

The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

July 2023



**The Church office
will be closed July
4th in observance
of Fourth of July**

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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
June 21st....

Virtual viewing

Meet our new members. Please welcome them when you see them on campus



Baptism of Eleana Madelyn Eubank with big sister Ashten Grace and Mom and Dad and Family looking on .



WELCOME OUR
NEW CHURCH SECRETARY

KRISTIN VANDEN BRANDEN



Navajo Nation near Chile in Northern AZ

SRP Navajo Nation near Chile in Northern Arizona



Please first of all pray for our youth and leaders as they travel plus as they do several service projects in Northern Arizona.

Sorry to be sending this out so late... this is a VERY last minute request. 10 Youth and leaders are travelling to SSP on the Navajo Nation in Tsaile AZ Sunday June 25- Sat July 1. They are able to receive mail at SSP and we normally ask folks to send notes of encouragement, etc. However I think if things are not in the mail by tomorrow, it may not arrive in time, so please do not feel obligated to send anything. I will ensure each participant receives at least 1 piece of mail. If you do have the time to drop a note in the mail by tomorrow, here is the address, as well as the list of First UMC Gilbert Participants. First UMC Gilbert Participants:

- Ron Mason
- Cindie Rempel
- Shayla Paap
- Adam Butler
- Sarah Butler
- Gavin Rempel
- Ethan Rempel
- Maddy Paap
- Maia Chiricuzio
- Max Boesch

VOLUNTEER



Mailing Address:
Volunteer Name
c/o Sierra Service Project
General Delivery
Tsaile, AZ 86556

Here another idea - if anyone else here wants to take this on: stickers to decorate water bottles or laptops or notebooks or whatever are always fun to receive. I'm getting on the road so can't stop at a store but thought I'd throw that out there. A nice encouraging message on a sticker would be cool for them all to have.

Thank you!!!
--Shayla

Summer Adult Ministry Classes

Sunrise Assisted Living Facility, Thursdays (1st & 3rd Thursday at 10am), led by Adriana:

July 6th—no class

July 20th—no class

August 3rd—The Walk, Chapter 1

August 17th—The Walk, Chapter 2

First Gilbert Sunday School, Sundays at 9:45am in room 130. Ongoing class facilitated by the Choir team. Please note that this class will be on hiatus during the summer months.

First Gilbert Sunday School at 11am in room 136, Facilitated by Pastor Adriana.

We are starting a new study called The Walk by Adam Hamilton. This study looks at five essential practices of the Christian life. A great class that can be dropped into for an individual session. The study will be spread over the summer.

July 2nd—No Class, Happy 4th of July

July 9th—The Walk, Chapter 2

July 16th—The Walk, Chapter 3

July 23rd—The Walk, Chapter 4

July 30th—The Walk, Chapter 5

August 6th—The Walk, Chapter 6

First Gilbert Wednesday Night Study at 6:30pm in room 130, Facilitated by Pastor Rick.

Please note that this class will be on hiatus during the summer months.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 9:30am, led by Sonja Ruhland.

The Summer book starts Tuesday 6/13 and will continue until 8/1. There will be no gathering on July 4th. Any questions, please contact Sonja.Ruhland@gmail.com.



A Huge Thank You!

We would like to extend a thank you to Marilyn Harter for the incredible Enchantment of Hymns class that she created and brought to our church for us to enjoy! The thank you sentiments continue for all those who participated in Enchantment of Hymns and the Sermon Discussion class. It was fun to try new things this summer, everyone's support in new formats is greatly appreciated!

Summer Dinner for 8

We have hosts for Dinner for 8! We are so grateful for everyone that has volunteered to host a dinner. You can go to summer. Dinner plans include:

Sylvia Moore—July 6th

Michelle & Eric Butler—July 15th

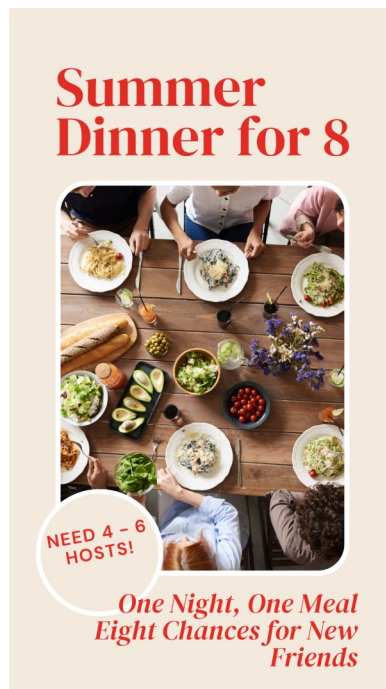
Sharon & Karl Kotsonsas—July 29th

Lydia & Matt Ramirez—August 5th

Adriana Hernandez—August 11th

Charlotte & Dennis Hazelrigg—August 19th

Linda & Tom McKinley—August 26th



You can sign up for as many dinners as your would like. Each has its own menu and plans. There will be conversation starters questions for each dinner.

