

# The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

January 2022



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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  
Dec. 26th 132

Virtual viewing 223

Church office will be closed January 3 d in observance of New Years Day. The office will also be closed on January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GILBERT



## Limited Opening of Campus

Worship Services

**Limited** includes wearing a mask on campus if not vaccinated,  
You may do virtual check in and  
prayer request from your device If you desire.

Services at 8:30 and 10:00.

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

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

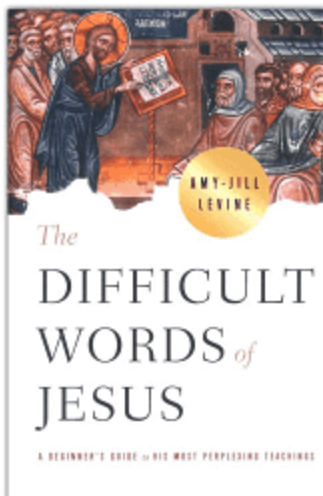
### Pastor Rick's and Diamond's Wednesday Night Study

Pastor Ricks Wednesday Night Bible Study will start the 19th of January at 6:30 and is still in the planning stages. Watch the e-news for updates.



### Pastor Diamond's new study will be The Difficult Words of

Jesus by Amy Jill Levine. Jesus provided his disciples teachings for how to follow Torah, God's word; he told them parables to help them discern questions of ethics and of human nature; he offered them beatitudes for comfort and encouragement. But sometimes Jesus spoke words that followers then and now have found difficult. In The Difficult Words of Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine shows how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how have they been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation.



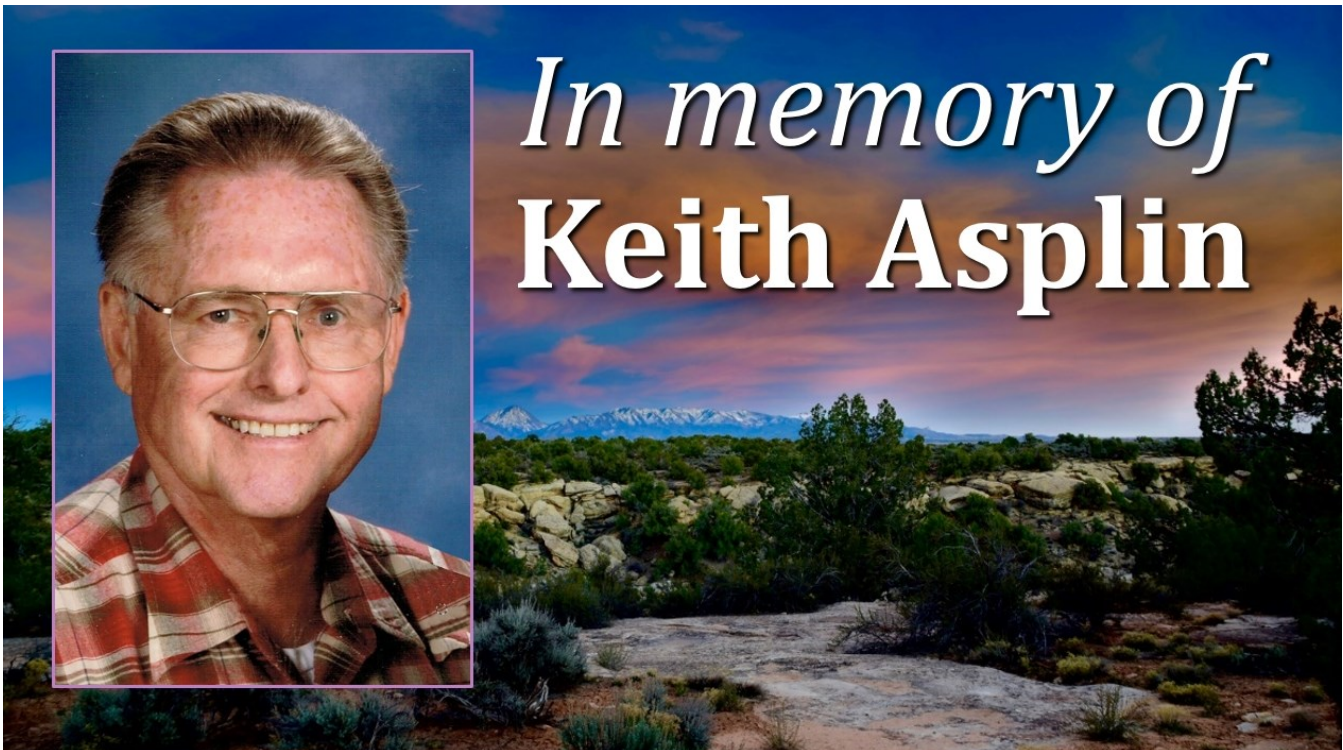
This will be a five week study taught by Pastor Diamond. It will be Hybrid style which means it will be both online and in person . Starting January 12th .



