

The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

January 2021



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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
by appointment
only

**Church office will
be closed January
1st Have a Safe,
Healthy, and Happy
New Year**

Attendance
December 24th
Virtual viewing 803



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

Our Christmas Eve 3:00 service pageant performed by the children





MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL



REMEMBER JESUS IS THE ONE AND TRUE REASON FOR THE SEASON



PLEASE HAVE A SAFE, HEALTHY, AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Missions Christmas Wrap Up

The congregation's efforts to brighten Christmas for three different groups was a great success again this year! Twenty-five gifts were delivered along with tins of goodies and stockings made and filled by our youth to Arizona's Children Association for foster children close to aging out of the system. Fifty gifts were delivered to Home Instead for Be a Santa to a Senior, benefiting senior citizens who would not have received a gift. In our on-going efforts to help Family Promise, gift cards totaling \$385 and more facemasks, along with socks and gloves were delivered. We also recently completed a week-long rotation, supplying meals to homeless families. Thank you for supporting these efforts!



Thank you for being such a giving Church!



"I sure wish all of you could have seen the surprise and excitement on the faces of the Young Adult Services staff when they saw all the beautifully wrapped gifts we donated for their teens! As they said, the older kids in foster care don't often receive gifts - but not this year! Shayla and the Youth made personalized stockings full of goodies and travel mugs for each of the 23 teens and 2 children on our list. They also made tins of cookies to give out. So cool. Trevor and Pastor Rick took pictures of the gifts in my truck and here are a few more taken at the office. Maybe for a Missions Moment? Please see the thank you below from Donna, the coordinator of the program in Gilbert. Thank you all." Christmas Blessings, DyAnn



Our next Family Promise hosting will be Feb. 7 - 14, 2021. We will be sending out the sign-up to donate meals in mid-January. Watch the news for more details!



They Made Their Lists ... They Checked Them Twice ... They Joined Us for a Day of Shopping Delight!

The holidays came early to Family Promise this year. As part of our growing “Connections” program, we reached out to the past two years of graduates to invite them to a morning of ‘shopping’ on our Earll campus.

Thirty-five families responded to our invite and the Elves of Earll got to work. “Best Practices” of masks, social distancing, gel, and gloves were set in place.

Most of our graduate families chose to leave their children at home, but for those who brought their little ones, it was absolutely a joy of joys to see those sugar plums dance in their heads.

Smiles, giggles, and sticky fingers from candy canes reminded each of us of the joy and innocence that only young children can inspire.

In addition to toys, we were able to provide winter jackets, shoes, clothing, and food bags filled to overflowing.

The last seven months or so have often been described as dark ... but what this day proved is that the light inside of each of these families burns brightly. Their love for their children ... their desire to provide for them ... their gratitude for the blessings they have received is nothing short of miraculous!

So, to each of you who have walked their journey with them ... thank you! Your open hearts and listening ears have made their journey back to independence and self-sufficiency possible.

Our wish for each of you is that the light of hope represented in the candles of Hanukkah, and the star on the top of your Christmas tree continue to light your path in the New Year!

-Kathy Kaplan

FAMILY PROMISE NEEDS LIST

ON-SITE NEEDS

GIFT CARDS (\$25+) FOR GAS, WALMART, TARGET, FRY'S, ETC

FULL SIZE SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, & DEODORANT

ETHNIC HAIR PRODUCTS

ADULT DEPENDS

NEW BODY TOWELS & WASH CLOTHS

NEW TWIN SHEETS & TWIN BLANKETS

TALL KITCHEN DRAWSTRING BAGS

DIAPERS & PULL-UPS (SIZE 5 & 6)

PAPER TOWELS & TOILET PAPER

NEW OR GENTLY USED PACK 'N PLAYS

CAR SEATS & BOOSTER SEATS (ALL SIZES)

VILLAGE PROGRAM NEEDS (FOR OUR GRADUATING FAMILIES!)

SHOWER CURTAINS, LINERS , HOOKS , AND BATH MATS

LARGE LAUNDRY BASKETS

SILVERWARE & UTENSILS

CLEANING SUPPLIES (LYSOL, FABULOSO, MR. CLEAN, ETC.)

