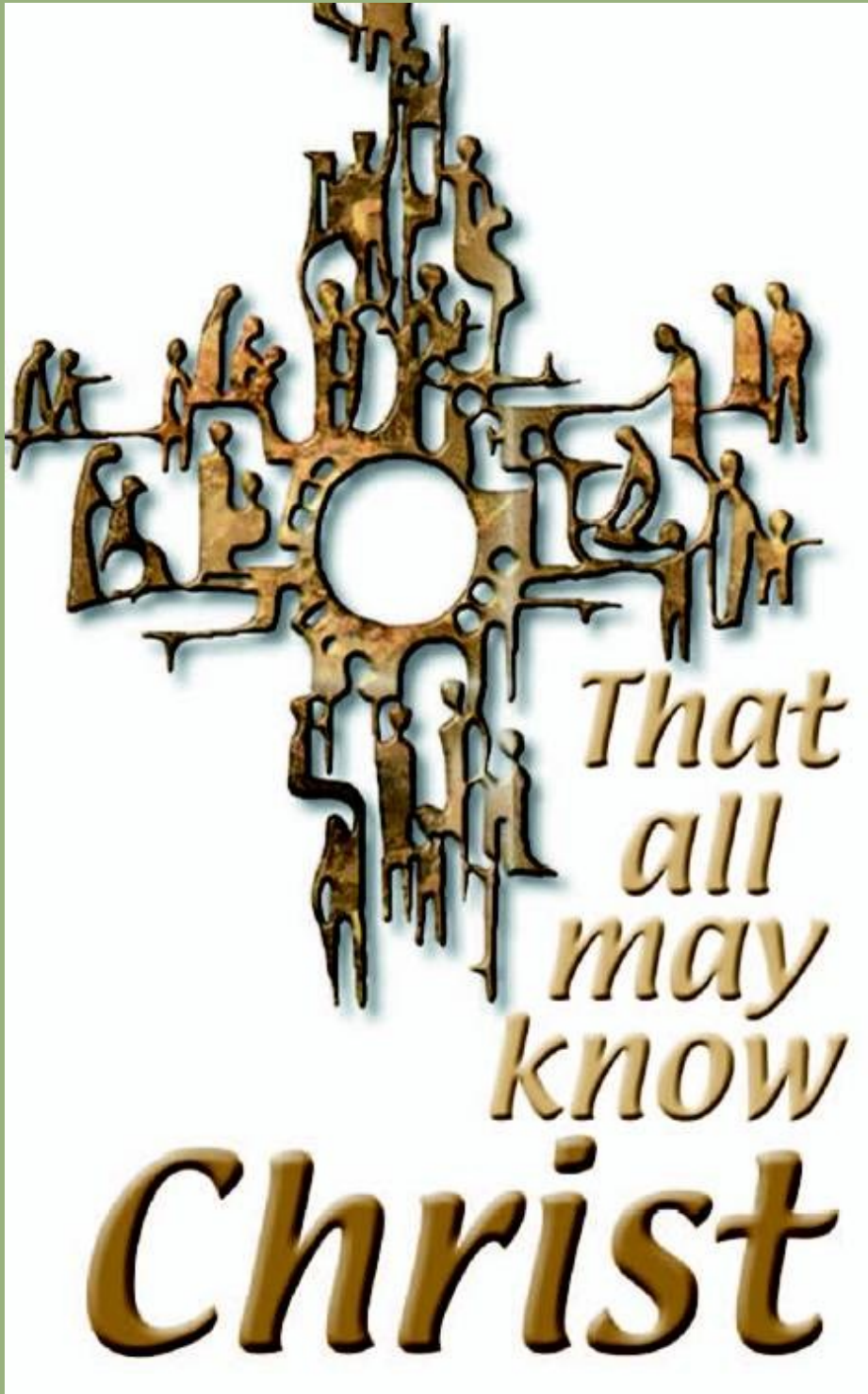


The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

May 2022



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CHURCH OF GILBERT

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

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9:00am-4:00pm
Friday
by appointment
only

Attendance
April 24th 159

Virtual viewing 141

Church office will be closed
May 30th in observance of
Memorial Day





East District

Desert Southwest Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dear Members and Friends of First United Methodist Church of Gilbert:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be with you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. It is my joy to share with you that after prayerful discussion Bishop Grant J. Hagiya intends to appoint the Pastor Adriana Hernandez as your associate pastor, less than full-time, effective July 1, 2022.

