



First United Methodist Church of Sun City
First Word
 Living and Sharing The Faith We Profess

May Edition 2024

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Worship in May and June

As the days warm up, we celebrate!
 Mother's Day & Father's Day, Pentecost & the birthday of the Christian Church, Goodbyes & Hellos!
 Join us in Worship each Sunday!



May 5 Easter 6	"Whose Time Is It Anyway?" Sacrament of Holy Communion	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-18
May 12 Easter 7	"Who In the World?" Mother's Day Ascension Sunday	John 17:6-19
May 19	"The Spirit Will Tell You" Pentecost Sunday! Wear RED	John 15:26-27 & 16:4-15 Acts 2:1-21 WEAR RED FOR Pentecost
May 26	"Birthing Spirit" Trinity Sunday Peace With Justice Sunday Memorial Day Weekend	John 3:1-17
June 2	"Loving the New Normal" Sacrament of Holy Communion	2 Corinthians 4:5-12
June 9	"Exit Lines" Pastor Kathleen's last Sunday	Matthew 28:16-20 Acts 1:6-8
June 16	Guest Preacher Father's Day Annual Conference Sunday	
June 23	Guest Preacher — Pastor Kathleen on vacation	
June 30	Guest Preacher — Pastor Kathleen on vacation	
July 7	Pastor Jody's first Sunday Sacrament of Holy Communion	

Welcome



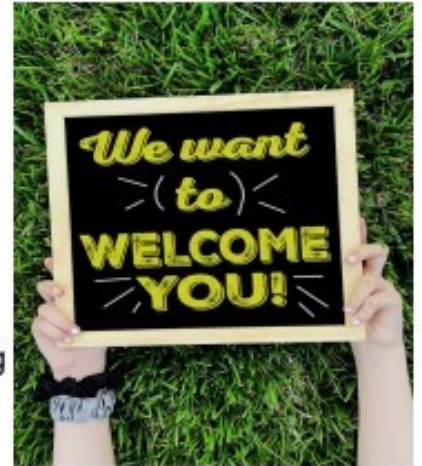
Our office will be closed Monday, May 27



Pastor Kathleen's Corner

*"Ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange.
Ch-ch-changes ... Time may change me.
But I can't change time."* Song "Changes" by David Bowie

You will not hear me saying "I love change" very often. But, as a United Methodist pastor, change is something that happens, whether I am ready for it or not. As you know, I will be retiring as your pastor this June. I am staying in the area (I live in Surprise.) I will miss being your pastor and I will miss you, but am looking forward to the adventures ahead of me in retirement! As was announced earlier this year, Bishop Carlo Rapanut is appointing Pastor Jody Topping as the new pastor here. She will be starting on July 1 and her first Sunday will be July 7. I know Pastor Jody and appreciate her ministry — she will be a blessing to this church.



Here are some ideas to welcome her (& her husband, David) to First UMC of Sun City — **Open your hearts and decide that you are going to love your new pastor.** Your love and caring has been a precious gift to me — share that love and caring!

Being Invited To Things This one may sound simple but when you are the new person in town, it can be a bit overwhelming. Being invited over for dinner or to meet someone for lunch or coffee is important in getting to know people and in developing relationships.

Pray For Your New Pastor and Tell Her That You Are Praying for her There is something that is so reassuring to know that other people are specifically praying for you. This is encouraging for at least two reasons. First, it is encouraging to know that there is spiritual maturity in this new flock of people in that they are praying for you. And second, it is nice to know that these new people care and love you enough to pray to God for you. Both of these reasons will be important to your new pastor.

Love Her And Honor Her Family Love them all and show them that you accept them. Keep them in your prayers as well. Welcome them to this church and help them to feel at home.

Don't Compare Your New Pastor To The Last Pastor Even if you are saying things in a positive way, it is not helpful to be comparing one pastor to another. Each pastor brings their own set of spiritual gifts and abilities that God has given them to this job of shepherding the local church. Embrace that and look forward to discovering what the new pastor brings, and, please, don't compare.

