



# Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

Sun Lakes, Arizona

**February 12, 2025 - Kairos Vol. 12, Issue #6**



## **A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEN:**

Sun Lakes UMC is a church filled with vibrant and vital ministries—ranging from book and Bible studies to wellness opportunities like yoga and strength training, as well as groups for veterans, men, women, and more. It takes many people working behind the scenes to ensure that communication goes out in a timely fashion with the right information.

Recently, the Communications Team decided to streamline our communications by shifting from five weekly emails to three. Here's what you can expect:

- **Monday:** Link to worship from the previous Sunday
- **Wednesday:** The Kairos with calendar updates and church news
- **Friday:** The weekly prayer list and the bulletin for the upcoming



Sunday

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Making all of this happen is a dedicated group of staff. Those who play a key role in weekly communication include:

- **Deanna Betz** – Finance reports and weekend attendance
- **Jackie Young** – Worship slides, worship bulletins, and announcements
- **Pastor Chan** – Compiling prayers from the prayer team, prayer request cards, Sunday School, choir, and emailed prayer requests
- **Lauren Jones** – Organizing committee reports, assembling the Kairos, and sending all three weekly emails

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We also partner with our musicians to include accurate music details—such as composers and song titles—and with **Wilson Arnpriester** and **Katie Lower**, who manage the sound, lights, camera, and slides during Sunday worship.

This is just the *tip of the iceberg* in terms of the work being done each week to support the ministries and mission of Sun Lakes UMC. We are deeply grateful for everyone who helps keep our church thriving and our congregation connected.

See you in church,  
**Pastor Jen**

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## PERSEVERANCE IN FAITH & TECHNOLOGY



We know that many of you have been frustrated and disappointed by the recent **technical issues with our worship livestream**, and we sincerely apologize. We are actively working to resolve these challenges so that everyone can fully participate in our services, whether in person or online. In the meantime, we want to share a key

message from this past Sunday's sermon, based on James 1:2-18.

In Asia, there is a type of bamboo that grows very slowly at first. When planted, it appears to do nothing for years. A farmer will water and tend to the ground, but there is no visible growth. Then, around the fifth year, the bamboo suddenly shoots up—growing as much as 90 feet in just a few weeks!

What was happening all those years underground? A vast root system was forming, preparing the plant for its rapid growth.

This is how perseverance works in our faith. There are times when we feel stuck, as if nothing is changing. We pray, we seek wisdom, yet we don't see the results we hope for. But James reminds us: when we persevere, when

we trust God even when nothing seems to be happening, God is working beneath the surface. At the right time, God's purposes will be revealed.

Thank you for your patience as we work through our streaming issues. Your faithfulness—both in worship and in waiting—is deeply appreciated.

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## MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Sun Lakes United Methodist Church is deeply committed to missions. Each month, the Missions Committee makes it a priority to support local, national, and international nonprofit organizations that are highly rated on Charity Navigators. Additionally, we have several agencies we supported in the month of January, as well as our apportionment to the Annual Conference. In the month of January, you, Sun Lakes UMC, gave \$34,136.80 to support missions *and this does not include the missions supported by our adult Sunday School class and the United Women in Faith!*



To learn more about the organizations we supported in January, here's a brief summary:

**Heifer Project** ([heifer.org](http://heifer.org)) Heifer International works with partners to support farmers in sustainably addressing hunger and poverty in their communities while caring for the Earth, with a focus on transforming food systems. Their programs follow a sustainable locally led development approach.

**GBGM** (<https://umcmmission.org>) the General Board of Global Ministries is the worldwide mission, relief and development agency of The United Methodist Church. GBGM connects local churches with missions. **UMOM** ([umom.org](http://umom.org)) From emergency shelter to affordable housing, UMOM offers a full slate of vital services, rooted in a foundation of trust and proactive support.

**Habitat for Humanity** ([habitat.org](http://habitat.org)) is a nonprofit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. We believe affordable housing plays a critical role in strong and stable communities. **Lura Turner Homes** ([luraturnerhomes.org](http://luraturnerhomes.org)) helps adults with development and intellectual disabilities experience a safe, enriching, and loving environment.

**Justa Center** ([justacenter.org](http://justacenter.org)) is a day resource center for older adults (average age is 65) who are experiencing homelessness. **Doves**, from the Area Agency on Aging, supports older adults who have experienced domestic violence.

**Women4Women** ([women4womentempe.org](http://women4womentempe.org)) provides hygiene products



for women experiencing homelessness or are low income.