You may know Pastor Hernandez. She responded to her call to ministry when she was a member of First UMC – Gilbert. Pastor Adriana has many gifts to offer your church. She has a gift for organizing ministry and empowering laity to serve through the ministries of the church. She also brings a deep wisdom, authentic spirituality, as well as gifts for preaching and pastoral care. Pastor Adriana’s leadership style is encouraging and filled with humor.

As you prepare to welcome Pastor Adriana, I want to lift up these words from the hymn, “This is the Day of New Beginnings”, by Brian Wren:

Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do.

This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.

During this holy week please know that Bishop Hagiya and the appointive cabinet hold you in prayer. May these days of transition be filled with faith, love and gratitude for all that Christ is doing.

May God’s blessings and peace be with you all.

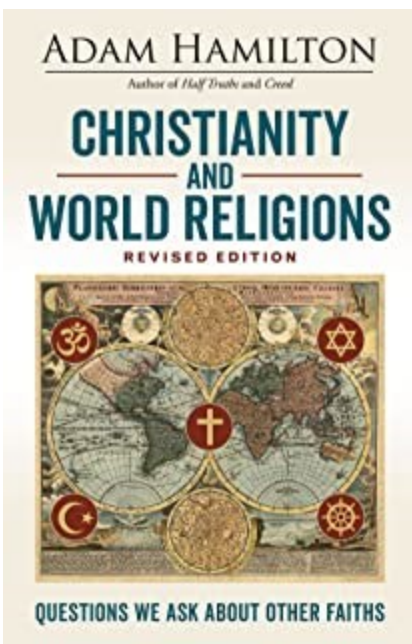
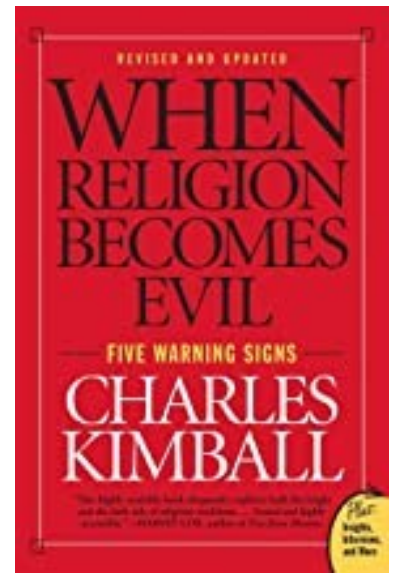
Your Sister in Christ,

Rev. N. Susan Brims East District Superintendent



Pastor's Bible Study

Pastor Rick class will finish up the book When Religion Becomes Evil by Charles Kimball; then will take the summer months off (rest of May, June, July) . Look for announcement when His Bible Study will be restarting.



Pastor Diamond's class will start for 5 weeks only Adam Hamilton's Christianity and World Religions. It will start April 27 at 6:30 pm on line only and bring your own book. And this will be her last class here at First UMC of Gilbert.



Make Waves VBS 2022

Save the date! June 6th- 10th

FUMC of Gilbert will be hosting a fun week of VBS in the mornings of June 6th-10th. This will run from 9am-12 noon Monday through Friday. Our VBS is open to kids entering preschool 3's-6th graders. Registration for this event is open!