Tell Your New Pastor Your Name Often You all do such a great job with wearing your nametags! I have so appreciated that! Please keep it up --it will help Pastor Jody not only remember you but to make her feel at ease as she learns many names and faces.

Each one of us desires to feel loved and wanted and your new pastor is no different. Go out of your way to let her know that you are truly thankful that she is here to pastor this church. Please keep me, this church, and Pastor Jody in your prayers in this time of "Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes." May we look forward to what God has for us to discover in the months ahead!

Blessings on you this May!

Pastor Kathleen

**Our MAY Communion Offering
goes to support:**

Community & Member Assistance

This fund primarily offers financial assistance for church members and their families for emergencies, medical, and other needs.

All requests are kept completely confidential.

We also use these funds to donate to the Salvation Army's emergency assistance fund which helps people in the surrounding communities.

Sunday - May 5, 2024



Piano Recital

**Sunday, May 19 at 1 pm
in the Sanctuary**

**You are invited to hear wonderful
music from Matt Marino's students.
Come and encourage
these musicians!**



Pentecost Sunday — May 19

On Pentecost Sunday, we remember the day the disciples received the Holy Spirit in a special way. The story in Acts 2 describes a powerful wind and tongues of fire as the Holy Spirit was poured out on people from all over the world who came to Jerusalem to celebrate a Jewish feast. At the first Pentecost over 3000 people were baptized, creating the first church. This is why Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Christian church!

The word Pentecost comes from a Greek word meaning fiftieth.

The Christian festival of Pentecost falls on the 50th day after the resurrection of Jesus. Pentecost culminates the celebration and work of the church begun on Easter Day. It celebrates the whole congregation living out the gifts we have been given in the name of Jesus and the power, gifts, and fruit of the Holy Spirit!

RED is the color of Pentecost. You are invited to wear something **RED** on Sunday, May 19!

FUMC WOMENS FELLOWSHIP GROUP
Presents

HIGH TEA



Join us for Tea, Coffee, Refreshments and Fellowship

Friday, May 10, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

**Sign Up By
Monday
May 6**

**Be Sure to Wear
Your High Tea
Hats and bring a
Baby Picture of
Yourself**



**SIGN UP
TODAY**

**This is a
Free Event**

First United Methodist of Sun City
9849 N. 105th Ave.
Sun City, AZ



FUMC Women's Fellowship Group
Spring Fashion Show
April 12, 2024

Thank you

~ FASHIONS BY ~
Just Be Youtiful

and our beautiful models
For making our Spring Fashion
Show such a huge success.

**Upcoming FUMC Women's Fellowship
2024 Summer Events**

Friday, June 14

10:30 - Lillian Carver

Short Meeting and then a painting class (1st in a series).

Friday, July 12

10:30 - Lillian Carver

Short Meeting and then a painting class (2nd in a series).

Friday, August 9

10:30

Short Meeting and then activity TBD.

If you would like a name tag, please let the church office know by calling (623-974-3631), or by emailing the church office at: office@fumcsuncity.com



You don't need to be a member to get a name tag!

Coffee Fellowship
SUNDAYS
AFTER
WORSHIP

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall to bring cookies, make coffee & clean up.



Leadership Team Meeting Highlights April 23, 2024

The church continues to receive less in offerings each week than is needed to maintain our budget. Please keep this in your prayers.

JBS Roofing has completed repairs to the roof over the John Wesley and Lillian Carver Rooms.

Our fire extinguishers and exit signs have all been updated and passed inspection by the fire department.

We continue to have maintenance and replacement issues with our air conditioning systems and are examining bids from Sunland.

Pray for the General Conference of the UMC worldwide which is meeting now through May 3 in Charlotte, NC. If you wish to follow the sessions, you may find a link at UMC.org.

