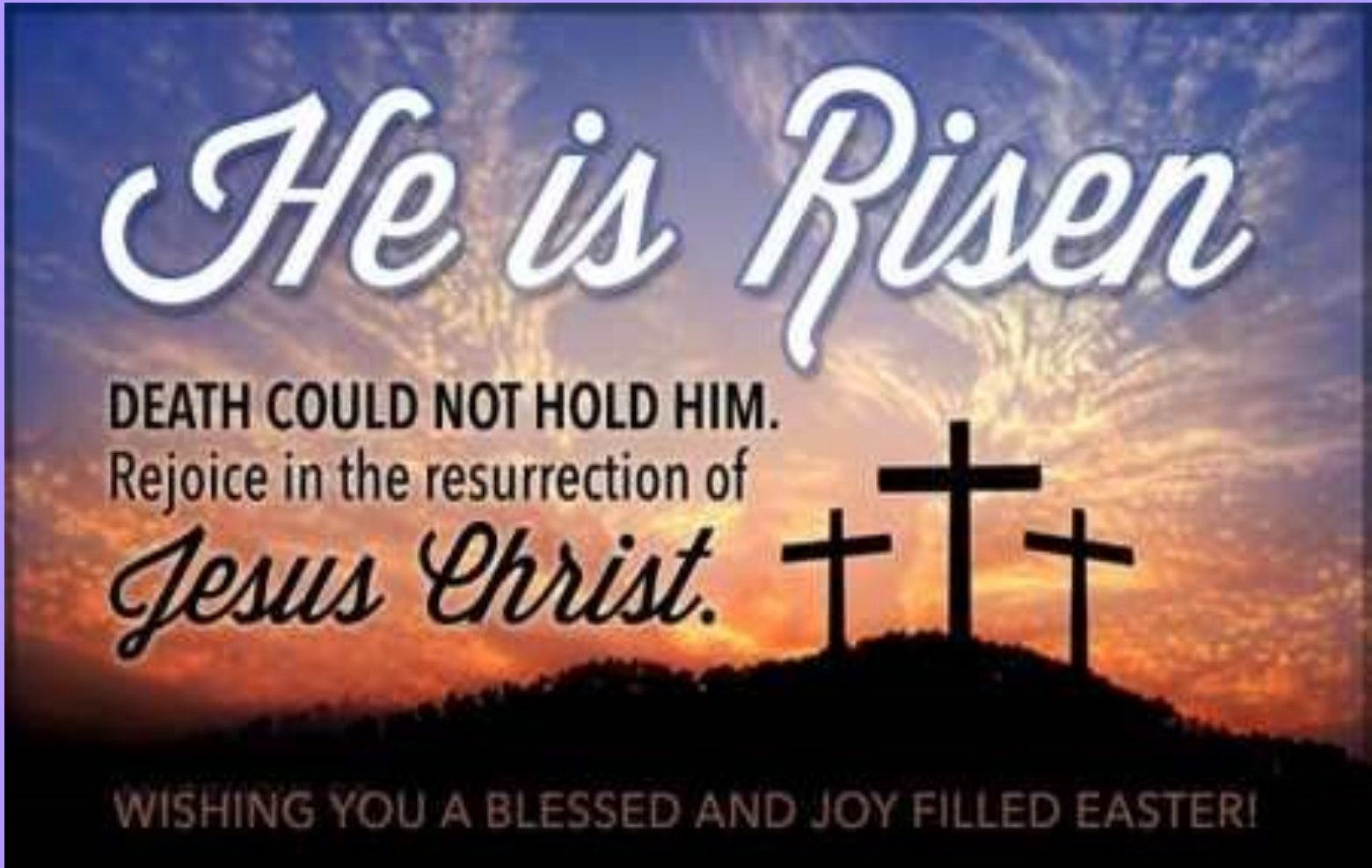


The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

April 2021



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Attendance
March 28th
Virtual viewing 203



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

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



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GILBERT



Limited Opening of Campus

Worship Services
(limited numbers)

Limited numbers includes wearing a mask on campus,
virtual check in and
prayer request only from your device only.

Sunday services will be livestreamed on Facebook and You Tube
at 8:30 and 10:00 am.

Any changes in this schedule will be put in the
Weekly Enews and the website for the latest news.

Gilbertumc.org

FIRST GILBERT

REOPENING

Guidelines

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, First Gilbert has created a reopening plan that was designed to provide a safe transition between closure and full services. It was created at the direction of Desert Southwest Conference Bishop Bob Hoshibata and East District Superintendent N. Susan Brims. This plan outlines mandatory steps that everyone must follow as the church reopens.