We can't wait to make waves and tons of fun and friends with you all!
We love our 7th graders-adults to volunteer at this fun event as well.
Please email with any questions and watch for the registration email to come.

childrensministry@gilbertumc.org

We will need volunteers please use the same email for questions about Volunteering

SUMMER CAMP 2022

SESSION 1: JUNE 6-8
MINI CAMP
(FOR RISING 1ST-3RD GRADERS)

SESSION 2: JUNE 20-25
ELEMENTARY CAMP I
JR. HIGH CAMP 1
SR. HIGH ADVENTURES IN LEADERSHIP

SESSION 3: JUNE 27-JULY 2
ELEMENTARY CAMP II
JR. HIGH CAMP II
SR. HIGH ADVENTURES IN MISSION

SESSION 4: JULY 4-9
ELEMENTARY CAMP III
YOUTH ARTS CAMP
(FOR RISING 7TH-GRADUATED SENIORS)

SESSION 5: JULY 17-21
NIGHT OWLS
(FOR RISING 7TH-GRADUATED SENIORS)

MINGUS MOUNTAIN
camp & retreat center



SSP (Sierra Service Project)

Summer 2022

Fund raising

The youth are so thankful to the congregation for all of their support over the past few months fundraising for their summer mission trip to SSP. Pancake breakfast alone raised over \$1000 towards the trip! Stock sales brought in just over \$1000 as well! Between all the fundraisers and generous donors the youth have raised over \$7000 towards the total goal of \$14,000, which reduces their individual costs significantly. **Thank you 1st UMC Gilbert, for helping to support our youth to be His hands and feet, learning to serve and love others as HE has called us to do!**



First Gilbert UMC Youth News

SSP and Fundraising Over the past few months the youth have been busy with various fundraisers for their summer mission trip to SSP (Sierra Service Project). The youth will be going to Smith River (Del Norte County) in the furthest NW Corner of California, to do various home repair and improvement projects for families and the community in that area. It's going to be a LONG 2 day drive, each way. On the way to SSP, they will be staying at Lake Tahoe UMC Retreat Center overnight, and having a fun day in Lake Tahoe. The trip is scheduled for July 8-17 and currently 10 youth and 4 adults are registered. All of the fundraisers- Stock Sales, Restaurant Days, and the Easter Pancake Breakfast, will help off-set the cost of the trip, which will be about \$14,000 total. The fundraising efforts so far have helped to bring to cost down to about \$500 per student, which is amazing. We are so thankful for everyone's support and blessed to be part of this generous congregation!

What else have the youth been up too lately? Sunday school, Youth Cooking Classes, Volunteering at the St. Vincent de Paul Mesa Garden, and lots of fun youth group activities including Outdoor Movie Night, Ice Skating, Geocaching, Sunrise Hike, and Winter Camp at Mingus!



Sunday mornings and Sunday school



Youth cooking Class Baked Alaska



Geocaching



Outdoor movie night



ice Skating



Winter camp at Mingus Mt



Changes to the First Gilbert Preschool Farewell Mrs. Norris

After a twenty year-long commitment of passion, love and leadership to the preschool, Mrs. Norris has decided she will be retiring at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Norris played a significant role when the church decided twenty-two years ago that a preschool was needed. She was a key leader in all the planning that went into making this a successful program. Her goal was to provide a loving Christian environment for all the children to develop academically, socially and spiritually.

Over the years Mrs. Norris has been a warm and welcoming face for our preschool children and families. FUMCG preschool, the staff, previous and current families have become her “extended family” in which she has loved wholeheartedly.



We will be holding an open house breakfast on Monday, **May 16th from 9-10 a.m. outside the preschool office. All are welcome to come wish her well as she starts a new chapter in life!**



Preschool News
www.gilbertpreschool.com



FUMC of Gilbert Preschool



Gilbert preschool



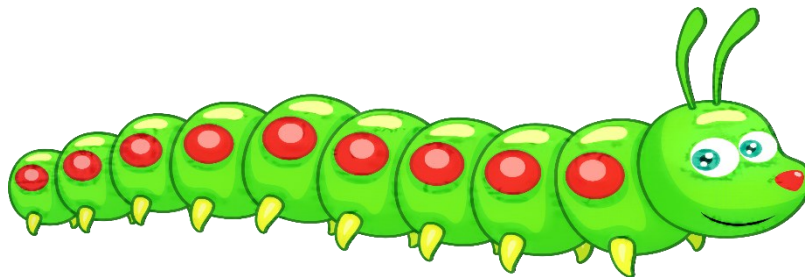
@gilpreschool

REGISTER NOW!

