

# The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

September 2020



Listening to the Bible studies from the Teacher

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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 August  
23rd  
Virtual viewing 428

Church office will be  
Closed on September  
7th for Labor Day



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](http://gilbertumc.org) for latest information.

Contact us at 480-892-9166 or [info@gilbertumc.org](mailto:info@gilbertumc.org).

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday services will be livestreamed on Facebook at 9:30 am

Join us at [gilbertumc.org](http://gilbertumc.org) or [facebook.com/FUMCofGilbert](https://facebook.com/FUMCofGilbert)



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PHOENIX AREA

1550 E MEADOWBROOK AVENUE

PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85014-4040



August 12, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of the Desert Southwest Conference,

This email has two important points of information:

1- I have made the decision to postpone my update this week. There are many considerations and resources that are being developed and we want to share them with you when they are ready.

For now, there is no change in our Desert Southwest Conference response to the COVID-19

pandemic. We will continue the suspension of in-person worship and gatherings with the exceptions detailed in my update issued two weeks ago on July 29.

2- In the meantime, our Desert Southwest Conference chancellor, Marilee Miller Clarke, is offering a webinar on Thursday, August 20th at 10 AM PST to inform churches about when, why, and how to use waivers and signs for ministries happening on the church campus during this time of social distancing.

Please share this registration information with your church's re-opening team, the board of trustees, and church staff and leadership that needs to be informed about the use of waivers and signs for ministries happening on the church campus.

Click [here](#) to register in advance for this webinar and enter your questions for Marilee to address during the webinar.

My next update will be published on Wednesday, August 19, 2020. Please keep praying and keep acting for justice in the name and spirit of Jesus who taught us to love one another as he loved us. Demonstrate that Christ-like love by caring for yourself and keeping yourself well and safe; and caring for others so they are also well and safe.

In Christ,  
Bishop Bob



# Make the First UMC Gilbert Connection

connection@gilbertumc.org

Sylvia Harris, Director of Invitation and Welcoming

## Meet Our New Members and Greet them when you see them on campus!

Julie & Dick Curran (not pictured) joined us from First UMC of Mesa. They share their adult daughter Cassie together & recently welcomed a new grandchild to their family. They enjoy spending their time outdoors, doing things like kayaking and hiking.



Shayla, David, & Maddie Paap join us from Song of Life. Shayla serves as our Director of Youth Ministry and David volunteers as our video editor for our weekly worship services. Shayla also works for Banner Health and David works as a trainer and teacher. Maddie is into lots of activities, including gymnastics, swimming, volleyball, violin and competition shooting with her dad. The family enjoys spending time outdoors, including hiking and recent kayaking adventures.



Melissa & Randy Vanderpol join us through a reaffirmation of faith. Randy has served as our Worship Leader for about eighteen months and our Music Director for a year. Their adult sons, Jack & Nate, join them as they share their collective music gifts in worship service. Randy works as a music teacher when he's not driving Melissa around to thrift stores where she finds furniture pieces to restore.

In Christ's Love,  
Sylvia Harris

## MISSION TEAM UPDATE

While we might not be meeting in person, the giving nature of our church members is still present. 34 items of food were delivered to Gilbert Open Arms this week. You may continue to drop off non-expired food in the activity center and place in the wooden cart labeled Open Arms.

The Mission team has continued to actively assist people in our community and church. The following are a few things we've been working on this summer.

### BACKPACK and TRAPPER KEEPER DRIVE



Through your generous donations, First United Methodist Church of Gilbert recently delivered 60 trapper keepers, 25 backpacks filled with school supplies and a variety of art supplies for the art department to Gilbert Elementary School. The school is so grateful for your kindness....see thank you from the school.

### FACEMASKS

Eleven members of our church donated their time and their gift of sewing to make approximately 300 facemasks for Gilbert Elementary students. A BIG thank you to the "Exceptional Eleven" and to those who donated fabric and made monetary donations.

A sampling of masks donated to Gilbert Elementary.