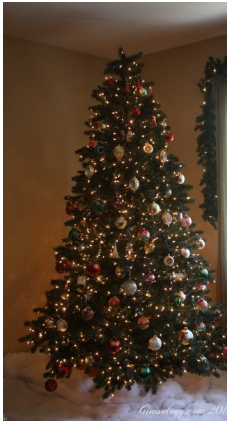


**Gift from Kaj Family**  
(brought from Africa)

Someone said "Church is not something you got to, it's a family you belong to". That is how we felt my family and I felt the first time we attended this church. In our culture we always return the favor to those who lent you their hands. Luke 10:5 says "Whatever house you enter, First say "Peace be to this house!" Our gift represents the peace that we bring to this church. The gift is made of Malachite stone which is a mineral that is based on copper carbonate. The green color comes from the copper oxidizing in the air because the mineral forms close to the surface of the Earth. It is generally found in caverns and caves where the mineral has formed into a stalactite or coated the surface of the ground. The majority of malachite rough comes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Thank you so very much and God bless you all.







## Gifts of Hope update

Thank you so much for all of your support for the Gifts of Hope program this year. Because of your generosity we were able to collect enough gifts for 35 children to year. It was so exciting to see everyone bring their gifts into the office this week, it just filled the staff with the Christmas Spirit. I know Dy'Ann O'Brien who took it over to the Foster Care office talked about how excited everyone was to receive the gifts. So thank you for spreading that love and joy of Christ farther than we will ever know! And thank you youth for all your help with this mission . Thank you First UMC !!!



**Thank you to all who participated in our Senior Santa** , it was very successful. Hard to say exactly, because some gifts were purchased twice, etc., but we covered at least 97% of our senior names. Those gifts not purchased will be covered by the extra gifts that have come in to Home Instead.





**Family Promise is coming again February 6 - 13!**

Family Promise provides the resources, time, and love necessary to help families with children get back to self-sufficiency after becoming homeless. We have the opportunity to host 4 families for a week of meals and overnight stays at our campus, Feb. 6 - 13.

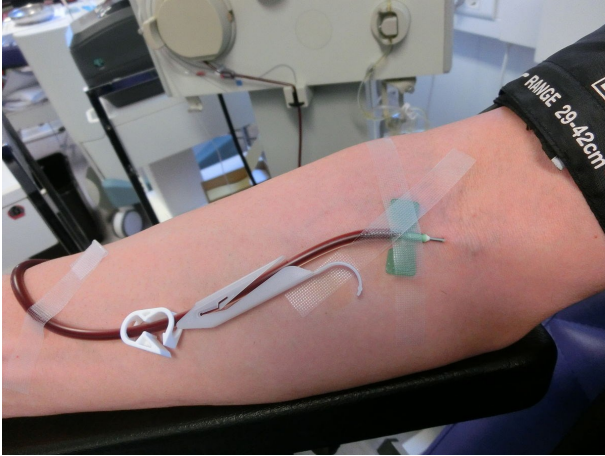
It takes many volunteers to host Family Promise! We will need volunteers to set up/clean up, provide food, stay overnight and do laundry. **We especially need volunteers to stay overnight. We will have a private host room with a comfortable bed ready for you! You get a good night's sleep and are just on campus in case someone needs assistance. You will be done by 6:00am the next morning.**

Be on the lookout for the Family Promise Volunteer Sign-up Genius coming out in January. Via e-news .

To everyone who  
brought "home" into  
our lives...

Thank you!





