children from Family Promise, UMOM, Chandler Sidewalk Sunday School and Adrianna Hernandez's church in Globe.







Every 3rd Saturday of the

Month

April 18th

At 7:30 AM

In the Activity Center

- Come enjoy a hearty breakfast
- · Spiritual growth and support
- · Personal testimonial and life sharing

(all small groups will be contingent on the CDC recommendations.)



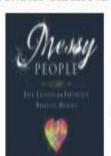
TUESDAY MORNING Women's Bible Study

JOIN US OR INVITE A FRIEND!

MEETS MOST TUESDAYS AT 9:30AM AT

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GILBERT

For more information, Contact Christy at roberch1 @yahoo.com



Now STUDYING:

"Messy People" by Jennifer Cowart

NEXT MEETING ON MARCH 24, STUDYING RAHAB



Join us for fellowship and service!

First Thursdays 9:30 am

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert
331 South Cooper Road,
Gilbert AZ 85233
Call 480-892-9166 for
more information



We have an update regarding our next Family Promise hosting week April 5 - 12. It is now confirmed that the families will not be staying overnight at our campus but we are still asked to provide food for them if possible. They estimate that we will need to provide dinner for 12 people, and will let us know the Thursday before (April 2) ages and any food allergies, like usual.

I know a lot has changed since you signed up to do this, so if you are now unable to donate this time, it's really ok. The plan is that we will meet in the church parking lot at 4:45 each day and everyone can put their food in my trunk. Let me know if you'd rather I pick up at your home. I will deliver to the FP office where the families are staying at 5:30pm.

Family Promise is very appreciate of our help. I'll keep you posted if there are changes! Thought I'd forward this update from Kathy Kaplan at Family Promise to all of their friends and prayer partners. Her words really capture what our support means to them. I can't imagine what it must be like to not have the security of a home during this time of uncertainty and fear. As we are working together to deliver the food sustenance the families need, let's also remember to keep them in our prayers. If you sew, you might consider the project that Kathy mentions at the end of her email.... or share the idea with others who might be interested.

Very seldom do I choose to share personal anecdotes ... but now seems like an appropriate time. My father, my role model, my friend often reminded me that the one trait everyone needed to find within themselves was endurance ... he would frame our conversations about endurance as follows: "There will come a time Kathleen when you will find yourself in a maelstrom ... the winds will be strong ... they will buffet you back and forth ... you may be terrified ... you may be uncertain ... you may even think that you cannot handle the storm ... but believe me you can ... so when you are there just stop for a moment ... feel the hand of God upon you ... take a deep breath ... then a tiny step ... then a longer stride ... and before you know it you will be back on steady ground." Good advice to a young girl who now shares it with you as together we whether an unseen, but powerful storm. Here at Family Promise we are not simply enduring we are prospering ... the out pouring of support we have received has been beyond amazing. Our congregational partners continue to provide for our families ... the meals that are now delivered to our gate provide not just sustenance, but a sense of normalcy ... allowing adults and children alike to know that they are seen ... that they are cared for ... that they are loved!

We have a full house at Belleview ... and two families will be joining us at Earl in the next few days. When last we checked there were 140 families on the wait list for shelter ... which is way too many ... and although we are now full we continue to provide a listening ear ... resources and referrals ... and as families graduate we will welcome others to the miracle that is Family Promise.

We are blessed to be fielding many calls inquiring about ways in which to help ... one thought is that if you sew you might consider stitching up face masks ... we understand that Joann's Fabrics and Crafts has an online tutorial on how to make them ... please note that these are not medical grade masks, but none the less we think that our families would appreciate them.

In closing, please know that each of you are in our thoughts and prayers ... and please join with us in storming heaven with prayers and the earth with acts of kindness.

Blessings & Grace... Kathy Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a ministry outreach First United Methodist Church of Gilbert provides to educate children about God. Children learn about Jesus through fun, ageappropriate activities. Vacation Bible School helps children build a lifetime of memories and friendships. Children will enjoy stories from the Bible, singing, crafts, games, snacks, and exciting skits.

Children ages 3 years (must be potty trained) through those entering 6th grade in the fall of 2020

You don't have to be a church member to attend VBS

JULY 13-17,2020 from 9am - 12pm NOTE CHANGE IN DATE

Cost:

February 1 – April 30: \$30 per child/\$75 Family Max

May 1 – June 1: \$35 per child/\$75 Family Max

After reserving your child's spot on Eventbrite, payment will be required by going to the FUMCG payment site: https://bitly.com/gilbertgiving before your registration is complete.

Financial assistance is available upon request, please email for more information.



Lockdown prayer

L.o.c.k.d.o.w.n. is a time to:

Listen to God's Voice and reflect. Let Go and Let God!



Obey His Word and His teachings.
Call on Jesus' name and be Calm.
Know what is the purpose of all this.
Dwell in His Presence. Do not panic.
Offer a prayer for everyone's safety.
Wait and be patient. This too, shall pass.

Prayers for those in need

During this time of uncertainty we will be still be praying for those in need so please either call or email prayer requests and we will send them out to our dedicated prayer team. The office number is 480-892-9166 or the email

<u>prayers@gilbertumc.org</u>. If It is pastors only please mark <u>pastors only</u> and it will go only to pastors. And we will being praying for all the concerns and praises.

Your prayer team



Purses for Moms

The Missions Committee is collecting new or gently used purses filled with goodies this Mother's Day to donate to moms in local domestic violence and family shelters. We will be working in conjunction with organizations such as UMOM and Shoebox Ministry. There will be a donation box in the activity center. Please collect at home and we will announce when to bring all donations to the church. Don't forget to double check your purse to remove your personal items. We will also accept empty purses or just the items to fill them. Suggestions for what to include are cosmetics, scented lotions, bath gels, manicure & pedicure items. jewelry, hair accessories, and toiletries.