WOW!!!!  
MOM!!!!



### Food Pantry Boxes

While FUMC of Gilbert doesn't officially have a food pantry, we still can provide food to families in need. We currently have boxes of food available to those who contact the church. Along with food for a week, we also provide a gift card for milk, eggs, and bread. If you would like to donate to the food pantry box mission, please indicate on your check or on your online donation. Thank you!



## Preschool News

[www.gilbertpreschool.com](http://www.gilbertpreschool.com)



## 's for Preschool Families

### **A** Always read a bedtime story... and a mid-morning story, when the kids aren't too tired!

If they want to read the same story over and over, then follow their lead and go for it! If they want to "read" the book and it's not completely accurate, it's ok! Let them pretend to read!

"As your young child listens to stories, he learns that all good stories have a beginning, middle, and end. He also learns to predict, based on the book cover, what the story will be about, as well as what might happen next or how the story will end. Young children learn that there are characters in stories and a particular setting (where and when it takes place). Your child will enjoy comparing the characters in a book to him/herself and to other real life people he knows." Adapted from [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)

### **B** Bible Stories and Verses are important!

Invest in a children's bible. There are many to choose from at the Christian book stores. Choose one with lots of pictures. That will make it interesting and memorable for the preschoolers. Choose one bible verse a week to talk about and memorize. Choose one that is meaningful to your family. Here are some ideas to get you started:

"Love your neighbor as you love yourself" Luke 10:27b

"The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with JOY" Psalm 126:3

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above. " James 1:17

### **C** Compare Objects and Investigate!

Three and four-year-olds approach the world with great curiosity and use their imaginations to help understand it. Hands-on explorations help them to separate reality from fantasy. Encourage preschoolers to ask and answer questions about how, why, and what if...?

Find some fun Inquiry based Science activities at: <http://www.education.com/activity/preschool/science/>

**REGISTER NOW!**

Enroll Today! We have openings in our MWF and T/Th 3s classes for the 2020-2021 school year! We'd love to have you as part of our preschool family! If you're interested in more information, please check out our website- <http://gilbertumcpreschool.com/> or give us a call for a tour!



**August 31st, 9am**



If you have any questions about the preschool, please email [preschool@gilbertumc.org](mailto:preschool@gilbertumc.org) or call 480-892-9166. Directors Lora Norris or Betsy Marlinga would love to speak with you!

## 1ST-6th Graders

### Preschool and Kinder



#### SERIES DESCRIPTION:

Trusting that God has a plan for us is what helps us have peace, purpose, courage, and patience when things don't go like we think they should. It helps us persevere and follow God even when things around us are hard.

WEEK ONE: : Joseph Gets a Coat and Goes to Egypt \* Genesis 37; Jeremiah 1:5

WEEK TWO: Joseph in Jail \* — Genesis 39–40

WEEK THREE: Joseph Saves the Grain \* — Genesis 41

WEEK FOUR: Joseph Forgives \* — Genesis 42–45

**BOTTOM LINE: GOD HAS A PLAN FOR ME. "For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord." Jeremiah 29:11, NLT**

**ONE PRIORITY love god**

**"... with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-38**

#### Mission:

We are not collecting since we are only online.

#### SERIES DESCRIPTION:

#### CORE INSIGHTS

Jesus showed us the greatest example of love when He laid down His life for His friends. With His words and actions, He showed friendship to everyone He met. We can reflect Jesus' love best when we treat one another with friendship.

#### COMMUNITY • COMPASSION

#### WEEK ONE:

Two people are better than one —

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

BOTTOM LINE: Choose your friends carefully

WEEK TWO: WEEK TWO: David and Jonathan —

1 Samuel 20 BOTTOM LINE: Friends love one another.

WEEK THREE: .WEEK THREE: Elijah and Elisha — 1 Kings 19:14-21; 2 Kings 2:1-15

BOTTOM LINE: Friends encourage one another.

