



Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

Sun Lakes, Arizona

December 14, 2021
Kairos Vol. 6, Issue #30

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We Are A Thriving United Methodist Church



Friends,

A hymn reminds us, "The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is a people. I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together. All who follow Jesus all around the world, Yes, we're the church together!"

I was reminded of the truth of that statement as I continue hearing and learning about the tragic tornados which tore across several states, destroying everything in their path.

Rev. Joey Reed, pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Mayfield, Kentucky where most of the town was leveled by the storm said: *"All I care about is the fact that the most valuable possessions in my life, my wife's life, and my children, they're all safe, and everything else is replaceable."*

Reed said that the Mayfield church where marriages, baptisms, and funerals were held over the years was physically damaged, but the

memories made there would remain strong. *"That building was the repository of our memories, and we have to remember that those memories still belong to us, they cannot be taken from us by something even as devastating as this tornado."*

Yes, the church is the People. You and I can help the people caught in the tragic aftermath of this story first praying for them and then supporting relief agencies making a difference. As United Methodists, we can contribute to *UMCOR* (United Methodist Committee on Relief) which is already on the ground there accessing and meeting with people to make a difference. One hundred percent of our donations are directed to the designated project. The administrative expenses are funded by our annual support of the *"One Great Hour of Sharing"* during Lent.

I invite you to join me in a generous gift to the *UMCOR* Tornado Relief Fund and we will see that it goes to make a difference.

We are the church together.

Marvin

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God, the calendar tells us Christmas is just around the corner. We have been down this road before. Help us to experience what we have experienced before in a new and more meaningful way. Guide us to accept and appreciate what we have refused to think about and follow through on. Do not abandon us in our goings so we might meet you in your coming. Astonish us with the wonder of your love until we join the angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest..." Enable us to live our lives in love and peace with each other. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ as we ask you to help us grow more and more in his likeness and love. Amen.



Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
4:00 pm

Morning Service
Sunday, December 26
9:00 am



9248 E. Riggs Road, Sun Lakes, AZ
(480) 895-8766 • sunlakesumc.org

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

If you are interested in joining Sun Lakes United Methodist Church next time we receive members, please stop and visit Pastor Marvin or call the church office at (480) 895-8766.

CONGREGATION NEWS

With the reports of an uptick in Covid variant, it seems wise to **suggest** that we all wear masks and use the **hand sanitizers** again on Sundays **as you enter. Handshaking should be avoided as well.**

We want everyone to be safe.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Get your tickets at the door!

The United Methodist Women's Christmas luncheon, catered by Flordino's, will be held tomorrow,



Wednesday, December 15, at 12:00 pm in Lindsay Hall.

Hands of Joy, a sign language choir, will provide the program for this event. They have signed all over the state of Arizona performing at the Phoenix MLK Celebration, opened

Diamondback baseball games with the National Anthem, and have taped several segments for Sign Out, a TV show produced by KAET for the deaf community.

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow, December 15!

SINGLES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 16, 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm, Room 1.

Singles will celebrate the Holiday Season with a White Elephant Pizza party.

Sign up in Lindsay Hall or call the Church office!



PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED!



SLUMC is embarking on a new prayer ministry beginning Wednesday, January 13, in the Chapel. Pastor Dave is inviting anyone and everyone who is interested in praying for specific members and friends of the congregation to join him from 9:30-10:00 am each Thursday morning.

Prayer requests come in regularly to the Church Office. In addition, prayer boxes are located in the Sanctuary Narthex, the Chapel Narthex, and the entrance in Lindsay Hall where people place their requests using specific prayer cards.

We will gather on Thursdays for a brief devotional time led by Pastor Dave, then go over the prayer requests that have been submitted, have a time of collective prayer, then distribute names to be prayed for over the next week. We will also have time to share any answers to the prayer of which we are aware.

This can be a meaningful time for the church and for individuals who choose to participate, as well as an opportunity to expand your prayer

life. Prayer makes a difference and we need "prayer warriors" to make these differences happen. Will you join us in this important ministry?

SLUMC LIBRARY NEWS

'Tis the season! Stop by the SLUMC Library and pick up a good book, or jigsaw puzzle!

- Christmas in Harmony by Philip Gulley
- A Christmas Promise by Thomas Kinkade and Katherine Spencer
- Esther's Gift: A Mitford Christmas Story by Jan Karon
- First Christmas: What the Gospels Teach About Jesus's Birth by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan
- Gideon's Gift by Karen Kingsbury
- God in the Dock: Essays on Theology and Ethics by C.S. Lewis
- The Kingdom of God by John Bright
- A Lancaster County Christmas by Suzanne Woods Fisher



Also available are Suduko, Crosswords, Word Search, and Adult Coloring books!

LOVE AND SYMPATHY



...to Noella Bannister, family, and friends on the death of her partner, Dick Nelsen on Friday, December 11. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, December 28, at 11:00 am.

...to Jeanne Price, family, and friends on the death of her husband, Don Price on Sunday, December 5. Memorial service information is pending.

...to the family and friends of Art Brown who died on Saturday, November 6. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, December 16, at 11:00 am in the Chapel for Art and Kathleen Brown with a luncheon to follow in Lindsay Hall.

...to Nadine Vogel, family, and friends on the death of her husband Dick Vogel on Monday, November 22. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, January 27 at 10:30 am.

...to the Cloar family and friends on the death of Dr. Robert Cloar on Tuesday, November 23. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, February 19, 1:30 pm, in the Sanctuary.

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9248 East Riggs Road, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Phone: 480-895-8766

[Contact Our Staff](#)

