

Open hearts

Open minds

Open doors

The People of the
United Methodist Church



Faith United Methodist Church
8640 North 19th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021



Create in me a clean heart,
O God, and renew a right
spirit within me

Psalm 51

The *Koinonia* is a monthly publication from Faith United Methodist Church. Its purpose is to provide items of interest and information about events and people related to the ministry of the church locally, district-wide and the conference.

Robert T. Hoshibata	Resident Bishop
Gary Kennedy	District Superintendent
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Members of Faith UMC: Volunteers of Time,
Talent, Prayers, Gifts, Service and Witness.

The KOINONIA
Monthly Newsletter from
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The Koinonia

Faith United Methodist Church

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March 2014

From the **PASTOR**

Celebrate!

It was a busy weekend for the confirmands. We started with the West Alice Community Garden dedication. (See pictures and article on later page) D'Shawn, Diamond and Gracie were all present and then stayed to help plant in the community beds – those that will have their harvest given to the Desert Mission Food Bank. Several adult gardeners patiently instructed the teens on where and how to place the plants in the beds.

The afternoon was spent on several lessons covering prayer, the “Quadrilateral” and worship. A good thing, because Sunday had them serving as liturgists, and the sermon taught the congregation about the quadrilateral as well.

On Monday the three were part of the Gleaning Citrus for Missions (story on later page). They were part of the teams that picked the fruit and later bagged it in preparation for taking it to the food bank. Karen Clark, long-time volunteer at Desert Mission, took the confirmands with her on the first of five carloads to be delivered. They had a tour of the food bank and were introduced to the staff there. It gave them an idea of the magnitude of the process of providing food to those in need.

This diary of weekend activities does have a purpose. I’m thinking in terms of sowing seeds and reaping a harvest, with lessons that connect the two in our individual and combined stories of life and faith.

As in the garden, we prepare the soil and plant the seeds. We water and nurture them. They take daily attention – praying over them



and talking to them, perhaps. In real life, that nurture includes teaching lessons: each person is a child of God, Jesus as Christ is our example and redeemer and friend, and the Holy Spirit is our guide and comforter. They are given background/history of the denomination plus evolving changes and current status. Scripture is a basic lesson, but includes discussion of Tradition, Experience and Reason as an aid to them identifying their own faith stance.

This process brings confirmands to the point of discovering and articulating their own statement of faith. If that statement is one of belief in Jesus as the Christ and the desire to follow Christ in their lives, they are confirmed. If they want that journey to be in The United Methodist Church, they will be received as members.

Gleaning/Reaping in this process is that of receiving the confirmands into the congregation of faith and encouraging them to fellowship and service in covenant with others. We will continue to nurture them as they go into their adult life, but they will also nurture us. They will be able to show us a new and more effective way, perhaps, of reaching other youth and families. They will participate in the missions of Faith and the greater Church to be the hands and feet of Christ to others – to “all persons” as noted in the Mission Statement of Faith UMC. They will be transformed and will help transform others, here and in the world.

So let us all be better acquainted with D'Shawn, Diamond and Gracie. Let us continue to nurture them with love and learning. Help them to benefit the joy of community and we, in turn, make them a part of our community

Shalom, Pastor Judy



COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



If you're a knitter or crocheter, or know someone who is, we have a great project for you! We are making beanies for service men that are shipped all over the world.



It's a great way to use up odds and ends of yarn. They can be finished in an evening and are appreciated more than you can imagine! Stop by Room 4 to see our project and get directions or go



online to www.operationbeanies.org for more details, instructions, and pictures.



Our other community outreach project is Angel Wraps. These are small blankets/quilts donated to hospitals. They are used to wrap stillborn babies in when they are taken in to their parents. We also knit caps and make little kimonos for them. It's another easy project to use up scraps of fabric (the quilts are just 22" x 22") and can be done very quickly. Again directions and finished samples can be seen in Room 4.



Stop by and join the fun.

the corner pew:

lenten sermon series

Joshua and I have discussed what we should present during the Lenten season in terms of sermons. What theme could we hold out there that would demonstrate the great love that God has for us? In looking at the lectionary readings, it became apparent that each gospel lesson showed us in some way that God is not only a promise-maker, but is also a promise-keeper.

So in response to that discernment we have chosen "God's Promise of..." as our Lenten theme. Each week we will be reminding you of the goodness and grace of our God. Please see the Sermon Series elsewhere in the newsletter.