A summary of this plan follows, please contact the office at secretary@gilbertumc.org for the latest information.

Online Worship

Each service will be livestreamed and recorded for later viewing on the church website: gilbertumc.org/sermons

Requirements for In-Person Worship

- Total in-person attendance is limited
- Reserve seats through church website: gilbertumc.org
- If you have not done so already, complete the Covenant viewable here: gilbertumc.org/first-gilbert-covenant/
- Check in at the table on the patio when you arrive
- Masks must be worn at all times for those 6 or older
- Observe 6' social distancing between family groups
- Don't shake hands, hug or touch others
- Follow all instructions from the ushers and staff
- Please use the hand sanitizer provided
- Do not attend if you have tested positive for COVID, or were exposed to someone who has tested positive
- Do not attend if you are feeling sick
- No food or drink; beverages and snacks not served
- Sunday School and the Nursery will not be available
- Please keep children with you at all times

If an individual cannot wear a mask then we are required to suspend the service and the congregation will be dismissed. Your patience and cooperation is appreciated!

In-Person and Livestreamed Worship at First UMC Gilbert

Sunday March 21 — 9:30am

Palm Sunday March 28 — 8:30* | 10:00am*

Maundy Thursday April 1 — 7pm

Good Friday April 2 — 7pm

Easter Sunday April 4 — 6:30 | 8:30* | 10:00am*

*Nursery available



Easter Bags for Children at UMOM



FUMC of Gilbert will be joining other organizations in the area to provide Easter bags to the children at UMOM. Currently there are over 300 children who call a UMOM facility their home. We are asking for monetary donations to provide items such as sidewalk chalk, markers, coloring books, pencils, stickers, candy, etc. You can make a donation either online or by sending a check. Be sure to specify that it is for the Easter Bag Campaign. Thank you from the Mission Committee and UMOM.





Community-wide Food Drive-

If you remember last May we were invited to partner with other churches across Gilbert in a community wide food drive and collectively we collected enough food to fill all the area food pantries. Well we did it again! We collected non perishable food on March 26-and 27th. We collected canned and dry goods from 7am-7pm.

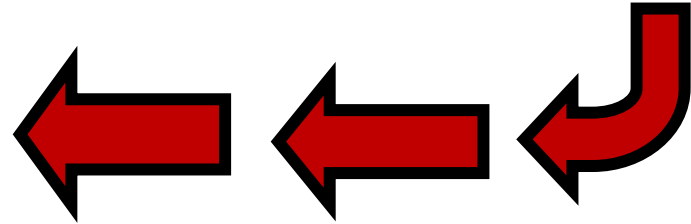




**GIVE BLOOD
SAVE LIFE**

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.

Volunteer opportunities



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 UMOM this year. Please bring all donations to the church office by May 2nd, 2021. We will also accept empty purses or just the items to fill them. Suggestions for what to include are cosmetics, scented lotions, hair brushes, bath gels, manicure & pedicure items, jewelry, hair accessories, and toiletries.





Gilbert's COVID-19 Vaccine Help Hotline

Gilbert has launched a COVID-19 Vaccine Help Hotline to assist residents 55 and older who are unable to register for the COVID-19 vaccine due to technological or transportation challenges. **Please note: this line is for Gilbert residents only.**

Call (480) 503-6070 to speak to a volunteer.

In-person assistance is also available at [Southeast Regional Library](#) and [Gilbert Community Center](#).

Phone and in-person COVID-19 vaccine help hours:

- Monday - Friday
- 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Interested in volunteering for Gilbert's COVID-19 Vaccine Help Hotline? Contact Sherry Nielsen at sherry.nielsen@gilbertaz.gov or by phone at (480) 215-7471.

Partner Resources

Maricopa County Public Health: maricopa.gov/covid19vaccine

Arizona Department of Health Services: azhealth.gov/COVID19vaccine

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19



New Director of Welcoming and ConnectionDivina Katching Mutach



My name is Divina Katching, I was born in 1996 in Lubumbashi, D.R.Congo. I came in the U.S.A in 2016 and lived in New York for almost four years and I relocated to Arizona in 2019. I was raised in a family of six children: three boys and three girls. I reflect a varied personality including ambition, and qualities of generosity and thoughtfulness. I encourage fighting for what you desire and believe in and doing it through God because nothing great comes easy and with God everything is possible. I am a full-time student, motivated by my love for learning and succeeding as I strive to become an outstanding and successful woman in today's society. With the definitive goal of becoming one of the most successful women in the world, I am currently completing the bachelor's degree in Business Administration and management, at Northern University of Arizona.

