



Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

Sun Lakes, Arizona

February 28, 2023
Kairos Vol. 8, Issue #9

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We Are A Thriving United Methodist Church

A Reminder, a Challenge, and an Invitation

If you were present in worship last Sunday, or if you viewed the service on YouTube at the time or later, you may recall that Rev. Arnpriester's sermon theme for this season of Lent is the title of this article.

Among the most significant Christian books that I've read over the years, is *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard J. Foster. Some of you may have read this book and participated in a Lenten Bible study I led several years ago. Among the several spiritual disciplines Foster lists is "The Discipline of Prayer."

Regarding this discipline, Foster states, "It is the Discipline of prayer that brings us into the deepest and highest work of the human spirit. Real prayer is life-creating and life-changing."

Our church's Prayer Team meets every Thursday morning at 9 o'clock in Lindsay Hall's parlor. We meet for about an hour and have a short devotion, review the list of prayer requests that have come in the past week, and close with group prayer. Then, during the week, in the privacy of our homes, we consult the prayer request list and pray for those persons and world crises.

The Prayer Team issues this reminder, challenge, and invitation for new members. I have found, through involvement with this ministry, that my own life has been enriched through this life-creating and life-changing spiritual discipline. I encourage you to consider joining us. Prayer is the central avenue God uses to transform us and bring healing and wholeness to our lives and the lives of others.

Blessings,

Rev. Jim Wood

UNISON PRAYER

Eternal and loving God, we gather today because we need the miracle of your love and peace. We confess living our lives defensively because we are afraid of making ourselves vulnerable by caring too deeply. We find ourselves disillusioned with people, even those closest to us. Save us from demanding life and relationships on our terms. Come anew to us in our confession of our sins. Know us as we are. Nurture the flame of our desire to be your faithful people. Help us listen to Jesus that your love may grow and glow in us. Amen.



NEED A COPY OF THE CHURCH SURVEY? CLICK HERE!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you are interested in joining Sun Lakes United Methodist Church, please stop and visit Pastor Marvin or call the Church Office at (480) 895-8766.



BISHOP CARLO O. RAPANUT'S INSTALLATION!



The Episcopacy of the Desert Southwest Conference invites you to the Service of Installation of Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, Saturday, March 11 at 11:00 am at St. Matthew UMC, 2540 W Baseline Rd, Mesa with a reception to follow.

You may attend in person, via live stream, or ZOOM. Please RSVP your participation **no later than March 1 HERE** or at: <https://dscumc.org/2023-bishop-installation-service-registration/>

HALE THEATER!



Sign up by Thursday, March 9 to reserve your ticket to the Hale performance of "42nd Street". The performance of this production is Friday, March 24 at 4:00 pm.

The stakes are high when a young chorus girl from Allentown, PA is given the once-in-a-lifetime chance to become a star. 42nd Street recalls the classic days of

Broadway and the golden age of movie musicals with sensational tap numbers, lavish costumes, and one show-stopping tune after another! You'll be entertained from the first note to the final tap!

Tickets are (\$35) and must be paid for by Thursday, March 9, are first come first served, and are non-refundable.

Ride-sharing is encouraged!



Ever wonder about the kind of birds in your neighborhood?

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, March 14, in Lindsay Hall to meet Theona Vyvial the current president of Desert Rivers Audubon. Most of her birding has been in the Desert Southwest for several years. She will present information about Veteran's Oasis, The Gilbert Riparian Preserve, and local riparian parks where you can see and learn about the birds that come and live in Arizona.

R.S.V.P. to the Church Office or sign up in Lindsay Hall. A light dinner will be served at 5:00 pm for a free-will offering with the program starting at 5:30 pm.

CHORALE SPRING CONCERT



Hop into spring by attending the Sun Lakes Chorale Spring Concert on Thursday, March 16 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Enjoy a variety of music covering a wide variety of musical styles. Many of the numbers will be easily recognized by the audience and some will be brand new!

Tickets are available in the Church Office (\$10) or from a Choral member.

GUARD AGAINST FRAUD!

Do not miss this event!

Join Jennifer Pitt, Voice Against Fraud, LLC who will present information and tips on how to prevent you from becoming a victim of fraud on Sunday, March 19 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary.



Unfortunately, an estimated 7.68 million cases of elder fraud occur every year in the United States, equating to approximately \$148 billion dollars in loss each year (according to www.comparitech.com, a website that compares crime, service, and medical data). This figure may be low, as many states do not include the term "elder" in criminal law, and these cases are not always reported.

Join us for this extremely important event.

BLOOD DRIVE



Mark your calendar for the American Red Cross Blood Drive, Tuesday, March 21 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in Lindsay Hall hosted by The Sun Lakes (evening) Lions Club and your Church.

Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Please join us in providing this life saving gift to those in need.

ALTAR FLOWERS WERE PROVIDED ON FEBRUARY 26 BY:

- Suzanne Campbell in loving memory of her parents and in-laws.



MISSION NEWS



Peanut butter Sundays are officially over!

This wonderful congregation donated 335 pounds of peanut butter and 21 jars of jelly.

Thank you!

PRAYERS

You are encouraged to pray for the churches, centers, and pastors of the East District of the Desert Southwest Conference. You may even send a card or note to the pastor or churches for which you are praying.



The March 2023 list is as follows:

- Sun Lakes UMC
- The Fountains, A UMC, Fountain Hills
- Tongan UMC, Mesa

LOVE AND SYMPATHY

...to J.L. Scott, family, and friends on the death of his wife, Harriet Scott, who died on Thursday, February 2. Memorial service information is pending.



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