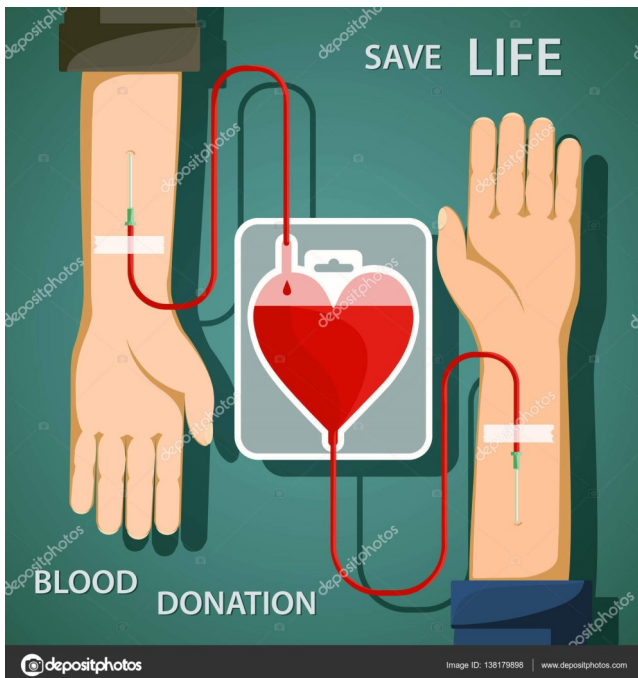
**Please be a Hero  
In this Season .**

This is something you can do to help.

It does not cost money only a little bit of time but you need an appointment.

#### Basic Eligibility requirements to give blood

- Must be at least 16 years old (16- and some 17-year-olds must bring a signed permission form from a parent or guardian, if required by state or school).
- Weigh at least 110 pounds. Certain height/weight criteria may apply for donors 22 years old or younger.
- Be in good general health.
- For your safety and to ensure a positive donation experience, make sure you eat within two hours ahead of your donation. Drink plenty of water that day and 24 to 48 hours beforehand. Feel free to help yourself to something to eat and drink in our refreshment area.



- Bring your ID—something with your name and one of the following: date of birth, donor ID number or your photo.
- You must wait eight weeks between whole blood donations. Learn more about specific intervals for other types of donation.
- You should not be under the influence of alcohol or recreational drugs at the time of donation.





## Update on Griefshare

Due to CoVid 19 issues, we need to cancel the Fall sessions of GriefShare, and moved up the spring sessions from February to Saturday January 8th at 8:30 am zoom discussion meetings and 10:30 am sessions at Sunrise Senior Living.

You will need the workbook and there is also a journal GriefShare has, which is new and might be helpful during this 'between' time, before sessions start in January. You can order the workbook [\$20] directly from GriefShare.org as well as the Guided GS Journal [\$25], which is new and helpful from those who have purchased it. It is NOT essential for these sessions, just an offering for each of you.

If you have not already signed up for the daily GriefShare Free daily email encouragement every day for a year. These short messages will inspire you and provide practical information as you grieve the loss of your loved one. You can sign up at: [Griefshare.org/dailyemails](http://Griefshare.org/dailyemails).

Just be sure to sign up for the online Jan 8 sessions on GriefShare.org. Go to "Find a Group" zip code 85233. This allows for the session link to be sent to you.

## Gilbert Elementary Food Closet

This year our project GES is going to be a year round mission, as the need is great. We have adopted two elementary schools in the Gilbert School District and we supply their snack closet. This is a closet that is used when children come to school Hungry or do not have money for lunch.

### DONATION LIST FOR GILBERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

\*\*\*\*All food items must be individually packaged\*\*\*\*



Gatorade

Water

Granola Bars/Breakfast Bars

Pop Tarts

Peanut Butter-filled or Cheese-filled

Crackers

Cups of Mac'n Cheese(just add H2O)

Cheez-Its

Goldfish

Fruit Snacks



This is now a year round project!



**First United Methodist Church of Gilbert has A MEDICAL LENDING CLOSET.**

The Medical Lending Closet is available during church office hours. If you need or know of a need any of the medical items available, please call the church office at 480-892-9166. If you have an item you wish to donate please let us know as well. We accept items in clean and good condition (not broken). We are not in need of crutches. **At this time we are in need of full size wheel chairs with attachments and knee scooters.** If you have borrowed in the past from the closet please return in clean and good working order with all parts that you borrowed. Especially at this time of year we have a great need for a lot of equipment. Please call for availability of needed items.

The Medical Lending Closet items include:

Bath/Shower Chair

Over tub shower chair

Cane

Bedside commodes

Crutches

Knee Scooter

Raised toilet seats

Transfer bench

Walkers

Wheelchairs full size and transfer chairs

Wheel chair attachments



On signing out this equipment from FUMCG Medical Lending Closet I hereby release and discharge FUMCG, its membership, agents and employees from all liability, claims, demands, damages and actions that I may have for any injury to my person or my property that results from my uses or the use of the loaned equipment. I agree to clean the equipment with antimicrobial cleaner before use as well prior to the return of equipment. I will address any problems or questions to the church office at 480-892-9166.