We have a few spots remaining in our 3's program for the 2022-2023 school year. We feel very blessed and excited for the new and returning families that will be with us next year. We do have a waitlist started and will still offer tours to any interested families.

What have we been up to?

Our preschoolers had a busy month. We learned all about insects. Each class had real worms come to the classroom for some up close investigating before releasing them into our garden. We also learned about the letter Vv and talked about how God is the vine and we are the branches.



Preschoolers with Heart (Missions)

Our preschoolers did some "spring cleaning" in March and donated their own gently used toys. We will be delivering them to the UMOM Shelter in hopes that they might be loved by some children in need!

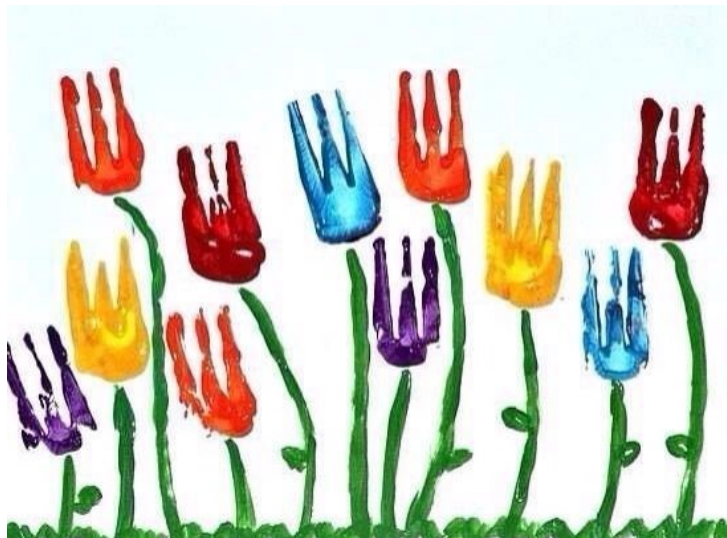
Next Month

During the month of May we will learn about the letter Mm as we celebrate our moms! The children will also be learning some songs for our "I Am Special" show at the end of the school year. The children love performing and we are excited they will have the opportunity to show off their hard work.



Spring Project Fun

Grab a paper plate and add a few different colors of paint. Let the kids use plastic forks to stamp different color tulips.



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!

May 2022 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Preschool and Kinder



SERIES DESCRIPTION:

. Whatever we're looking at—mountains or deserts. Crashing waves or babbling streams. Colorful flowers or dense jungle— When we begin to see the world through the truth that "God made everything," we can see how it testifies that God is real. God is powerful. And, God is good

CORE INSIGHT:

DESIGN

WEEK ONE: Light and Dark; Sky and Water * — Genesis 1:3-8

WEEK TWO: Land, Plants, and Sea; Sun, Moon, and Stars * — Genesis 1:9-19

WEEK THREE: Birds and Fish * — Genesis 1:20-21
WEEK FOUR: Animals and People * — Genesis 1:24-31

WEEK FIVE: God Rested * — Genesis 1:1 - 2:3

BOTTOM LINE: GOD MADE EVERYTHING.

"God saw everything he had made, and it was very good." Genesis 1:31, NIV

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:

God is strong and faithful. He's always working in our lives. We might get knocked down from time to time, but when we put our trust in Him, we find the strength we need to get back up again.

CORE INSIGHTS:

FAITH • TRUTH

WEEK ONE: Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel — Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1 and 2

BOTTOM LINE: God is always with you.

WEEK TWO: Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin — Acts 3:1-4:21
BOTTOM LINE: Keep going even when it gets tough.

WEEK THREE: Paul and Silas in Prison — Acts 16:16-40
BOTTOM LINE: You can choose joy when life gets hard.

WEEK FOUR: . Heroes of the Faith — Hebrews 11
BOTTOM LINE: Trusting God can help you get back up.

WEEK FIVE: Keep Looking to Jesus — Hebrews 12:1-3
BOTTOM LINE: Keep going because of what Jesus did for you.