You will also notice that Lent begins with an Ash Wednesday service on March 5th at 7:00 p.m. As usual we will have Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. The order of worship will be a Taizé – alternating times of scripture, song and silence. It is a very meditative style that prepares us for the season of Lent.

Lent will also include a service of healing. We have had these in the past from time to time. It is planned for March 30th. Those who wish may come

forward for a time of private prayer and/or anointing at the end of the service. Remember that needs come in many forms and can benefit from God's power to be a healing presence in our lives.

We will again have the Wednesday evening service called Holden Evening Prayer. It is a half-hour service that is music and scripture with a short homily and communion. As usual we will have a time of fellowship prior to that with a Soup & Bread Supper in the Koinonia Room.

One last thing – don't forget to pick up your Lenten Devotion. Reading should start Wednesday, March 5th.

Blessings, Pastor Judy

GRANDMA'S LUNCH BUNCH



Ten ladies shared lunch and fellowship on February 20th at Mary Coyle's. It was a perfect day for sundaes, soup and sandwiches. We decided we would meet at Alexi's Family Restaurant for our March lunch. This group meets monthly for food & fellowship and is open to all ladies that would like to attend. Alexi's is located at 19th Ave and Union Hills. Please join in the fun on March 20th at 11:30 am.



... I ate the whole thing!

I can't believe...



MISSION STATEMENT Faith United Methodist Church

Faith United Methodist Church is an inclusive* Christian congregation dedicated to the care of its constituents in order to serve the local community; and in co-operation with other faith-based organizations, to reach out to all persons* who seek personal acceptance, require sustaining assistance, or yearn for a meaningful life purpose beyond self.

*Regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, or sexual orientation.



Joshua's Journey

A Lenten Journey

As I have grown in the faith, my Lenten experience has moved from one of just "giving up" something to a methodical, contemplative way of remembering Christ's life, death, burial, and resurrection.

A few years ago, I led a Lenten study written by Rev Adam Hamilton which primarily reflected on the final 24 hours of Christ's life. Rev Hamilton emphasized that in the last 24 hours of Jesus' time on earth, Jesus ate the last supper with His disciples, prayed in the garden of Gethsemane, was betrayed by His followers, and ultimately was crucified for crimes which He did not commit. Jesus knew what challenges Jesus' would face in the upcoming day, yet He went forth into what God was calling him to do.

The walk that Jesus made up on that mountain is the crown of the gospel, for without that walk there is no cross. The steps that Jesus made towards His death were purposeful – fulfilling the reason of His time on earth.

As I walk forward towards my own personal journey in faith to fulfill what God is calling me to in vocational ministry, I regularly spend time discerning what my next steps will be. While I know that the end result will be my ordination as a servant of God's people, not every step is one I would choose. Not every step is easy, but there is a reason for each step. Although it may not be the next logical step for me, it is a step nonetheless.

I liken that to our own faith walks. No matter what the challenges we will face, foreseen or unforeseen, we need to discern what God is calling us to do and move forth towards that next step in life. God does not promise that life will be easy, but we are always certain that God is present in the easy times and the tough times.

In God's Graces, Joshua

Sermon Series

Mar. 2 – Transfiguration Sunday

Communion Sunday

Exodus 24:12-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

“With Veiled Faces”

March 5 - April 19, 2014

Sundays: Lent through Easter

Mar. 9 – 1st Sunday in Lent

Psalm 32; Matthew 4:1-11; Genesis 3:1-7

“God’s Promise of Forgiveness”

Mar. 16 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

Romans 4:1-5; 13-17 ;John 3:1-17; Psalm 121

“God’s Promise of Guidance”

Mar. 23 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-12

“God’s Promise of Living Water”

Mar. 30 – 4th Sunday in Lent

Healing Service

Psalm 23; John 9:1-41

“God’s Promise of Comfort & Healing”

Apr 6 – 5th Sunday in Lent

Communion Sunday

Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:1-45

“God’s Promise of New Life”

Apr. 13 - Palm - Passion Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11 (Palms)

Matthew 27:11-54 (Passion)

“God’s Promise of Presence in Good & Bad Times”

Apr. 20 - Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service

10:00 a.m. - Cantata

John 20:1-18

“God’s Promise of a Risen Christ”

Additional Services during Lent

Mar. 5 - Ash Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.