My favorite hobby is photography. I spend most of the time taking pictures because it makes me happy to create moments of life that will stay forever, so when I am gone I know for sure they will remember me. Apart from the above, I have kept an interest in design, music, traveling volunteering, cooking, everything that involves high risk pursuits and most importantly spending time with my loved ones.



SAVE THE DATE

VBS

July 12-15

THIS YEAR "FOCUS" VBS
will help kids dive deeper into their faith by putting their focus on God and His amazing plan for us!

Registration details available soon.
Please contact Janelle for info at childrensministry@gilbertumc.org

The Garden of the Beatitudes and Memorial Columbarium: Planning Ahead

The Garden of the Beatitudes and Memorial Columbarium is a place of healing in mind, body and spirit. It provides a pathway for peaceful reflection and prayer. Strolling through the garden reveals separate reflective areas featuring one of the Beatitudes. Memorial plantings, benches, and other markers reflect tributes to special family members donated by their families.



What is a Columbarium?

Columbarium in early Rome meant, simply, a resting place for doves. When Christians, relegated to Rome's catacombs, began using cliff-side niches to seal away ashes of the faithful who died, the term "columbarium" took on its present meaning: sacred compartments for storage of cremated remains, or the ashes of loved ones. Inurnment is the term used for placing the urn into the wall.

The Blessing of Planning Ahead

Planning ahead can help provide peace of mind, comfort, and security and can lift the burden of decision in a time of emotional stress. What better gift to offer yourself and your loved ones than knowing that when this chapter of life is over, your final resting place will be taken care of.

Cost Associated with Interment in a Columbarium Niche

Church Member: \$1500; Non Member: \$1700

Companion or double niche includes two urns and the engraving of the face stones.

Church Member: \$1750; Non Member: \$2,250

Cost includes the urn, and engraving of the face stone.


For those who are buried elsewhere, we offer wall plaques in our memorial wall: \$300


If you would like to plan ahead for yourself or to plan an inurnment for the ashes of your loved one please contact the church office, visit our church website, or call

Therese Pineda
602-686-1259.



Preschool News
www.gilbertpreschool.com

 FUMC of Gilbert Preschool

 Gilbert preschool

 @gilpreschool



REGISTER NOW!

We are NOW enrolling students for the 2021-2022 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 information with a friend.

What's been going on?

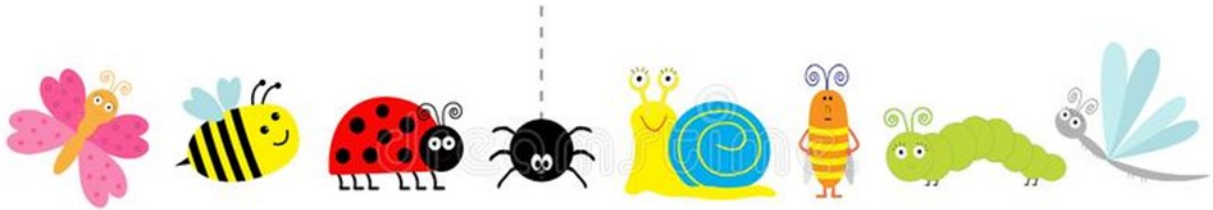
Literature Week-In March we celebrated reading for a week with "spirit day" activities. We learned about different authors and books and dressed accordingly to go with specific themes which included hat day, pajama day, color day and favorite book character day. We ended the week with a little parade to celebrate our love of reading.



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 after 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 in our garden. At the beginning of April we will look forward to more science fun as we watch and observe caterpillars form a chrysalis and eventually turn into butterflies. The children love releasing them outside once they are ready. We love this world God has made including all the living insects and bugs.



Easter

The children enjoyed getting ready for Easter at the end of March. They learned a new bible verse during Chapel, "Hosanna, blessed is He who comes." We made some Easter crafts and celebrated Jesus together.



Happy Spring and Happy Easter!

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!

April 2021 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Preschool and Kinder



SERIES DESCRIPTION:

Forever. That is how long Jesus wants to be our friend. He wants us to tell everyone, everywhere that

He is alive and He wants to be their friend forever. The best way to do that is to love everyone, everywhere the same way Jesus does.