"But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak." Isaiah 40:31, NIV

Mission: School supplies for trapper keeper drive . Items like pencils, colored pencils, glue, erasers, crayons, and extra notebook Paper.





Calling all 2022 Grads (HS, College, etc)! Please send a photo of your Graduate, School, Parents names, and Grad's plans for next year (ie: working, college, etc) to youthministry@gilbertumc.org and your grad will be honored in church on May 22 at 10am and featured in the June Evangel. Congrats to all the Grads!

SAVE THE DATE MORE UPCOMMING YOUTH EVENTS

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

Upcoming Youth Activities (details on weekly Youth News email)

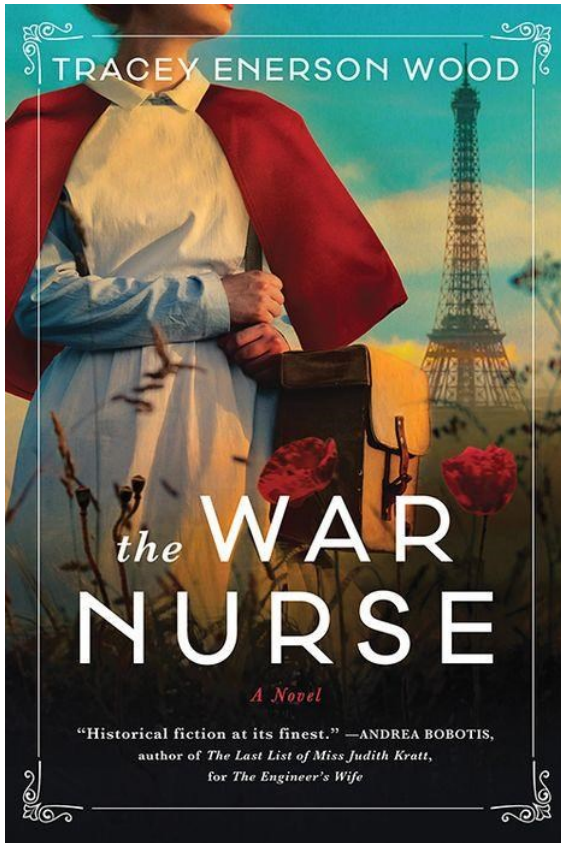
***if you would like to receive the weekly Youth News, please email youthministry@gilbertumc.org or secretary@gilbertumc.org

- Youth Sunday School, Sundays at 10am: Sr. High in Room #201/202 w/ Ms. Cindie and Jr. High in Room #200 w/Ron
- May 1st at 8:30am (Sr. High Room #201/202), Youth Council Meeting: all are welcome to come plan summer and fall activities for the youth, summer mission trip, and more.
- May 1st, 3-6pm: Youth Group- Family Dinner and Fellowship, in activity center (Sign up [Here](#))
- May 7th (Saturday), 7:30-11am, Volunteer at St. Vincent de Paul Mesa Garden (Sign up [Here](#))
- May 15th, Time TBD, Youth Group at Skateland. Sign up [Here](#)
- May 22nd, Graduation Sunday, 2022 Grads honored during 10am Worship Service (will also be posted in the June Evangel)
- May 22nd, 1-2:30pm: Safe Sanctuaries Class (if you volunteer w/ children)
- June 6-10th, 9am-12pm Volunteer at VBS "Make Waves"
- June- July 2022: Mingus Mountain Summer Camps (multiple weeks available for 1st-12th grade, young adult and adult volunteers also needed) <https://mingusmountaincamp.org/>
- July 8-17: Sierra Service Project (SSP) Summer Youth Mission Trip (Sign Up [here](#))
- June-July 2022, Summer Volleyball: Are you if you're interested in playing? (Sign Up [HERE](#))



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

May's book is The War Nurse
by Tracey Enerson Wood

Nyra will be leading the
review of this
fiction book which was
published in 2021

The Book Club will meet
May 19th at 11:30 in
Room 130 and on zoom.