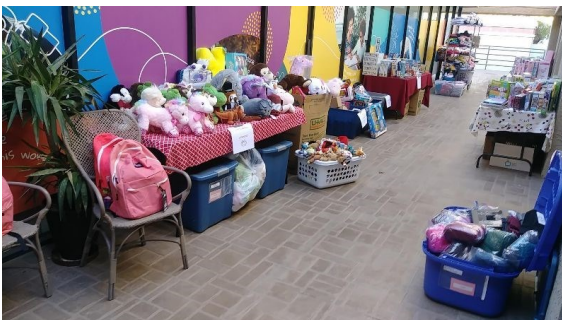
NEW PILLOWS

SMALL KITCHEN APPLIANCES

POTS & PANS

Deliver Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
7447 E Earll Dr., Scottsdale AZ 85251
For info: 480-659-5227

**Family Promise**
of Greater Phoenix



Preschool News
www.gilbertpreschool.com



What's been happening?

The children have been getting ready for Christmas with lots of fun activities in the classroom. They have learned all about the letters Ss for star, Jj for Jesus and Kk for king. We made jingle bell necklaces, strung Fruit Loops to decorate our Christmas tree and went on a gingerbread hunt. The children in each class also loved making special gifts to take home to their families. During chapel we talked about the meaning of Christmas and the story of Jesus' birth.

Christmas Celebrations- The preschoolers had a birthday party for Jesus' birthday where they decorated ice cream cone Christmas trees and sang Happy Birthday to Jesus! It was a wonderful way to close our semester! Our first day back to school is **Monday, January 4th!**



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!

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year will begin in January! We need your help to spread the word about our wonderful school. We'll have openings in Parent Tot, 3s and PreK. Everyone is welcome! Tell a friend, give us a call and come for a tour! More information about our programs is available online – gibertumcpreschool.com



FUMC of Gilbert Preschool



Gilbert preschool



@gilpreschool

Missions –

This month the preschool will collect pet supplies for Friends For Life Animal Rescue in Gilbert. Some of the items needed are: dog leashes, collars, kitty litter, cat/dog toys, food, treats and cleaning supplies.



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 about the preschool, please email preschool@gilbertumc.org or call 480-892-9166. Directors Lora Norris or Betsy Marlinga would love to speak with you!

January 2021 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Preschool and Kinder



SERIES DESCRIPTION:

How many times have you heard someone say, "That's amazing!" We've said it so much we've lost sight of what amazing looks like. Healing a lame man is amazing. Calming a storm is amazing. Causing countless fish to fill a fisherman's empty net is amazing. Jesus is amazing!

Faith

WEEK ONE: Jesus Teaches at the Temple — Luke 2:41-50

WEEK TWO: The Four Friends — Mark 2:1-12

WEEK THREE: Calming the Storm — Matthew 8:23-27

WEEK FOUR: Catching Fish * — Luke 5:1-10

WEEK FIVE: Healing the Blind Man — John 9:1-12

BOTTOM LINE: JESUS IS AMAZING.

"Everyone who heard Him was amazed."

Luke 2:47, 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

1ST-6th Graders

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

God has given us a responsibility to live His way every day. We can choose to use our stuff the way He wants us to. We can follow through with what we need to do. And we can show others that we can be trusted with anything.



CORE INSIGHTS

TRANSFORMATION • TRUTH

WEEK ONE: Greatest Commandment — Matthew 22:36-47

BOTTOM LINE: Love God. Love others.

WEEK TWO: Bigger Barns — Luke 12:16-21

BOTTOM LINE: Share what you have.

WEEK THREE: Ant and Sluggard — Proverbs 6:6-8

BOTTOM LINE: Work hard.

WEEK FOUR: Parable of the Bags of Gold — Matthew 25:14-30

BOTTOM LINE: Make the most of what you've been given.

WEEK FIVE: Use Words Wisely — Ephesians 4:29

BOTTOM LINE: Use your words wisely.

"Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large." Luke 16:10a, NIV

Mission:

We are not collecting since we are only online.



Zoom Youth Sunday School

Youth Group/Sunday School!

January 3, 2021, 7pm

We've combined Junior and Senior High Youth for awhile.

Please join us at 7pm this Sunday!

Check youth news for the link each Sunday

In November the Youth group was able to serve at the St. Vincent de Paul Mesa Garden one Sat. Morning and we got together one Sunday afternoon at the park for some socially distance recreation. It was so great to see people in-person!

In December the youth families supplied dinner for Family Promise on Dec.12th. The youth also helped stuff Christmas stockings for 25 foster teens through Gifts of Hope. We got together for a Christmas celebration, to watch a movie and gather around fire pits on the church patio on Dec. 20th! We also continue to meet for youth Sunday School on Zoom. During Advent the youth discussed the book Incarnation by Adam Hamilton.