# Christmas Cantata 2021



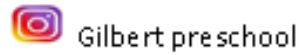
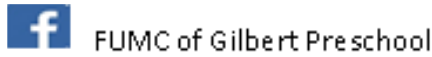
**We are truly blessed to have such volunteer musicians and choir!**



**Thank you for the beautiful music both with instruments and voices!**



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



## What's been happening?

**The Preschool Christmas Program, "Christmas In Our Jammies"** was performed on Dec. 16th in the sanctuary. Our preschoolers, in the 3s and PreK classes, did an amazing job of celebrating the Christmas story through songs and narration from Pastor Rick. The students dressed in cozy Christmas "jammies" while a slide show played with students dressed in costumes to tell the story of the night Jesus was born! A wonderful evening was enjoyed by family, friends, and loved ones!

**Christmas Celebrations-** The preschoolers had a party for Jesus' birthday where they decorated candy Christmas trees and read the Christmas story. It was a wonderful way to close our semester!



## 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 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, the children will have a special day to show their Dads how much they're loved. A breakfast snack will be provided along with a special activity to work on together. We love celebrating our dads!

## REGISTRATION

**Registration** for the 2022-2023 school year begins in January! Registration for church members and current and previous preschool families begins on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Open registration, for all our friends, begins on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Registration information and registration documents are available online or in the preschool office. Spread the word! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and on our website: [gilbertpreschool.com](http://gilbertpreschool.com)!



### Missions –

This month the preschool will collect donations for Friends for Life Animal Rescue Pet Shelter. We will be asking for food, toys, blankets, cleaning supplies, treats, etc... If you're interested in dropping off a donation, stop by the preschool office.



## 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](http://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](mailto:preschool@gilbertumc.org) or call 480-892-9166. Directors Lora Norris or Betsy Marlinga would love to speak with you!

# January 2022 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

## Preschool and Kinder



### SERIES DESCRIPTION:

When addressing Jesus in the Bible, His followers used one specific title more than any other. It wasn't Healer or Provider. His followers called Him "Teacher." They listened intently as Jesus taught with a depth of wisdom and knowledge no one had ever heard before.

### CORE INSIGHT:

#### TRANSFORMATION

WEEK ONE: Prodigal Son \* — Luke 15:11-24

WEEK TWO: The Lost Sheep \* — Luke 15:3-7

WEEK THREE: Bigger Barns \* — Acts 2:45; Luke 12:16-21

WEEK FOUR: Good Samaritan \* — Luke 10:25-37

WEEK FIVE: House on a Rock \* — Matthew 7:24-27

BOTTOM LINE: JESUS TEACHES ME IMPORTANT THINGS.

"The crowds were amazed at His teaching."  
Matthew 7:28, NIV

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**Weds Wilds**  
**at 6:30pm**  
**in room 205 Kinder-6th**  
**graders. Register online**  
**On our website.**  
**We need this to be**  
**prepared for the**  
**children please.**

## 1ST-6th Graders



### SERIES DESCRIPTION:

As we follow Jesus, His love transforms us. His Spirit gives us the power to show self-control. We can follow His example and choose to do what we should do—instead of what we want to do.

### CORE INSIGHTS:

#### TRANSFORMATION • COMMUNITY

.WEEK ONE: Jesus Is Tempted in the Desert — Luke 4:1-13 (Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)

BOTTOM LINE: Be ready to do the right thing.

WEEK TWO: Broken-Down Walls — Proverbs

25:28 BOTTOM LINE: When you lose control, it can cause trouble.

WEEK THREE: David Spares Saul's Life — 1 Samuel 24 BOTTOM LINE: Don't be controlled by your anger.

WEEK FOUR: .Choose Your Words Carefully — Proverbs 12:18 BOTTOM LINE: Think before you speak.

WEEK FIVE: Too Much of a Good Thing — Proverbs 25:16 BOTTOM LINE: Know when to stop.