Core Insight:

Restoration

Connection

WEEK ONE: Easter * — Matthew 26:20-30; 27:45-50; 28:1-7

WEEK TWO: Breakfast on the Beach — John 21:1-14

WEEK THREE: Early Church — Acts 2:42-47

WEEK FOUR: Great Commission — Matthew 28:16-20

BOTTOM LINE: JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." Ephesians 3:18, 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:

.When Jesus died on the cross, He made peace between God and us. We can have peace—and we can share His peace with others. We can reflect the character of Christ by caring enough to make peace.



CORE INSIGHTS

Transformation • Community

WEEK ONE: Easter — God's Big Story (Supporting: Colossians 1:20)

BOTTOM LINE: God made peace with us.

WEEK TWO: Live in Peace with Others — Colossians 3:15

BOTTOM LINE: We can make peace with others.

WEEK THREE: Isaac's Wells — Genesis 26:16-22; 26-31

BOTTOM LINE: Prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight.

WEEK FOUR: Abigail Intervenes — 1 Samuel 25:1-35

BOTTOM LINE: Prove you care more about others by being a part of the solution.

"So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another."

Romans 14:19, NIV

Mission:

We are not collecting since we are only online.



Zoom Youth Sunday School

Youth Group/Sunday School!

April 4, 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

Summer Camp at Mingus Mountain 2021!



Please consider the many opportunities for Children and Youth Summer Camps this summer. The traditional camps offer small groups for bible study, Archery, Zip Line and Ropes Course, Gaga Ball, campfires, making new friends, and so much more! This year they offer a few themed camps focused on service or adventure activities.

Since the Youth will not be going on an out of town mission trip (SSP) again this summer, we would love for the youth to take this opportunity to experience an amazing week at Summer Camp!

FUMCG Youth are still planning to host a week of various service projects within our local community this summer, details yet to be finalized, but these activities should cost little to nothing financially.

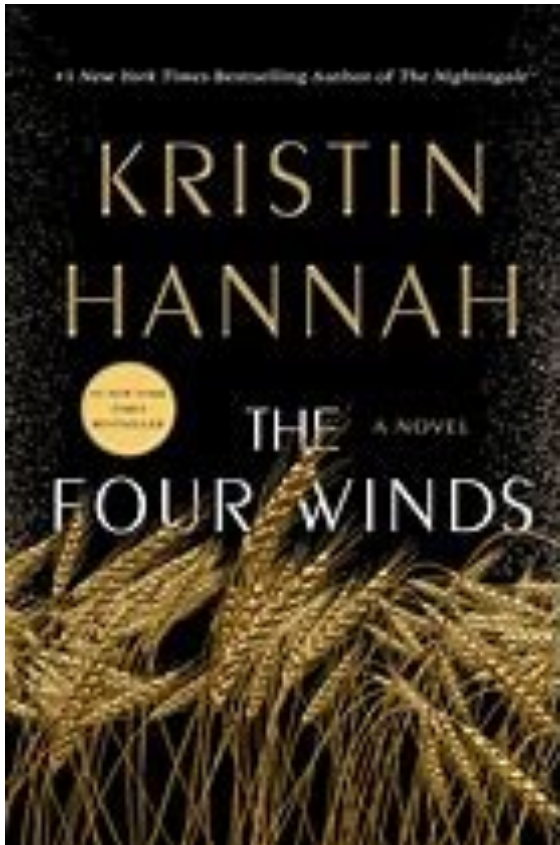
Please continue to watch the Youth News for the application process to get some scholarship funds towards your summer camp experience if needed. Also, if you know any 18+ young adults looking for a summer job, they are hiring for some paid summer camp staff positions as well.

For information about summer camp, including session dates and descriptions, and jobs, please visit the Mingus Mountain website and then you can Register for Camp.



Follow us on Instagram@fumcyouth

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 !



The Book Corner

Judy Bristow will be reviewing the Kristin Hannah book "The Four Winds" .

The review will be done on April 15 at 11:00 on zoom and hopefully in person in room 130.

The next three months books are :

May's Book will be "The Vanishing Half " by Brit Bennett

June's book will be "Mere Christianity" by C. S. Lewis

July's book will be " The House of Kennedy" by James Patterson.