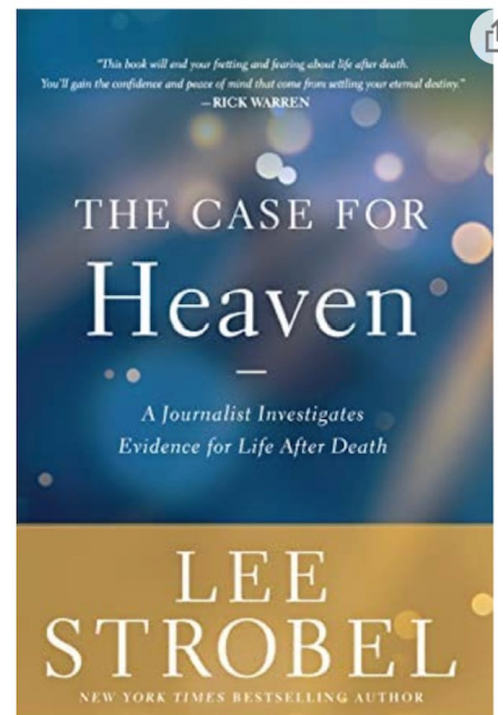
June's book will be The Pull of the Stars
By Emma Donoghue.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our next book is *The Case for Heaven* by Lee Strobel starting on May 24, 2022 at 9:15 (social time, prayers and praises). Same format as before (in person only) no masks required (but highly recommended) 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. Through fascinating conversations with respected scholars and experts--a neuroscientist from Cambridge University, a researcher who analyzed a thousand accounts of near-death experiences, and an atheist-turned-Christian-philosopher--Strobel offers compelling reasons for why death is not the end of our existence but a transition to an exciting world to come. Looking at biblical accounts, Strobel unfolds what awaits us after we take our last breath and answers questions like:

- Is there an afterlife?
- What is heaven like?
- How will we spend our time there?
- And what does it mean to see God face to face?

With a balanced approach, Strobel examines the alternative of Hell and the logic of damnation, and gives a careful look at reincarnation, universalism, the exclusivity claims of Christ, and other issues related to the topic of life after death. With vulnerability, Strobel shares the experience of how he nearly died years ago and how the reality of death can shape our lives and faith. Contact Sonja Ruhland at Sonja.ruhland@gmail.com





SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING FOR CHURCH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

1:00 –3:00 pm on May 22nd in room 130
Please contact Divina Katching with any questions
or to R.S.V.P. at

connection@gilbertumc.org

If you wish to volunteer Making Waves Vacation Bible School in June you need this training!

Thank you!



Mothers day purses drive

The Missions Committee has been 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 worked in conjunction with UMOM this year. We will update you further with pictures and numbers in the next issue of the Evangel. Again thank you for your generosity Any questions please contact Paige Cantwell at missions@gilbertumc.org





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 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 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 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). If you are interested in this group please contact Pastor Diamond group at pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org.

Text-to-Give

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

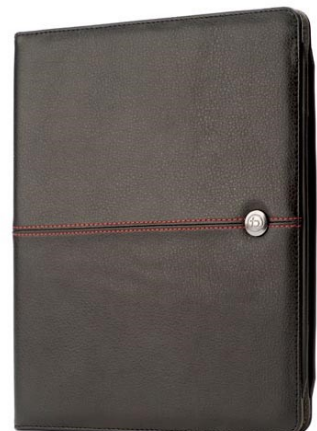
For first usage only:

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



Thank You!

Holy Week at First Gilbert wouldn't have been possible without the help of our dedicated volunteers. We are blessed for their service!