It is so easy to sign up!! We are on the patio in between services. You can go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/88NVQGV> to sign up. You can also scan the handy-dandy QR code that is right here. Bon appetite!

Be the ONE!

Here are a few opportunities to volunteer and serve a ministry here at First Gilbert.

- Participate on the Adult Ministry team.
- Help on a Sunday morning, setting up/cleaning up items for coffee hour in-between services.
- Lead a Men’s Bible Study group.
- Man the “Red Welcome Cart” as people arrive for the 8am service.
- Provide transportation to church to someone who can not get to church but really wants to be present.

For any of these items please contact Pastor Adriana at PastorAdriana@gilbertumc.org.



Driving during dustorms

Monsoon season begins mid-June and ends September 30th, bringing with it some beautiful, but often unpredictable potentially dangerous weather conditions. From heavy rain causing slick roads and low visibility to large dust storms causing near blackout conditions on the highways – monsoon driving can be extremely dangerous. Monsoon storms can come and go quickly so it is best to check the weather along your travel route prior to hitting the road. Wait out the storm, remember they often pass by very quickly, so you can get back on the road safely in little time. Your safety is worth it.

Here are some suggestions for driving on wet roads or during a dust storm.

- WEAR YOUR SEATBELT!
- ◆ Dust Storms Immediately check traffic around your vehicle, (front, back, sides) and begin slowing down.
- ◆ Completely exit the highway if you can. Do not wait until poor visibility to pull off the roadway.
- ◆ DO NOT STOP in a travel lane or emergency lane. Pull completely off the paved portion of the roadway.
- ◆ Turn off all vehicle lights. You don't want others to follow you by using your lights as a guide.
- ◆ Set your emergency brake and take your foot off the brake
- ◆ Stay in your vehicle with your seatbelts buckled.
- ◆ Be patient, wait for the storm to pass.
- ◆ Visit Pull Aside-Stay Alive
- Make sure you and your passengers are all properly restrained.



Taken from AZ.gov Arizona Department of Public Safety.



Summer-time Mission Opportunities

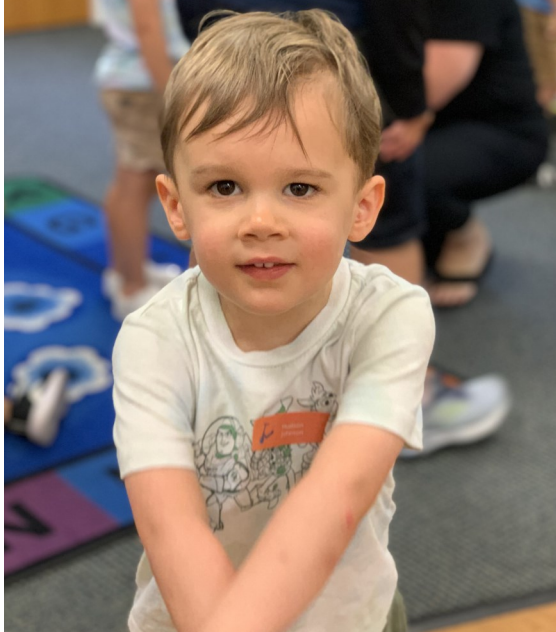
Trapper-Keeper Drive: We hope that we can once again help out the children attending Gilbert Elementary School by providing them with the tools they need to be successful. If you would like to donate, you can either send a check to the church with “Trapper Keeper” written in the memo line or you can donate through online giving by selecting the Outreach Ministries/Mission Section. The Mission team will also be on the church patio in-between services on July 2nd, 9th, and 16th.

With the funds raised, specific items are purchased for the students at Gilbert Elementary School. The Mission Team has an on-going relationship with the staff at this school. Our gifts are tailored for those in need of school supplies, classroom needs and healthy snacks. This annual drive provides this support to this particular school all year long.