Communion and Imposition of Ashes

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17;

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

Taizé service

Apr. 17 - Maundy Thursday

Footwashing and Communion

John 13:1-17; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Apr. 18 - Good Friday - Noon

John 19

A Service of Meditation

Don't Miss!

SATURDAY MARCH 15th

FLEA MARKET

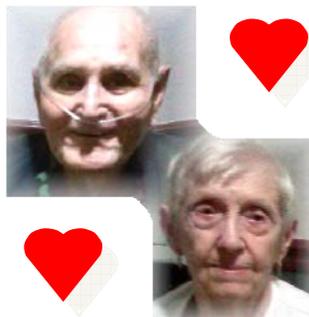
Faith's semi-annual flea market will be held in the parking lot on Saturday, the fifteenth of March from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come join the fun and support the vendors.

SATURDAY MARCH 29th

WALKATHON

Faith UMC will be sponsoring their second annual Imagine No Malaria Walkathon on Saturday, the twenty-ninth of March at 7:00 a.m. This is a fundraiser to support the Global Health Initiative of the United Methodist Church to combat Malaria in Africa. Please see the letter from Bishop Bickerton later in this issue. More details on the walkathon will be published in upcoming Sunday bulletins. You may also contact the church office.

Seventy-three years!



Count them! Longer than some persons live. Ten times the length of many marriages in the U.S. I visited Wendall and Verabelle on Valentine's Day, one day before their anniversary. They are

as devoted to one another (maybe more so) than when married 73 years ago. Wendall calls Verabelle his "bride." They are a wonderful example to all on how love, commitment, faith and forgiveness merge to make a wonderful life together.

They also have delightful and interesting stories to tell about their life -- children, exchange students (whom they called their "adopted children"), church, friends, and activities. Go visit them and hear these great adventures first-hand.

Pastor Judy

BEHIND THE SCENES

. How many times we have come into worship on a Sunday morning and remarked how nice the church looks! Those lovely arrangements of flowers, candles, and altar linens are almost always the result of the loving care given by an ex-California farm girl, Janet Darby.

How did the daughter of a barley & cotton farmer married to the son of a vineyard owner end up sharing her love of flowers and all things beautiful with us? Well, according to Janet, it's a bit of a long story. ...



Raised in the San Joaquin valley, the eldest of four girls but with one older brother, Janet met T.J. while attending Fresno State University. Shortly after their marriage T.J. decided to change careers and pursue electronics.

The couple moved with their young daughter to Phoenix so that T.J. could attend DeVry University. They found the "just right" house when they first moved here and haven't moved since. When T.J. chose electronics, however, little did the family realize how much traveling would be involved. Many summers were enjoyed in travel trailers so they could be closer to T.J.'s current assignment in California or Arizona. T.J.'s job now even takes him to more distant locations, so Janet has recently been able to visit destinations such as Ireland and Italy.

One day, after all three children had left the nest, Janet felt a need to establish a new church home. She initially chose Faith because she liked the looks of the slump block buildings with the tall cross in front. That brought her to the door, but what kept her was the welcoming congregation she found inside! From the first

greeting at the door, through finding quilting and school friends, Janet felt at home and has been here ever since.

Janet has been involved in many areas of Faith's ministry. She still quilts regularly and has been instrumental in establishing the Angel Wraps ministry, and she was an usher for many years. But a few years back, when Faith decided to convert to silk flowers, they were looking for someone to arrange and prepare the altar. Janet said to herself, "Why, I can do that." And she does!

Thank you, Janet.

RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Spring again! Last month we rejoiced in the Arizona spring weather. This month I am having a repeat welcoming in Boise, Idaho. The crocuses and other early spring flowers are peeking through the earth and bringing color back to a landscape that seemed bleak for so long! It makes me remember that, even though we are entering lent, a period of solemnness and introspection, God always sends us reminders of his loving care.



Big news! The Koinonia now has two official photographers. You may have seen Kate & Perla taking pictures around our congregation. They have agreed to supply us with snapshots of our life in Faith. Please welcome and thank them, for I do believe that sometimes, "a picture is worth a thousand words!"