**Esperanza Para Los Niños** ([esperanzaparalosninos.org](http://esperanzaparalosninos.org)) located 24km from Rocky Point, helps shelter children and provide a safe environment until they can be returned to their families

**Faithworks** ([faithworks4us.org](http://faithworks4us.org)) focuses on children, medical support, and construction and is located in northern Arizona.

*One of the upcoming priorities for the Missions Committee is our Peanut Butter Sunday – peanut butter is a filling, protein-filled food that helps stretch family budgets. Our peanut butter collection will go to local schools/agencies.*

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## **FEBRUARY 9TH GIVING AND ATTENDANCE**



Church,

Here is the Giving and Attendance Report for February 9th:

Attendance: 276

YouTube Watchers: 115.2

Week's Offering: \$13,191.59

February Month To Date Giving:  
\$26,345.59

February Monthly Budget Needs:  
\$99,161.79

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## **PASTORAL "DROP-IN" HOURS**



Have you been waiting to have an one-on-one with the Pastors? The opportunity has arrived! There are now Drop-In visitation times where you can stop by for prayer, support, or simply share a conversation with the Pastor!

Pastor Jennifer is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Pastor Chan is available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

We hope this availability will strengthen connections within our church community and make it easier for everyone to access the pastoral care they need. Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to serve together in ministry!

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## UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURE

**We will be closed on Monday, February 17th in observance of Presidents Day.**

**We will reopen on Tuesday, February 18th at 9:00am.**



Presidents' Day is celebrated each year on the third Monday of February. It is a federal holiday that celebrates the birthdays and achievements of all

U.S. presidents, especially George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Here is a fun fact about Presidents' Day and some of the presidents who are honored on this day:

-The holiday was originally established in recognition of President George Washington, who was born February 22, 1732. It was declared a federal holiday in 1879 and became a national holiday in 1968. On a federal level, this holiday is still designated as "Washington's Birthday." State and local governments and private businesses may use other names, such as Presidents' Day.

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## SLUMC STUDY INTEREST SURVEY



Summer and Fall 2025

Help us plan meaningful learning opportunities for the summer and fall by letting us know what kinds of studies interest you most. Please reply to this email with your answers to the questions below.

### 1. What type of study interests you most? (Choose all that apply)

- Overview of a Book of the Bible (e.g., Psalms, Acts, or Revelation)
- Specific People in the Bible (e.g., Ruth, David, Mary Magdalene, Paul)
- Spiritual Practices and Formation (e.g., prayer, meditation, simplicity, forgiveness)
- Book Studies by Influential Christian Authors
  - Richard Rohr
  - Henri Nouwen
  - Howard Thurman
  - Other (please specify)

### 2. What is your preferred format?

- In-person only
- Online only
- Hybrid (both in-person and online)

### 3. What time of day works best for you?

- Weekday Mornings
- Weekday Afternoons
- Weekday Evenings
- Weekend

### 4. What length of study would you prefer?

- 4-6 weeks
- 8-10 weeks
- Ongoing study group

### 5. Do you have additional suggestions for topics or studies?

Feel free to share any ideas!



How to respond:

Reply to this email with your answers to the questions above. If you prefer, you can also call the church office at (480)895-8766 and share your responses.

Thank you for helping us plan engaging studies for our community!

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## SOUP AND PIE FELLOWSHIP

Hearing loss can be a lonely journey. However, there are over 50 million people with some degree of hearing loss in our country, over 1 million here in Arizona! Join us as Liz Booth (HLAA Sun Lakes Chapter) takes us through how to "Pack our Toolboxes" with communication strategies, hearing loss relationship support, and ways to cope with this 24/7 challenge.



Join us for an opportunity of fellowship, and learning, with a provided lunch of Soup & Pie on Tuesday, **February 18th** in Lindsay Hall from 10:00am - 1:00pm

Please sign up in Lindsay Hall or with the Church Office.

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## GRIEF SUPPORT



Starting Tuesday, **February 18th**, there will be a new 8-week Grief Support Class hosted by Polly Smith. This class is designed to provide a safe, supportive environment for individuals navigating the journey of grief.

February 18th - April 8th from 1:00pm-2:30pm in Room 4 of the Education Building.

Please sign up with the Church Office or by calling (480) 895-8766

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## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING

Greetings to all United Women in Faith members:

The February Unit Meeting will be held on **Feb. 19th** in Lindsay Hall at 1:00 p.m.

We will be packing hygiene kits for Women4Women. The Leadership Team will be hosting.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



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## **TAI CHI COMING TO SUN LAKES UMC**



We're excited to announce a new offering based on community feedback! Beginning Monday, **March 3rd**, we will offer a Tai Chi class on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. This 30-minute class will take place just before Ila's regular exercise class and will run for five weeks.