Heat Center Collection Items: Beginning July 23rd—August 27th, the Mission Team will be collecting bottled water and sunscreen. Each Sunday, these items can be dropped off in the Narthex (entrance to Sanctuary) or dropped off at the church office. These items will be distributed to local Heat Centers that provide supplies to homeless individuals during these critically hot months in Arizona. Donations will be distributed to the Justa Center and the Wesley UMC Heat Center.



Family Promise: The Mission Team is striving to figure out all the components so we could be ready to host at least one week in 2024 for Family Promise. This is a week where we host families who are working towards their goal of having their own place to live. During the week we host the overnight and provide meals to families. If this interests you at all or if you have questions about how to help please contact Pastor Adriana at PastorAdriana@gilbertumc.org.



Thank You

Children's Ministry

Janelle Chiricuzio, Director children_ministry@gilbertumc.org

A Huge thanks to all our VBS Volunteers! It was a most wonderful week and the kids, our Kid's ministry, Our VBS Families, and this is this church are blessed by you. Thank you for giving of your time and talents to make this week a success. Our VBS ran for week and we had just shy of a 140 kids including 30 in the pre-school section! We teamed up with First Mesa UMC and our two churches worked together to make this a fun week for everyone.

Our VBS families collected enough items to donate 60 bags plus extras to the Wesley United Methodist Church Heat Respite & Resiliency Center! Way to go! Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, or helped to make this ministry a blessing to our community.



Preschool News
www.gilbertpreschool.com



ABC'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

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. 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/>
For some family/parenting topics: <http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting>

Preschool Tours Available

We hope you are enjoying your summer! If your preschool child is enrolled for the 2023-2024 school year, then a welcome packet will be emailed soon.



Parent/Tot classes returning for children turning 2 by Aug. 31st. Please check out our website at www.gilbertpreschool.com or call 480- 892-9166 for more info.

3's classes have openings! We are looking for (potty-trained) older two's and 3 year olds Please email pre-school@gilbertumc.org or call 480-892-9166 for information and a tour!

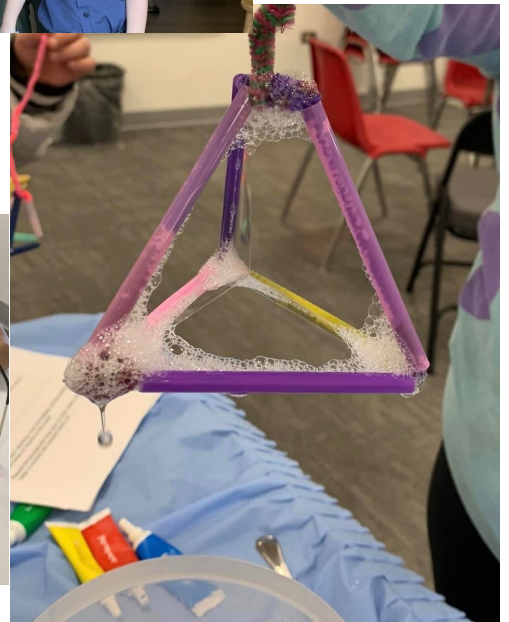


OPEN HOUSE

Open House will be Thursday July 27th 5:00-7:00pm for all classes. We are looking forward to seeing all of our new and returning families.

July 2023 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Children's Ministry



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.

Mission: water bottle collection





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

Pray for those on
SSP Summer 2023
June 23rd- July 1st



Navajo Nation near Chile in
Northern AZ



Youth 2023

Daytona Beach, FL
July 23-28, 2023

National UMC Connectional event! Click [HERE](https://www.umcyoungpeople.org/youth20) for more information.
<https://www.umcyoungpeople.org/youth20>

The Youth went to the lake on June 13th. Lots of Paddle Boards, kayaks, floats, and playing in the water at Canyon Lake. A fun time was had by all. Attached is a picture for the newsletter if you want one.



This week, June 19-24th, we have many children and youth attending Mingus Mountain UMC Camp for Elementary and Junior High Summer Camp. We

also have 3 teens volunteering as Junior Counselors.

The next Youth Council Meeting, Sunday July 9th, after church at 10:45am. Anyone is welcome to attend, come help us plan the next few months of youth activities.