Send a child or youth of our church to camp

The UMC has two church camps in our area and each winter and summer we get to send our young people to Mingus Mountain outside Prescott. There they get to experience God from that mountain top while getting closer to each other, and I hope they have a little fun in God's beautiful creation too. Two summers ago I got to be camp counselor and spend some time up there with our youth and this Summer I will be a Spiritual Director at one of the camps. So I have seen firsthand the impact the experience has on the youth who go and in the past on Camp Sunday we have heard the testimonies from our youth who have experienced this mountaintop experience. We are mentioning it now because you all have a part in making this happen. First Gilbert has a camp scholarship fund available so that no family or camper should be turned away because of financial hardships. Whether your child is in children's ministry or youth group, they can go to camp, no matter what. So if you would like to donate to the Camp Scholarship fund, you can do that by going to the giving website and type "Camp" in the designation spot or in your check memo line.

To find out how to give to the general fund or other ministries at First Gilbert go to gilbertumc.org/giving to find out how you can give online, by text, or by mail. Thank you for your faithful giving.

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:
(all small groups are contingent on Bishop Bob and 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!
- In person limited seating starts March 21 st!!!! Masks will be worn, convent signed and social distancing with no hugging, hand shaking or taking off of masks. This will continue as long as covid numbers do not spike. Please be respectful and reverent in the sanctuary.
- Palm Sunday March 28th two services 8:30 / 10:30 Maundy Thurs April 1st 7 pm Good Friday April 2nd 7 pm and Easter Morning April 4th 6:30 am/ 8:30 am/ 10:00am Nursery will be available on the 8:30 and 10:00 services on Palm Sunday and Easter Morning.
- Save the Date for VBS July 12-15!!!!!!!!!!!!





Prayers for those in need

During this time of uncertainty we will 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 request please mark **pastors only** and it will be 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



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"



April Calendar of Events 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Maundy Thursday 7pm-Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30 	2 Good Friday 7 pm 	3 grief share Every Saturday 9:00-10:30
4 Easter Sunday 	5 	6 Tues Morning Bible 9:00	7 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	8 Shawl Ministry !:00 	9	10
11	12	13 Tues Morning Bible 9:00	14 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	15 Book Club 11:00 	16	17 Men's Breakfast 8-9:30 
18	19 	20 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:00	21 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	22	23	24
25	26	27 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:00	28 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	29	30	



May Calendar of Events 2021

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

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

2

3

4

Tues
Morning Bible
9:00



5

Chat N Chew
Noon Wednesday
Night Bible study 6:30

6

Christian
Women's Fel-
lowship 9:30



7

1 Grief share
Every Saturday
9:00-10:30 am

8

9

10

11

Tues
Morning Bible
9:00

12

Chat N
Chew Noon
Wednesday
Night Bible study
6:30

13

Shawl
Ministry 1:00



14

15 Mens
Breakfast
8-9:30



16

17

18

Tues
Morning Bible
9:00

19

Chat N
Chew Noon
Wednesday
Night Bible
study 6:30

20

Book Club
11:00



21

22

23

24

25

Tues
Morning Bible
9:00



26

Chat N
Chew Noon
Wednesday
Night Bible
study 6:30

27

Chat & Chew
Wednesday
Noon
Room 133



28

29

30

31 Memorial
day Church
office closed



April Birthdays



Emma Strazz	2
Anah Victoria Whittington	2
Taleen Carpenter	3
Christina Tesarek	4
Dylan Michael Johnson	5
Kathy Tracy	5
Jessica Utton	5
Dana Corban	7
Gloria Eggen	8
Daniel Christopher Mendoza	9
Jeannie Langdon	10
Austin Curran	11
Judie Eastburn	11
Dennis W. Hazelrigg	11
Carol Scharff	11
Stephanie Helland	12
Matthew Ramirez	12
Ernestine Tesarek	12
Jeff Snyder	15
Francoise Kaj	19
Joseph Norris	19
Andrew Sovchik	19
Valerie Kellogg	20
Mary Ann Kolmer	20
Doug Rhoden	21
Jan Grindle	22
Jonathon Chuk	23
Norman Nicks III	24
Lily Smith	27
Drew Harvey	28
Mike Cranford	30

April Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
1	Jan and Scott Grindle	37
7	Laura and Jason Rowley	15
9	Jonie and Bruce Woolsey	55
11	Abigail and Doug Rhoden	6
17	Delaine and Richard Anthony	40
17	Jan and Glen Compton	17
17	Sini and Scott Ouellette	15
20	Patti and Dirk Smith	8
22	Jenny and Ray Vallera	26
25	Lora and Joe Norris	29
30	Keela and Mike Clark	32
30	Jo Lynn and Irvin Harder	33



Birthdays / Anniversaries