Look for details elsewhere in this newsletter about our many upcoming events. Pastor Kathleen's last Sunday with us will be June 9. We will honor her with cake following worship. We will welcome Pastor Jody and her family with a potluck on July 7.

We are pleased to have had guests attend our meetings. The Leadership Team meets monthly (except during the summer) on the third Thursday at 9 am in the Lillian Carver Room. These meetings are open to all of you who wish to attend. You may speak to an issue but would not be able to vote. Personnel matters will be discussed in Executive Session. The next meeting is May 21 at 9 am in the Lillian Carver Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerrie Wall, Leadership Council Member



**Happy
Mother's
Day** 
May 12, 2024

Welcome May

May You be happy.
May You be well.
May You be safe.
May You find comfort.
May You have strength.
May You have courage.
May You find healing.
May You have peace.
May You have joy.
May You be filled with
loving kindness.

**MAY YOU BE BLESSED
TODAY
AND ALWAYS**



**After Worship on Sunday,
June 9th, we'll celebrate
Pastor Kathleen's
Retirement.**

**This will be her
last Sunday with us.
She is retiring after 40 years
as an ordained pastor in the
United Methodist Church.
Everyone is invited to wish
her well, to say "goodbye"
and to bless her as she begins
a new chapter in her life.**

Italian Dinner Night

*Enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner
including salad, garlic bread
and dessert*

Cost - \$10.00/ per meal

When: Saturday, May 25, 2024

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased after
Worship or in the Church Office.



METHO TRAVELERS PRESENTS

BASEBALL GAME TRIP



DIAMONDBACKS VS **PHILLIES**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2024
 LEAVE LAKEVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT 5:30 P.M.
 FIRST PITCH: 6:40 P.M. | CHASE FIELD, PHOENIX

CLUB LEVEL, CLUB BOX SEATING LOCATION
 \$90/PERSON FOR MOTORCOACH AND TICKET | REGISTER

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, CONTACT HELEN FISHER AT
 602-697-5361 or MethoTravelers@Gmail.com



REGISTER AT THE METHO TRAVELERS TABLE BY SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024, AS TICKETS ARE LIMITED AND WILL BE OFFERED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

Welcome to Metho Travelers

We offer you an opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship through activities and travel. Metho Travelers is dedicated to providing fully escorted, all inclusive group socialization keeping in mind reasonable cost and fun destinations.


Advantages of traveling with Metho Travelers:

- Diversity of Trips
- Day Trips
- Professional Entertainment Venues
- Multiple Overnight Excursions To Points Of Interest
- Cruises Are All Inclusive
- Air, Land and Sea Vacations

Metho Travelers Presents

A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE

TO LOVE & MURDER



ARIZONA BROADWAY THEATER

Thurs., May 16, 2024

\$85

Leave Lakeview at 11:15
 Lunch 12:00 - Show 2 pm.
 Meal includes soup or salad, entre, tea or coffee.
 Dessert or adult beverages extra if desired.
 Meal, Show, and Tips included

For More Information or Reservations see your Metho Travelers Table or call Beth at 307-262-6715 or Sharon at 602-391-7164

Stop by the **Metho Travelers** table after worship in Fellowship Hall.

Check out some of the fabulous trips planned in the next few months.

Sign up for Christian fellowship through activities and travel.

ECUMENICAL

We pray for the following congregations:

MAY

Sun City Congregations

Sun City Christian Church

All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church

United Methodist Congregations

in our District

First UMC, Yuma

Fort Yuma UMC

Gila Mountain UMC, Yuma

THANK YOU...

to all who helped clear the front of the Sanctuary for the Desert Winds Steel Orchestra Concert!

You did it all so fast!
(Thanks also to Lou who put it all back!)

THANK YOU also to our Usher crew!

AND THANK YOU to the Steel Orchestra for an EXCELLENT concert! It was so much FUN!