SAVE THE DATE MORE UPCOMMING YOUTH EVENTS

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

June 23rd (Fri)- July 1st (Sat), SSP 2023 (approximate dates)

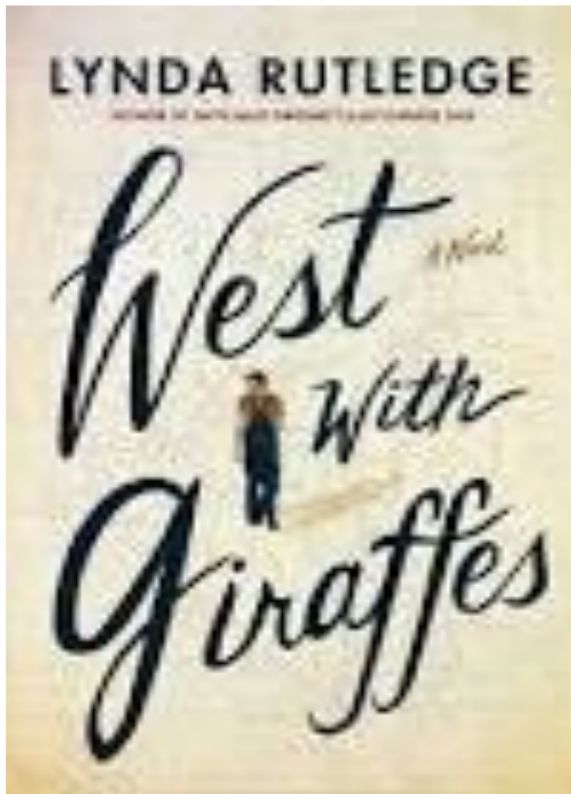
July 9th- Youth council at 1045 and Youth Group TBD

July 23-28th- YOUTH 2023 in Daytona Beach, FL



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

July's book is West with Giraffes
by Lynda Rutledge

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

The Book Club will meet July 20th at 11:30 in Room 130.

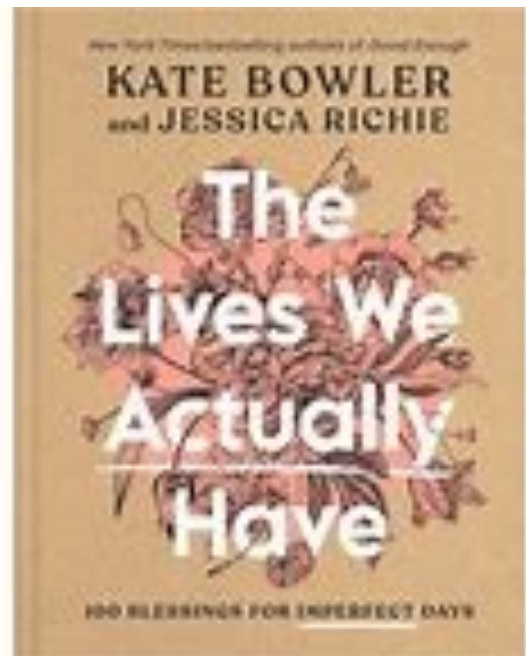
August's book is All the Broken Places
by John Boyne

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our next book is The Lives We Actually Have by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Summer book starts Tuesday 6/13 9:30a (9:15a to socialize)- 11:15a. We will take week of July 4th off and continue thru 8/1. It's an easy book to join while you're in town, miss while on vacation and join back later. Same format as before (in person only 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.

We live in a world that demands relentless perfection. Happy marriages and easy friendships. Bucket list-level adventures and matching family photos. But what if our actual lives don't feel very #blessed? Might our everyday existence be worthy of a blessing too? Even an average Tuesday? Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie offer creative, faith-based blessings that center gratitude and hope while

acknowledging our real, messy lives. Formatted like a prayer book, The Lives We Actually Have is an oasis and a landing spot for weary souls, with blessings that focus on the full range of human moments: garbage days, lovely days, grief-stricken days, and even (especially) completely ordinary days. These heartfelt blessings are a chance to exhale when we feel everything from careworn to restless, devastated to bored. Let's have a reminder that we don't need to wait for perfect lives when we can bless the lives we actually have.



Contact Sonja Ruhland at Sonja.ruhland@gmail.com

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

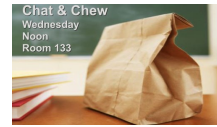
- Grief share meets on Zoom every Saturday from 8:30 to 10 Am.



- July 4th the church office will be closed.



- Chat and Chew meets every Wednesday at 12:00 in Room 136 Bring your own lunch and join us for Fellowship



- Christian Women's Fellowship will meet July 6th in room 130 at 9:30 am.