WEEK FOUR: WEEK FOUR: Jesus Forgives Peter — John 21:1-19

BOTTOM LINE: Friends forgive one another.



**"A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes." Proverbs 17:17, NIV**

### Zoom Sunday School Schedule

preschool/kinder 8:30-9

1st-3rd 10:45-11:30

4th-6th 11:30-12:15

Wednesday Wilds

4 pm on Wednesday





## Zoom Youth Sunday School



### Perhaps you

**can find something your whole family can be involved in doing.**

There are opportunities that are both in person, like at United Food Bank where they are keeping safety and hygiene a top priority by requiring masks, frequent hand washing, and social distancing while still working together in a group. There are also opportunities where there is no contact with others, like collecting items for a specific project and then delivering them to an organization who will distribute to those most in need, or driving around town and delivering meals to seniors who are home bound. There are so many options that you and your family could do. Please consider these options below, or if you know of other options, please email them to [youthministry@gilbertumc.org](mailto:youthministry@gilbertumc.org) and we'll include them in next weeks newsletter.

United Food Bank (Mesa Dr. and Baseline) Packing emergency food bags, short 2hr shifts (day and evening) then Friday they do a big distribution of food bags on Friday's in downtown Mesa.

<https://unitedfoodbank.org/volunteer/>

Midwest Food Bank (Baseline between Cooper and McQueen; sorting and packing food boxes) <https://midwestfoodbank.org/volunteer/volunteer-interest-form>

Gilbert Clothing Cabin (Cooper and Guadalupe; sorting donated clothes for those in need) <https://onesmallstepaz.org/volunteer/>

Senior Meal Deliver/AZCEND/Gilbert Senior Center (Gilbert and Elliot; delivering meals around town, no contact option)

<https://www.justserve.org/projects/b8bb126a-1caf-4955-b5be-4a409867e484>

To search other volunteer opportunities in your area click on [www.justserve.org](http://www.justserve.org) sort by zip code, then click "see all" otherwise only a few organizations come up.

**The whole leadership team and youth leaders are keeping you and your family in our prayers each week. Please reach out if you need anything [youthministry@gilbertumc.org](mailto:youthministry@gilbertumc.org) !**

## HEALTH HEAT AND COVID 19

Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up. Proverbs 12:25

Physical distancing helps to protect ourselves and others from COVID 19 however, it can affect our mental and spiritual well-being. Here in the valley we are also having to endure record breaking temperatures this summer that can also pose a serious threat to your health. We have to plan very well to keep ourselves healthy in mind, body and spirit during this difficult time of physical distancing and the Arizona Heat.

You have to get up pretty early in the morning to be able to take a walk, exercise or do yard work outside. If you do experience Muscle cramps it can be a sign of heat illness. Get to a cooler place and drink ½ glass of water every 15 minutes.

Since taking a simple walk outside can be detrimental to our health in this heat, we must find more inventive ways to exercise, keep our blood circulating and build our strength. Turn on the radio and dance to a few songs. You can also YOU TUBE various exercise and dance routines. When we exercise our body releases endorphins which help to produce a positive feeling in our body and reduce the ill effects of stress, sadness, grief, loneliness and worry.

Living through the COVID 19 Pandemic will be a memory of exceptional significance for most of us. Being separated from our extended families and church community has created much stress and grief.

Through it all we have battled it with great creativity and resilience. Designing new and better masks. Learning how to use Zoom meetings and other online meeting places. Developing new and virtual classrooms. We are even able to attend our worship service together at 9:30 on Sunday through the computer website,

Reading a book, solving a crossword puzzle, and playing board games can all help to keep our mind sharp. Staying well hydrated and eating smaller frequent meals can all help to manage our health. Proverbs 12:25 says “Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.” Connecting with friends and loved ones is very important as we practice physical distancing. Phone, text, facetime, write quick cards or long letters to stay connected. Share a prayer or read a book together. Staying in touch with others, eating well and finding some gentle exercise will help us to connect and strengthen our mind, body and spirit.