PRAYER REQUESTS

How can we pray for you?

If you would like to be placed on the church Prayer List to receive an email when someone requests prayer, contact the church office with your name and email address and we will add you to the prayer list.

CONDOLENCES & CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

To the family and friends of

Bob Olson
Who passed on
Wednesday, April 3, 2024.
Please hold his wife, Linda Olson, and family in prayer.

A Celebration of Life was held
Wednesday, April 10, 2024

First UMC of Sun City 623 Prayer

Commit to praying this prayer for our church at 6:23 am or pm (or both!) daily.



Gracious God, thank you for the First United Methodist Church of Sun City. Our future is in your hands. We pray for your Spirit to break through. Break through our fears. Break through the obstacles. Break through those things that keep us from being the church that you intend us to be. May we step forward in faith and in hope, to be a beacon of light and life in our community. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Summer Schedule

Sundays

Sunday Worship
9:30 am

Fellowship Hour
Cookies & Coffee following Service
Communion on the First Sunday
of the Month

Tuesdays

Bible Study
10:30 am
Lillian Carver

Game Night
6:00 pm
Lillian Carver Room

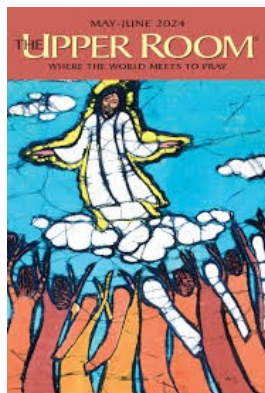
Fridays

Second Friday Women's Fellowship

Daily Devotionals

We encourage everyone to spend time in the Word of God each day. One way to do this is using a devotional.

These devotionals can be found in the Narthex and Church office hallway.



Both regular and large print are available at no cost.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Matters

& is a real blessing!

Interested in becoming a member of FUMC Sun City?
Interested in baptism?

Contact Pastor Kathleen or the church office for more information.
623-974-3631

Leaving for the Summer?

Please give us your summer address, date leaving and date returning and let us know if you want to receive communication from us at your summer address.



FUMC SUN CITY 2024 SUMMER ADDRESS

(Please fill out and mail/bring to the Church Office)

Name: _____

Summer Address: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Info: _____

IMPORTANT

Date Leaving: _____

Date Returning: _____

Do you want to receive "First News" this summer at the Summer Address above? ___ Yes ___ No

Email: _____



Join the fun and fellowship!
 Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.
 Lillian Carver Room
 All are welcome, bring a friend!



Justa Center is in great need of food donations at this time. Because of the sky-rocketing prices of rents, each week they receive requests for assistance from more seniors who are becoming homeless.

Just a few cans of food donated would make a difference, enabling Justa Center to help more seniors. The items can be placed on the table in the Narthex and will be delivered every other week.

They especially need cans of vegetables, fruit, protein (such as tuna, chicken, beef), and cereal. They also need canes.



There is a complete list of needed items on the Justa Center table in the Narthex



Communication with FUMC Sun City

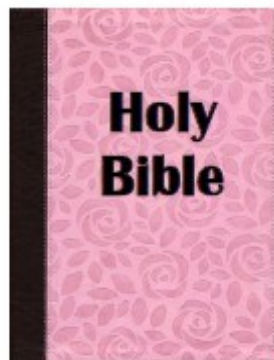
Did you know there are many ways you are able to know what's going on at FUMC and to Communicate with us?

- Email - office@fumcsuncity.com
- Our Website - www.fumcsuncity.com
- Our Facebook Page
(First United Methodist Church Sun City)
- Streaming of the Sermons on Facebook and YouTube
- An online version of **First Word** can be found on our web page. If you want one mailed, please let us know.
- Phone - leave message on our voice mail after normal office hours.
- Online giving (link on our web page)

Please use the Church email: **office@fumcsuncity.com** for questions or to give us information like an address change or if someone is in the hospital.