- Book Club Meets July 20th at 11:30 am in Room 130 July's book is West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge



Upcoming Opportunities

A graphic overlay on a laptop keyboard. The text on the overlay includes:

WWW.GILBERTUMC.ORG
f FB.COM/FUMCofGilbert

STAY UP TO DATE

Follow us on facebook or go to our website to see the most current church information:

- Church News
- Renovation Updates
- Upcoming Events

Thank You Philip Tesarek!

As he starts as Pastor of Desert Chapel UMC join us in celebrating Philip's many contributions to First Gilbert, including Technology, Scouting and Lay ministries.



Congratulations!!



Ways to Give



First United Methodist Church of Gilbert offers several ways to contribute to the church. If you look at our website (<https://gilbertumc.org/>) and scroll to the bottom, you will see a green button that says Giving and if you enter that, you have the option to contribute electronically. This will allow you to set up payments on a schedule.

We also have an option to send envelopes to those request them. These envelopes cost us to send and we are finding that many of them are not being used. In an effort to cut down on these costs, if you are receiving these envelopes but not using them, please let us know so we can stop sending them. Occasionally, our finance secretary looks at our records to stop these envelopes from being mailed if a contribution using these envelopes has not been mailed in the past year. If this happens and you wish to have them mailed again, please notify our office at 480-982-9166, and we will be happy to get them mailed out to you with the next quarter



Congregational Care Support Groups
For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Adriana at

pastoradriana@gilbertumc.org



Grief Share Support Group

For those grieving the loss of someone close to them.

This support group is led by Kay Pealstrom. She can be contacted at:

k.pealstrom@gmail.com

Kay is the resource for registration, information on obtaining materials and sharing the zoom information for the session. The support group meets on Saturday mornings from 8am-10am.

New Congregational Care Ministers Commissioned

On Sunday, June 18th our church commissioned two new CCMs. Valerie Kellogg and George Dailey were anointed, prayed over and joyfully officially became Congregational Care Ministers.

In this role, they are trained to complete hospital visits, homebound communion, home visits, and prayerfully helping members of our congregation and our community.

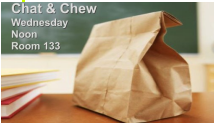



Praying Ministry

First Gilbert has a team that supports the prayer needs of our congregation. If you would like to share a prayer request, you can either email us at prayers@gilbertumc.org or call the church office at 480-892-9166. If you have a request that is only for the pastor, please indicate that need. The prayer team members will be lifting up your concerns and praises in a loving and confidential manner.

Congregational Care and Prayer Ministry
Pastor Adriana at pastoradriana@gilbertumc.org

July Calendar of Events 2023

4Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Grief share every Sat 8:30-10:00 on zoom
2 Communion Sunday 	3	4 Church office closed in observance of July 4	5 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	6 Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30 	7	8 
9	10	11 Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	12 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	13	14	15
16	17	18 Tues Morn. Bible 9:15 	19 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	20 Book Club 11:00 	21	22
23	24	25 Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	26 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 530	27	28	29
30	31					

August Calendar of Events 2023

Calendars

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
		1 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:15 	2	3 Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30 	4	5 Grief share Every Saturday 8:00-10:00 on zoom
6 Communion Sunday 	7	8 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:15 	9 Chat N Chew Noon	10	11	12
13	14	15 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:15 	16 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	17 Book Club 11:00 	18	19
20	21	22 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:15 	23 Chat N Chew Noon	24	25	26
27	28	29 Tues Morning Bible 9:15 	30 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	31		
						

July Birthdays



Patricia Baker	2
Deborah Lester	2
Lesieli Ouellette	3
Sarah Butler	7
Jeni Hemingson	11
Kristen Fonza	17
Ruth Heer	17
Samantha Mutach	17
Shayla Paap	17
Carolyn Bilski	18
Stacy Cantwell	19
Tyler Houseman	21
Ronald Dalton	22
Linda McKinley	22
Divina Katching	23
Tom Bristow	24
Julie Curran	24
Scott Houseman	24
Garin Campbell	27
Sue Reeves	29
Kay Pealstrom	29



July Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
04	Lori and Bill Van Dam	47
20	Melisa and Randy Van Der Pol	27
26	Anita and Ernie Broughton	48
26	Brittainy and Daniel Murphy	15
28	Beth and Kevin Boesch	22
28	April and Seth Daugherty	16