**"God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life." 2 Peter 1:3a, NIRV**







Jr. High Sunday School  
Room #200 with Ron  
During the 10am Service  
Sr High Sunday school in  
Sr high room #201-202 with Ms. Cindie

**SSP (Sierra Service Project)  
Summer 2022**

The news we've been waiting for! We have been selected for the Smith River CA location . It will be a LONG drive, but we can make this a fun road-trip and hopefully a very meaningful week of service! Plan for approximately July 8-July 18! Please Sign Up ASAP if you are interested as our first payment is due at the end of this month! Currently the spaces will be for current 8-12th graders, however that is subject to change once we see how many are signed up. Please call/email Shayla for more details. Thank you



**Hey 7-12th grade youth**, are you interested in taking a deep dive into your faith and exploring making a commitment to the church? If so, please consider taking Confirmation this Spring (Jan-April). Classes will be taught by Pastor Rick, Pastor Diamond, and Shayla, and will meet weekly on Sunday afternoons. Books will be provided. Please sign up [Here](#) if you're interested and we'll reach out with more details.



**SAVE THE DATE MORE UPCOMMING YOUTH EVENTS**

**(Activities are tentative and times TBD- keep watching Youth News for details)**

**Jan-April 2022- Confirmation classes TBD**

**January 5th youth council 11:15-1pm to discuss SSP plans**

**Jan. 9th- Youth Group/Activity TBD**

**Jan. 23rd- Youth Group/Activity TBD**

**Feb. 6th- Youth Group/Activity TBD**

**Feb.19-21, 2022- Winter Camp at Mingus sign up [here](#)**

**March 6th- Youth Group/Activity TBD**

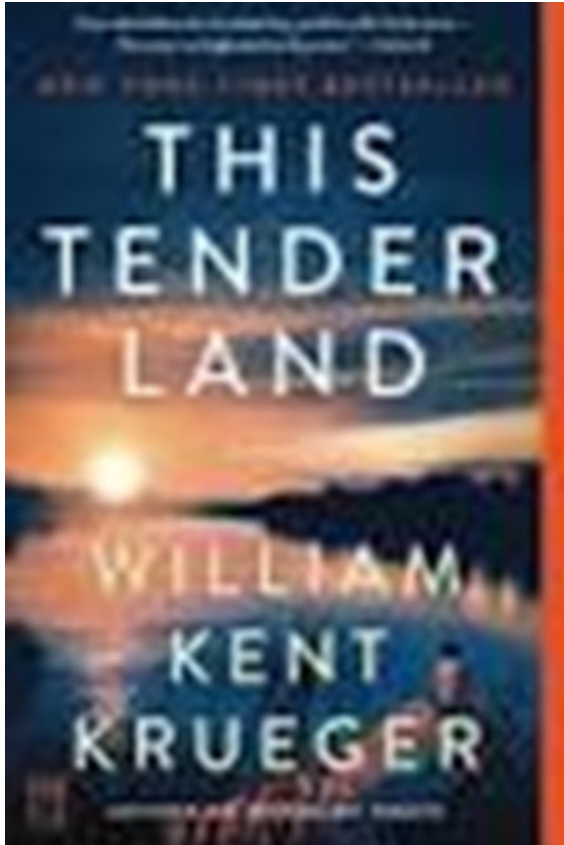
**March 20th- Youth Group/Activity TBD**

**April 1-2, 2022- Confirmation Retreat \*Tentative\***



**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](mailto:youthministry@gilbertumc.org) !



### The Book Corner

January's book is This Tender Land

by William Kent Krueger

Chris Thompson will be leading the review of this fiction book which was published in 2019

The Book Club will meet January 20th at 11:30 in Room 130 and on zoom.

February's book is

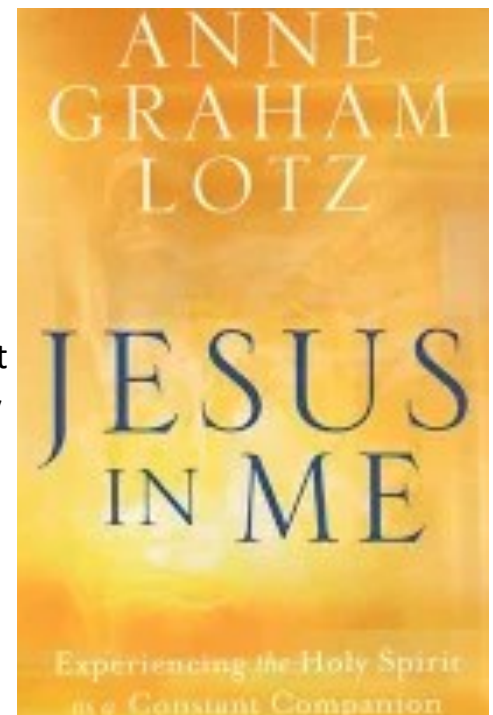
America's First Daughter By S. Dray & L. Kamoie, a Historical fiction book.