Resources: There are hot lines. For those experiencing distress with the COVID epidemic, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration has the Disaster Distress Helpline. 800-985-5990.

For those who are really struggling, and are thinking of hurting or killing themselves, there’s the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255

Especially for Teens. Teen Life Line phone or text: 602-248-TEEN (8336)



August 2020

Our mission continues with Family Promise even when we cannot invite them to our campus. Here is our great team packing up food to bring to the families!

**Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help this week.**



## CHURCH HISTORY: CELEBRATIONS

In August of 2020 our church family turned 105 years old. This year the Town of Gilbert turned 100. The formation of the church five years before Gilbert Township was incorporated as a town helped to build the foundation of Gilbert community. This community of Christian believers has a great history of worshiping and working together to help those in need through our many active ministries.

Celebrating over the years has been important for this church family. Beginning as a non-denominational Sunday School meeting on the porch of the grammar school in 1915 there have been many great celebrations over the years with homecomings, picnics, carnivals and special worship services. We celebrate our faith in God and joyfully work together to help those in most need throughout the community and the world.

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'  
Matthew 25:40





**Epworth League 1922**

Left to right: Evelyn Norton, John Sawyer, Lon McCue, Marguerite McCue, Viola Milhouse, Harlan Russell, Lena Nichols (Leader), Harold Pattee, Mrs. G.W. Imel.

**Gilbert Through the Years!**



**2015 Centennial Celebration Historic Walk**



**2010 Sunday School**





**The Narex and Narex Bathrooms are under construction now!**



**Building it back NEW!!!!**

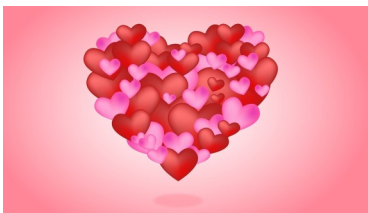


**Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:**

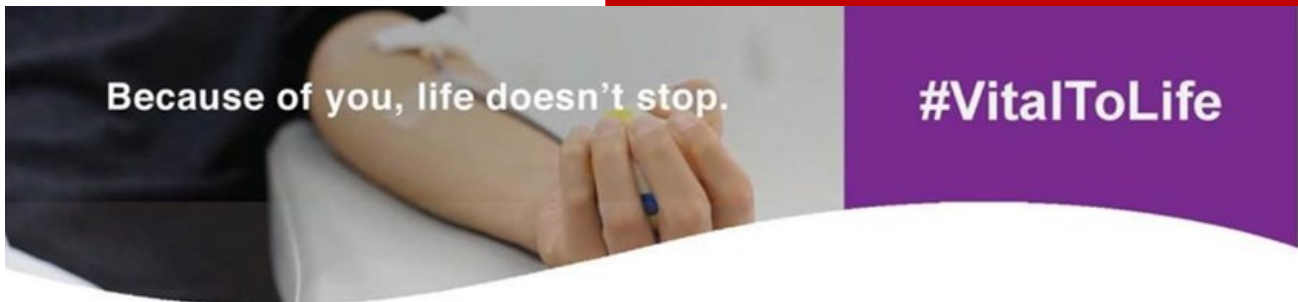
( all small groups are contingent on the CDC recommendations.)

Watch for the latest news and announces by the E-news every Thursday and prior to Sunday Services.

We are praying for all of you and hoping to see you soon!



Please be a Hero if you are well and meet the requirements above please give blood in these uncertain times.



**ADVANCE APPOINTMENTS** are encouraged to help maintain social distancing.



All donors must bring and wear a **MASK** or **CLOTH-BASED FACE COVERING**.



**Town of Gilbert Blood and Convalescent Plasma Drives**

Thursday, Aug., 27	9:30 am - 2:30pm
Monday, Sep., 21	1:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, Oct., 21	1:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, Nov., 25	1:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Thursday, Dec., 17	9:30 am - 2:30pm
Wednesday, Jan. 6	1:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Southeast Regional Library - Assembly Room  
775 N. Greenfield Rd.