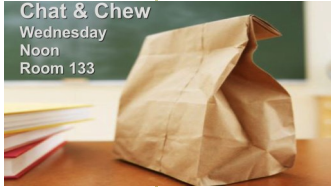
**Trapper Keeper
Drive starting In
June**

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

- Thank you for all your donations of purses or toiletries to add to the purses. For the Mother's Day Purse Drive.
- Chat and Chew meets every Wednesday at 12:00 in Room 136 Bring your own lunch and join us for fellowship.
- **Preschool Muffins with Mom on May 3 (Brimhall/Marlinga) and 4th (Dare/Green).**
- May 5th at 9:30 am Christian Women's Fellowship meets in Room 130.
- **May 8th is Mother's Day. Don't forget Mom and Grandma!**
- **Preschools Year End Program 5:30 on May 12th.**
- **Book Club Meets May 19th at 11:30 am in Room 130 May's book is The War Nurse by Tracey Enerson Wood .**
- **Preschool last day of school May 19th and 20.th.**
- **Safe Sanctuary Training for all those staff and volunteer that interact with children will be held May 22 in room 130 at 1:00-3:00.**
- **Church office will be closed on May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.**
- **VBS Make Waves is June 6th-10th 2022! Reserve your slot for your family now. Volunteer needed so contact childrensministry@gilbertumc.org.**
- **Father's Day Sunday June 19,2022. Don not forget Dad or Grandpa or Poppa.**
- **Save the Date Missions Trapper Keeper promotion starting in June.**



May Calendar of Events 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday 		3 Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	4 	5 Christian Women's 9:30 	6	7 Grief share every Sat 9:00-10:30 at Sunrise 
8 Mothers Day 		10 Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	11 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30 	12 shawl Ministry 1:00 Preschool's end of year program 5:30	13	14
15	16	17 Tues Morn- ing Bible 9:15 off 	18 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30 	19 Book Club 11:00  Preschool last Day of school 	20 Preschool last day of school	21
22 Graduation Sunday Safe Sanctuary Training 1:00-3:00 rm 130	23	24 Tues Morn. Bible 9:15 	25 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30 	26 	27	28
29 	30 Memorial day	31 Tues Morning Bible 9:15 				

June Calendar of Events 2022

Sun

Mon

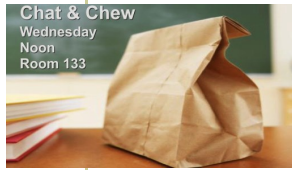
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1Chat N Chew
Noon Wednesday
night Bible study
:6:30

2christian
Women's Fellow-
ship 9:30



9VBS
Shawl
Ministry !:00



3

4grief share
Every Saturday at
Sunrise Senior
Living
9:00-10:30

5World
Communion
Sunday



6VBS



7VBS
Tuesday Morn-
ing Bible Study
9:15 off



8VBS
Chat N Chew
Noon
Wednesday
Night Bible study



10VBS
Annual confer-
ence at Mesa
Convention Cen-
ter



11



Annual conference
at Mesa Conven-

12

13

14Tuesday
morning Bible
study 9:15 Flag
Day



15Chat N Chew
Noon
Wednesday
Night Bible stud'
6:30



16Book Club
11:00

17

18

19Father day
Juneteenth



20observed
Juneteenth

21 Tuesday
morning Bible
study 9:15



22Chat N Chew
Noon
Wednesday
Night Bible study
6:30

23

30

24

25

26

27

28Tues
Morning Bible
9:15



29chat N Chew
Noon Wednesday
Night Bible study
6:30



May Birthdays



Joyce Brown	3
Michael Clark	3
Heather Nicks	3
Anna Trinidad	3
Angela Mittner	4
Marty Province	4
Brian Fischer	5
Joyce Metcalf	5
Denise Staley	5
Stan Gill	9
Jason Rempel	9
Bill Warren	10
Richard Cantwell	11
Bruce Bettis	12
Ricky Zeilstra	12
Steven Burks	14
Gunter Scharff	14
Cade Burks	15
Garry Disch	16
Kathy Tremain	16
Chris Thompson	21
Pam Turner	22
Linda Hartmann	25
Jim Wilkins	26



Signory Mutach	27
Janet Bose	29
Michael Crann	30
Katelyn Clark	31
Jimmie Galvin	31



May Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
04	Colleen and David Gripentrog	25
05	Singlia and Justin Kopp	04
11	Paige and Richard Cantwell	48
12	Jennifer and Nick Karavakis	10
14	Jimmie and Jacob Galvin	06
19	Nancy and Alan Ball	32