Confirmation 2021 will begin on Jan. 10th, with a goal of Confirmation completion in early May.

Please email Shayla if you would like to participate (youthministry@gilbertumc.org).

Confirmation is open to any 7-12th grade youth who is interested in diving deeper in faith exploration.



Follow us on Instagram
[@fumcgyouth](https://www.instagram.com/fumcgyouth)

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 !

Youth News • 7th-12th Grade

HEALTH MINISTRY

APPROVED COVID-19 VACCINES

Because there is an urgent need for COVID-19 vaccines and the FDA's vaccine approval process can take months to years, the FDA will first be giving emergency use authorization to COVID-19 vaccines based on less data than is normally required. The data must show that the vaccines are safe and effective before the FDA can give emergency use authorization.

Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine. The FDA has given emergency use authorization to the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Data has shown that the vaccine starts working soon after the first dose and has an efficacy rate of 95% seven days after the second dose. This means that about 95% of people who get the vaccine are protected from becoming seriously ill with the virus. This vaccine is for people age 16 and older. It requires two injections given 21 days apart.

Moderna vaccineThe FDA has given emergency use authorization to the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Data has shown that the vaccine has an efficacy rate of 94.1%. This vaccine is for people age 18 and older. This vaccine requires two injections given 28 days apart.

Both the Pfizer/BioNTech and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines use messenger RNA (mRNA). Coronaviruses have a spike-like structure on their surface called an S protein. COVID-19 mRNA vaccines give cells instructions for how to make a harmless piece of an S protein. After vaccination, cells begin making the protein pieces and displaying them on cell surfaces. Your immune system will recognize that the protein doesn't belong there and begin building an immune response and making antibodies.

Continue safety precautions after getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

Experts will continue to gather data about the protection provided by the COVID-19 vaccine. How many people get vaccinated and the rate at which the virus is spreading will help to determine any changes in the Centers for Disease Control recommendations.

Currently the CDC recommends:

- **Cover your mouth and nose with a mask in public places**
- **Stay at least 6 feet away from others**
- **Avoid crowds**
- **Wash your hands often**
- **Stay home if you are sick**



You can find more information on the CDC.gov website.

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): How to protect yourself & others. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>. Accessed Dec. 4, 2020.

Amanat F, et al. SARS-CoV-2 vaccines: Status report. *Immunity*. 2020; doi:10.1016/j.immuni.2020.03.007.

AskMayoExpert. COVID-19: Vaccination. Mayo Clinic; 2020.

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!
- The church office will be closed on January 1 in observance of New Years Day.





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. If it is pastors only please mark **pastors only** and it will given 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 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 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 January 2021

Living Hope

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"



January Calendar of Events 2021

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

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

February Calendar of Events 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	1	2 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	3 Christian Women's Fel- lowship 9:30 	4	5 grief sha Every Satur 9:00-10:30	
6	7	8 Tues Morn- ing Bible 9:00 	9 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	10 Shawl Ministry !:00 	11	12
13	14	15 Tues Morning Bible 9:00	16 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	17 Book Club 11:00 	18	19 Men Breakfast 8-9:30 
20	21	22 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:00 	23 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	24	25	26
27	28	29 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:00	30 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	31	Chat & Chew Wednesday Noon Room 133 	

January Birthdays



Alyssa Bruce	1
Carolyn Phelps	2
Arianna Smith	2
Don Adams	3
Maximillian Boesch	3
Jeanne Randolph	3
Ashley Askeland	4
Pat Bohart	4
Derek Sovchik	4
Stan Strom	4
Leona Metz	5
Charles Bowser	8
Adeline Compton	8
Finley Bouchie	9
Nicholas K Karavakis	9
Karl Kotsonas	9
Trish Jung	10
Danielle Rowley	10
Harper Lynn F. Murphy	11
Hailey Palmer	12
Dawn Harvey	13
Jennifer Karavakis	14
Emily Ingalls	16
Carrie Mueller	16
Abigail Paap	16
Jo Lynn Harder	17
Oliviya McCluskey	17
Elice Province	18
Ethan Rempel	18
Jenna Bose	19

Mike Griffith	19
Jeannie High	21
Lori Wilkins	21
Elizabeth Boesch	25
Isaiah Kapenda	25
Heidi Mueller	25
Makena Sy	26
Isaiah Harris	27
Aaron Province	28



January Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
02	Shauna and Eric Palmer	28
06	Gayle and Garry Disch	25
19	Claire and Jake Regnitz	08
28	Anna and Matthew Trinidad	04