Spring Mission Project for UMOM! Bibles for Moms & Children's Books for Kids



This April and May, we are collecting donations of \$20 to provide new large print Bibles for mothers at UMOM!

We also are collecting new (and gently used) Children's Books for the children at UMOM!



The deadline for this mission project is Mother's Day, May 12.

Donations of \$20 can be made to First UMC of Sun City. (Please put *UMOM Bibles* in the memo line.) Children's books can be put on the table in the Narthex on Sundays or brought into the church office.

Look for more details on the bulletin inserts in April — You can give a Bible in honor or in memory of a mom you love. (and receive a recipient card to let your loved one know about the gift Bible you sent in their honor.)



UMOM's programs are built around a simple formula: jobs + housing = ending homelessness. We work hand-in-hand with every person we serve to solve that formula alongside them. From emergency shelter to affordable housing, UMOM offers a full slate of vital services, rooted in a foundation of trust and proactive support. UMOM's Mission is to end family homelessness by restoring hope and rebuilding lives.

What is UMOM? It stands for United Methodist Outreach Ministries. UMOM New Day Centers mission is to prevent and end homelessness with innovative strategies and housing solutions that meet the unique needs of each family and individual. About 50% of the family shelter residents are children and youth.

Founded in 1964, UMOM is in Phoenix, Arizona, and is the largest shelter for homeless families in the state. They keep families together -- providing a continuum of care from emergency shelter to transitional housing and finally, permanent, affordable housing. Families at UMOM can gain the skills, medical care, quality childcare, and education they need to rebuild their lives and succeed when they leave. Every night UMOM provides safe shelter and supportive services for nearly 700 individuals (over 155 homeless families and 130 single women) through its continuum of services. They also offer over 550 units of affordable housing across the Valley, each community with Program Centers for residents.

Some of their programs and services are: Shelter programs for families, Permanent Housing, Veterans Programs, Watkins Basic Needs Shelter, and Supportive Services (workforce development, child development center, wellness center, teen activity program.) For more information, you can go directly to their website at: www.UMOM.org

2024 Desert Southwest Annual Conference

June 13-16, 2024



ISAIAH 43:18-19 | JEREMIAH 29:4-7, 10-14

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

The 40th Session of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference will take place at the Tucson Convention Center on June 13-16, 2024.

Voting members will be 100% in-person this year.

Colleen Becker and Gerrie Wall will attend as Lay Representatives from First UMC of Sun City. The event will be live streamed and available at <https://dscumc.org/ac>.

Bishop Carlo's invitation to Annual Conference notes this year's conference theme, "Making A Way," based on Jeremiah 29:4-7, 10-14 and Isaiah 43:18-19. Bishop Carlo reminds us that this year's conference marks the 40th anniversary of the Desert Southwest Conference, so it is time to reflect on our past and cast a vision for the next decade! Celebrate! Please keep Bishop Carlo and all the church leaders attending in your prayers.



Got Grandkids (or Great Grandkids)? Help them go to CAMP this summer! Desert Southwest Camp information is below!

Talk to Pastor Kathleen for more details

2024 SUMMER CAMP

REGISTER BY MARCH 31 FOR THE EARLY BIRD RATE OF \$455 FOR A STANDARD WEEK.

YOUNGER ELEMENTARY & GRAND & ME: \$247 PER WEEK (NO EARLY BIRD)

BEACH CAMP: \$595 LOCAL AZ: \$525



June 3-5, 2024
Younger Elementary (Rising 1st-Rising 3rd)