Tai Chi is a gentle practice that promotes balance, flexibility, and mindfulness. It's a wonderful way to start your day feeling refreshed and centered. The cost for the 5-week session is \$25, payable on the first day of class.

Please note that this fee is nonrefundable and nontransferable.

Space is limited, so mark your calendars and plan to join us!

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## **LAST OF THE CONCERT SERIES**



# HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD

**STARRING**

**KAITLYNN BLUTH  
KRISTEN DRATHMAN**

**JORDAN BLUTH  
ROB WATSON**



**SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 3:00PM**

Featuring *Flashdance*, *Dirty Dancing*, *9-5*, *James Bond*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Stayin' Alive*, *Grease*, *The Lion King* and songs from Adele, Kenny Loggins, Lady Gaga, Patrick Swayze, Dolly Parton, Barbra Streisand, Doris Day & Judy Garland!

Reminiscence to the greatest films of all time  
with 14 musicians and fun videos!

**SHOWTUNE**  
PRODUCTIONS

**SUN LAKES UMC**

ALL SHOW 3:00PM / TICKETS \$25.00

**CALL 480-895-8766**

9248 RIGGS ROAD / SUN LAKES / AZ / 85248

The Neil Diamond tribute was nothing short of pure entertainment! Our last concert of the series will be on Sunday, March 2nd at 3:00pm in the

Sanctuary. Don't miss out on this wonderful evening of music through the decades!

Tickets can be purchased in the Church Office Monday-Thursday from 9:00am-3:00pm or following the services on Sunday. Tickets are \$25 each.

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## PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY

Sunday, March 2nd we will have Peanut Butter Sunday! Please bring a jar of peanut butter to the red wagons either in Sanctuary, Lindsay Hall or the Church Office!

This is a nutritional food that is perfect for restoring a vital food source to needy families in the area. All jars are going to be donated to the local schools/agencies!



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## NAME BADGES



We are still taking orders for new name badges! They are \$10 each to cover a part of the expense.

If you'd like to order a name badge, please contact the Church Office (480) 895-8766 and we will place an order for you!

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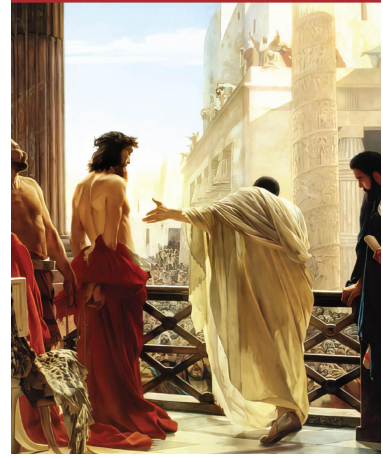
## THE UPPER ROOM MARCH - APRIL

The Upper Room Daily Devotional for March - April 2025 is now available in the Church Office Foyer or Lindsay Hall.

A limited amount of Large Print is available.

There are small envelopes located near the Upper Rooms for any offering. Thank you for your contributions!





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## **ALTAR FLOWERS DONATED 2/2 & 2/9**



-Ellyn Martin and Anthea Harrison in Memory of Their Husbands  
-Rick Vier in memory of Connie Reed & Billee Vier for Valentine's Day

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## **SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**

Every Sunday after service, there is an "Adult Sunday School" that is hosted in Room 1 of the Education Building that starts at 10:30.

Study books are available in class. We have a great time with our teachers!



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## **BOOKS FROM OUR LIBRARY**

-Animals You will Never Forget Compiled by Reader's Digest  
-More Beautiful Than Before: How Suffering Transforms Us by Steve Leder





- When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough: The Search for a Life That Matters by Harold Kushner
  - Finding God in Unexpected Places by Philip Yancey
  - Every Day Deserves a Chance by Max Lucado
  - Glorious Hope by The Editors of Guideposts
  - The Courage to Give: Inspiring Stories of People Who Triumphed Over Tragedy and Made a Difference in the world by Jackie Waldman
  - My Grandfather's Blessings: Stories of Strength, Refuge, and Belonging by Rachel Naomi Remen
-

# LAFF

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LAUGHTER & FRIENDSHIP FOREVER  
presents the hilarious INTERFAITH  
production of

# "THE FAMILY TREE"

A Hysterically Funny  
**MUSICAL COMEDY**



March 29, 7pm

March 30, 3pm

April 5, 7pm

April 6, 3pm



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At Sun Lakes  
Country Club

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