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 online now

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



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. (Small groups are contingent on the CDC guidelines)





MEMORIES OF ONE GILBERT PIONEER FAMILY'S SUCCESS IN SPITE OF ADVERSITY

This article about this family was written by Rose Geisel Divelbess Church Historian. Unfortunately there is no date on it so I don't know the date it was written. This is in part of our church archives and I thought it was worth sharing. The McConnells became church members in 1920. 100 years ago.

Respectfully submitted, Therese Pineda Church Historian

The W.C. McConnell family came from Wyoming to Gilbert in 1919. They must have had great dreams of a new life in this fast developing area. They had 3 small sons, Robert (Bob), George and William (Bill).

Clearance had been a carpenter, therefore he began to do that work to supplement their small farm income. In a short time he sustained a very serious injury when he fell from a rafter and was tragically paralyzed for life. As soon as was able to get around in a wheel chair he went to work at Gilbert Town Hall as clerk of the Court and Justice of the Peace. A ramp was built so that Clarence had access to Town Hall. The ramp remained there until 1982 when town Hall was remodeled and enlarged.

Altha kept the written records at night to help Clarence fulfill his duties. She also furnished room and board for a few teachers in order to supplement their income. Altha was a very dedicated worker in the Methodist Church, especially in the Women's Society of Christian service.

All three boys graduated from Gilbert High School and while living with relatives in Illinois, all three graduated from Monmouth College. Robert's only son obtained a law degree from Arizona State University and later served as Assistant U.S. Attorney General during a part of the Reagan administration.

William served as Superintendent of the Coolidge system for many years. George served as Superintendent of the Amphitheater Schools on Tucson for several years. The Pulpit Chair, used by every Gilbert Minister since 1932, was made by George McConnell in Gilbert High School Manual Training Shop under the direction of teacher Leonard Clements. A plaque on the chair presents this information.



April Calendar of Events 2020

(all studies and small groups are contingent on the CDC recommendations.)

Week of April 5th thru the Family	Promise*		1 Mid week Lenten service 5:30 Wednesday night fellowship suppers resume 5:45 Lenten class Wed night classes	2Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30 am	3	4 Griefshare 9:00-10:30 Every Saturday
5 Palm Sunday Family	6 Promise week	7 Tues Morning Bible Study	8 Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in No Wednesday night services	9 Maundy Thursday Shawl ministry 1pm Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11
12 Easter Sunday	13	14 Tues Morning Bible Study	15 Wednesday night fellowship suppers resume 5:45 Wednesday night classes	16 Book Club 11AM	17	18 Men's breakfast 8-9:30 am
19	20	21 Tues Morning Bible Study	22 Wednesday night fellowship suppers resume 5:45 Wednesday night classes Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in	23	24	25
26 Mother's day purse drive collection day	27	28 Tues Morning Bible Study	29 22 Wednesday night fellowship sup- pers resume 5:45 Wednesday night classes Chat N Chew meets every Wednesday at Noon in	30		

May Calendar of Events 2020

(all studies and small groups are contingent on the CDC recommendations.)

			Chat & Chew Noon Wednesday night fellowship sup- pers resume 5:45 Wed night classes 6:30		1 May Day	2 Griefshare 9:00-10:30 Every Saturday
3	4	5 Tues Morning Bible Study	6 Chat & Chew Noon Wednesday night fellowship suppers resume 5:45 Wed night classes 6:30	7 National Day of Prayer Women's Fellowship 9:30 am	8	9
10 Mothers Day Happy Mother's Da	11	12 Tues Morning Bible Study	13 Chat & Chew Noon Wednesday night fellowship suppers resume 5:45 Wed night classes 6:30	14 shawl meeting 1PM	15	16 Men's Breakfast 8-9:30
17	18	19 Tues Morning Bible Study	20 Chat & Chew Noon Wednesday night fellowship suppers resume 5:45 Wed night classes 6:30	21 book club 11AM	22	23
REME	25 Memorial Day MORIAL DAY MBER ND NOR	26 Tuesday Morning Bible Study	27 Chat & Chew Noon Wednesday night fellowship sup- pers resume 5:45 Wed night classes 6:30	28	29	30

April Birthdays



Emma Strazz	2
Anah Victoria Whittington	2
	3
Taleen Carpenter Christina Tesarek	3 4
Kathy Tracy	5
Dana Corban	7
Gloria Eggen	8
Daniel Christopher Mendoza	9
Jeannine Langdon	10
Judie Eastburn	11
Dennis W. Hazelrigg	11
Carol Scharff	11
Matthew Ramirez	12
Ernestine Tesarek	12
Ava La Rose	15
Jeff Snyder	16
Francoise Kaj	19
Joseph Norris	19
Valerie Kellogg	20
Mary Ann Kolmer	20
Doug Rhoden	21
Jan Grindle	22
Jonathon Chuk	23
Lily Smith	27
Drew Harvey	28
Mike Cranford	30

April Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
01	Jan and Scott Grindle	36
07	Laura and Jason Rowley	14
09	Jonie and Bruce Woolsey	54
11	Abigail and Doug Rhoden	5
17	Delaine and Richard Antho	ny 39
17	Jan and Glen Compton	16
17	Sini and Scott Oullette	14
20	Patti and Dirk Smith	7
22	Jenny and Ray Vallera	25
25	Lora and Joe Norris	28
30	Keela and Mike Clark	31
30	Jo Lynn and Irvin Harder	32

thdays / Anniversaries





Renovations are starting now so pardon our noise and dust. Watch for signs because some meeting rooms will have to be changed.