June 10-14, 2024
Elementary I

June 17-21, 2024
Jr. High Classic & Jr. High Adventure

June 24-28, 2024
Sr. High Adventure & Sr. High Classic

July 15-19, 2024
Elementary II
Junior High Classic II

July 22-26, 2024
Elementary III

www.potosipinescamp.org

Located in the beautiful desert terrain between Las Vegas and Pahrump, NV



Located in the Ponderosa Pines of Central/Northern Arizona

June 17-22, 2024
Elementary I
Jr. High I
Jr. High Adventures: Local AZ

June 24-29, 2024
Elementary II
Jr. High II
Sr. High Adventures: Beach Camp

July 1-3, 2024
Grand & Me Camp

July 8-13, 2024
Jr/Sr High: Night Owls

www.mingusmountaincamp.org

All Elementary Camps are for those in Rising 3rd-Rising 6th, Jr. High Camps are for those in Rising 6th-Rising 9th

THIS SPECIAL SESSION IS ESPECIALLY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THEIR GRANDCHILDREN, AGES 6-12

REGISTER NOW!

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE! SIMPLY INCLUDE THE REQUEST IN THE REGISTRATION PROCESS.



MAY
Birthdays

5/2 Sue Schneider
5/3 Mary Payne
5/5 Cathy Murray
5/7 Lenora Rector
5/7 Deborah King
5/11 Janice Promberger
5/12 Gerrie Wall
5/12 Phyllis King
5/15 Jil Carlson
5/16 Bogie Budke
5/16 John King
5/17 Steve Lunde
5/19 Marion James
5/20 Nada Jensen
5/24 Beth Mead
5/29 Pat Gronberg



5/2 Ed & Barbara Jensen
5/15 Red & Pam Fisher



MAY
Anniversaries

If you do not find your birthday or anniversary listed, please let the church office know.
We would like to recognize you during your special month.



Town of Youngtown
12030 Clubhouse Square
Youngtown, Arizona 85363

For Immediate Release:

Contact Information

Nicole Smart
Town Clerk
623-933-8286
clerk@youngtownaz.org

The Town of Youngtown Now Accepts Passport Applications

The Town of Youngtown is pleased to announce that it now accepts passport applications on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. U.S. citizens planning international travel may apply for their passports Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at Town Hall, 12030 N Clubhouse Square Youngtown AZ, 85363 by appointment only. Please contact Town Hall at 623-933-8286 to schedule.

For application forms, information on documentation required, fees, and a wealth of other passport and international travel information, visit the only official website for passport information – travel.state.gov.

AARP sponsored

SHRED-A-THON SHRED-A-THON

Saturday May 4th, 2024 9-1

SHEPHERD OF THE DESERT LUTHERAN CHURCH

11025 N 111th AVE SUN CITY

\$3 DONATION PER BANKER SIZE BOX

First United Methodist Church
9849 N. 105th Avenue
Sun City, AZ 85351



May 23 is the deadline to
submit articles/events/news for
the **JUNE** Newsletter.
Thank you!

God Loves:



First United Methodist Church
9849 N. 105th Avenue, Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-3631
Email: office@fumcsuncity.com
Website: www.fumcsuncity.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/fumcsuncity
YouTube: www.youtube.com
The ministers of this church are its members.
Those who assist and support them are:

Pastor Kathleen Puntar	Pastor
Gerrie Wall	Lay Leader
Matthew Marino	Music Director
Cathy Murray	Organist, Handbell Director
Kimberly Hill	Office Manager
Arne Kesler	Bookkeeper
Mark Cwik	Audio/Video Technician
Lou Farrar	Groundskeeper/Maintenance

Pastor Kathleen's Cell #: 714-420-6094
pastork@fumcsuncity.com
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9am - 2pm

TELEWORSHIP
Teleworship allows a person to dial a phone number remotely and listen to the worship service as it occurs.
Here's how it works:

- Call **623-777-3306** during the 9:30 am service.
- When prompted, enter extension **930** and wait for the prompt.
- Dial **536-545-940#**

**Join us for Worship
Sundays - 9:30 am
In Person and Online on
Facebook and YouTube**

A decorative background for the text featuring a pattern of colorful flowers in shades of pink, red, and yellow.