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our next book will be Jesus in Me by Ann Graham Lotz.

And it's all possible because of the Holy Spirit.

Same format as before (in person only) no masks required (but optional) starting at 9:15 for some social time, prayers and praises at 9:30 with large group video then small group discussion. Please let me know if you want the book (so we can order enough) and if you need nursery care (so I can let those that arrange that, know.) Please share with friends/neighbors that might be interested in joining our multi denominational Christian group. Contact Sonja at ([sonja.ruhland@gmail.com](mailto:sonja.ruhland@gmail.com)) you can join at any-time.





Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:  
( all small groups are contingent on Bishop Bob and the CDC recommendations.)

- In person is unlimited now. Masks will be worn, by the unvaccinated. Please be respectful and reverent in the sanctuary.
- Happy New Year Day!!!!
- **The Church office will be closed on January 3rd in observance of New Years Day.**
- Preschool back from break on January 4th.
- Christian Women's Fellowship Meets on February 6th at 9:30 in Room 130. Please join us .
- Epiphany in January 6th.
- **January 17th the office and preschool will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day.**
- Donuts with Dad's (Preschool) Jan 19 for Ms Dare / Ms Green rooms and Jan 20th for Ms. Brimhall/ Ms Marlinga rooms.
- Book Club meets on January 20th at 11:30 in Room 130. January's book is [This Tender Land](#) by William Kent Krueger.
- We will be hosting Family Promise families February 6th-13th watch the E-news for sign up .





### 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](mailto:prayers@gilbertumc.org). If it is pastors only request 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](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 In person  
at Sunrise Assisted Living Center  
All Are Welcome  
580 S Gilbert Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85296**

For those grieving the loss of someone close to them.  
This support group. Led by Kay Pealstrom [kpealstrom@aol.com](mailto:kpealstrom@aol.com) is meeting on Saturdays from 9am-10:30am

Masks Required Workbook and class materials required




*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 2022

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> New Years Day 
<b>2</b> Communion Sunday 	<b>3</b> Church office closed in observation of New Years Day	<b>4</b> Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	<b>5</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Zoom Night Bible study 6:30	<b>6</b> Epiphany Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> grier snare restarting at Sunrise center 
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Tues Morning Bible 9:15 off 	<b>12</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	<b>13</b> shawl Ministry 1:00 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Mens Breakfast 8-9:30 
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Martin Luther Kin Jr Day church office will be closed	<b>18</b> Tues Morn. Bible 9:15 	<b>19</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	<b>20</b> Book Club 11:00 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	<b>26</b> Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					



# February Calendar of Events 2022

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

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



**6** Communion  
Sunday Family  
promise week  
Feb 6th-Feb 13th



**7**

**1** Tues  
Morning Bible  
9:15



**8** Tues Morning  
Bible 9:15



**2** Chat N Chew  
Noon Wednesday  
Night Bible study



**9**  
Chat N Chew  
Noon  
Wednesday  
Night Bible study  
6:30

**3** Christian Wom-  
en's Fellowship  
9:30



**10** Shawl  
Ministry !:00



**5** grief share  
Every Saturday  
9:00-10:30

**12**



**13** Souting  
Sunday



**20** winter  
camp at mingus  
for the Youth  
coming home  
2.21.22

**27**  
Transfiguration  
Sunday

**14** Valentines  
Day



**21** church  
office closed in  
observance of  
Presidents Day

**28**

**15** Tuesday  
morning Bible  
study 9:15



**22** Tuesday  
morning Bible  
study 9:15



**16** chat N Chew  
Noon  
Wednesday  
Night Bible study  
6:30

**23** Chat N Chew  
Noon  
Wednesday  
Night Bible study  
6:30

**17** Book Club  
11:00



**24**

**18**

**19** Men's  
Breakfast  
8-9:30 winter  
camp at  
Mingus



**26** Keith  
Asplin Funeral  
TBD



## January Birthdays



Jeanne Randolph	3
Adeline Compton	8
Nicholas Karavakis	9
Karl Kotsonas	9
Jennifer Karavakis	14
Carrie Mueller	16
Jo Lynn Harder	17
Elice Province	18
Ethan Rempel	18
Jenna Bose	19
Lori Wilkins	21
Elizabeth Boesch	25
Isaiah Kapenda	25
Makena Sy	26

## January Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
06	Gayle and Garry Disch	26
19	Claire and Jake Regnitz	09
28	Anna and Matthew Trinidad	05



Birthdays / Anniversaries



Wishing everyone a safe, healthy and Happy New Year