Visit BloodHero.com (Sponsor Code: gilbert) or call 877-25-VITAL (258-4825) to schedule an appointment

 **DONATE BLOOD**  
vitalant.org | 877-25-VITAL





### 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 [prayers@gilbertumc.org](mailto:prayers@gilbertumc.org). If it is pastors only please mark **pastors only** and it will go only to the pastors.

And we will be praying for all the concerns and praises.

Your  
Prayer Team



### Looking for Gently Used Laptops & Computers

Have you bought a new computer, tablet, or laptop recently? If so, you may have your “old” equipment laying around and taking up space. Donate them to Church’s IT program and help us refresh some of the computer equipment around the church campus. Concerned about your

data? We will securely wipe your computer before using it, or give you a CD that you can use to wipe it yourself. Drop off computers and laptops at the Church Office.



Questions? Contact Philip Tesarek at [ITSupport@gilbertumc.org](mailto:ITSupport@gilbertumc.org) or (480) 510-4588. Thank you





**Congregational Care Support Groups**  
For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Diamond at [pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org](mailto: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


New class starting August 15



### 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)

## Text-to-Give

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

For first usage only:

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



# September Calendar of Events 2020

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Tues Morn- ing Bible 9:00	<b>2</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	<b>3</b> Christian Womens Fellow- ship 9:30 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Grief share Every Saturday 9:00-10:30
<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b> Church office closed	<b>8</b> Tues Morn- ing Bible 9:00	<b>9</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	<b>10</b> Shawl Ministry !:00 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Tues Morning Bible 	<b>16</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible	<b>17</b> Book Club 11:00 	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Mens Breakfast 8-9:30 
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Tues Morning Bible 9:00	<b>23</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Tues Morning Bible 9:00 	<b>30</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible			

# October Calendar of Events 2020

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Christian Womens Fellowship 9:30 	2	3 Grief share Every Saturday 9:00-10:30
4	5	6 Tues Morning Bible 9:00	7 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	8 Shawl Ministry 1:00 	9	10
11	12 Colum- bus Day 	13 Tues Morning Bible 9:00 	14 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible	15 Book Club 11:00 	16	17 Mens Breakfast 8-9:30 
18	19	20 Tues Morning Bible 9:00	21 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday	22	23	24
25	26	27 Tues Morning Bible 9:00 	28 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible	29	30	31 Hallow- een 

## August Birthdays



Nik Karavakis	1
Gail Greeley	2
Catherine Panella	2
Kimberly Fairley	3
Audrey Williams	3
Julie Brooks	6
Richard Curran	6
Melissa Coleman	7
Chris Cantwell	8
Ashten Eubank	8
Tom Knoll	8
Dan Hahn	9
Susan Mix	9
Cindie Rempel	12
Lindsey Sutton	12
Kathryn Church	13
Eric Butler	14
Paige Cantwell	14
Robert Hartmann	14
Sarah Metz	14
Laura Boever	15
Mandy Hansen	15
Leah Harris	16
Christopher ODell	17
Brenda Strom	17
Ryan Palmer	19
Maia Chiricuzio	20
Zachary Young	20
Alexandra Houseman	21
Katie Bouchie	23
Caden Bruce	23

Addie Fairley	23
Jeanine Hirsch	23
Bruce Woolsey	23
Elinore Englebrcht	24
Lisa Martin	24
Jake Regnitz	24
Victoria Paap	25
Chloe Smith	25
Delaine Anthony	27
Maegan Clark Blau	27
Eliana Karavakis	27
Lydia Ramirez	27



## September Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
07	Elinore and Leroy Englebrecht	73
07	Lisa and Bill Martin	29
08	Pat and Jim Bohart	51
09	Lori and Stuart Wiemers	25
15	Lynn Ingalls and JoAnn Mannion	23
19	Sylvia and Michael Harris	11
20	Julie and Kenneth Brooks	40