Members of Faith United Methodist Church,

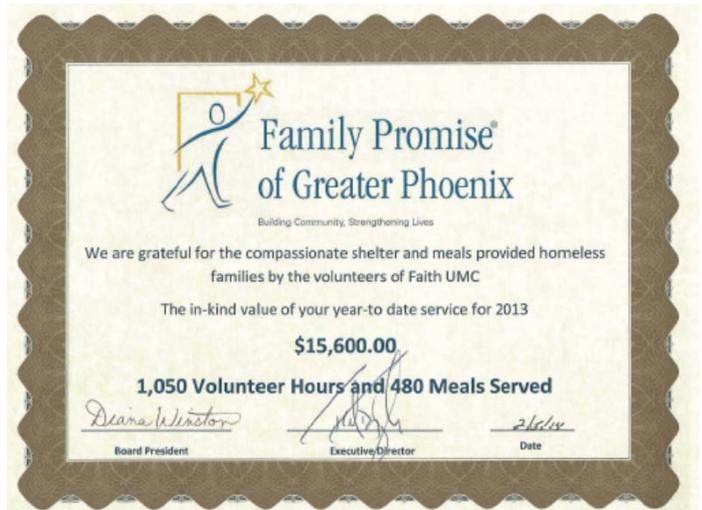
I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Family Promise to thank your congregation for the help and support you gave to the homeless families we serve in 2013. Your faith community and the others in our network that house our families a week at a time for dinner and over night give them so much more than food and shelter. You give them unconditional love and acceptance which is so healing—an immeasurable blessing. I have been a regular volunteer at my own church for more than 6 years and I have seen again and again how stressed parents and children who come into the program relax and begin to feel hopeful and whole as time passes.

In addition, the services you and your parishioners provide has very substantial monetary value. The enclosed statement shows the value of in kind gifts provided by your congregation in 2013. Multiplied by the 27 churches in our Greater Phoenix network, these contributions are enormous. Because so much of the service provided to Family Promise guests is in kind, we are able to serve our families in a far more cost effective manner than traditional homeless shelters. I hope you will pass this information, along with our profound gratitude, to the many volunteers in your community who make this all possible. We hope that the blessings you all have showered on our families come back to you many fold.

For the reasons stated, the network of faith communities is the life blood of Family Promise, and we want to assure that we have good two way communication. Please feel free to contact Cheryl Chewning, our Program Coordinator; Ted Taylor, our Executive Director or me if you have any questions or concerns. My phone number is 480-585-9157. Although we visit hosting congregations regularly and meet with host coordinators and volunteers, any one of us would be happy to come meet with you in person.

Sincerely yours,

Diana Winston
President of Family Promise



NOTE
Faith UMC hosted Family Promise February 23rd through March 3rd and will again be hosting families the week of **April 27th through May 3rd**. If you are able to help, please contact Gary and Jane Kriege.

From the Scrapbook..



Helen Martin recently ran across this picture of Faith's Coffee Chat. As you can see, in 1981 Coffee Chat was held in the breezeway. Do you recognize anyone? Although many of the people are no longer attending Faith there is at least one in the picture that still does.

Do you have any old photos you would like to share? If you do, bring them to the office and we'll try to feature them in a future issue of the *Koinonia*.



DEDICATION



Members of the church, community, and various organizations gathered on February 15th to dedicate the West Alice Community Garden and make the first planting. Eight 4' x 8' beds had been prepared. During the ceremony they received markers with the name(s) of the appropriate sponsor(s). Markers were also distributed that spoke of the "second" planting that was taking place simultaneously in the garden: seeds of peace, joy, love, compassion, diversity, tolerance, respect, hope and patience.

Pastor Judy opened the ceremony by introducing the members of the steering committee - Sparrow, John Goad, Gary Kriege, Jane Kriege, Aluea McKenzie, Maria Meyers, and Paula Wolf - whose labors have been instrumental in bringing the garden to fruition.



A brief history was given by Sparrow during which she listed and thanked the many people and groups that had helped to make the garden a reality. These included the steering committee, local businesses (please support them!), volunteers from Phoenix Business Journal in cooperation with Hands on Greater Phoenix, crews from Valley Metro Light Rail ("big machines make easy work"), the Valley Permaculture Alliance, Faith UMC Board of Trustees, and many others.

CITRUS PICKED, PACKED, DELIVERED

More than a ton of fruit donated to mission on President's Day

A huge thanks to everyone who participated in the President's day gleaning mission: from organizing it, to picking fruit, to bagging, to fixing food. It was a HUGE effort, the largest yet in our history of gleaning. I'm told we turned in 2666 pounds of fruit to Desert Mission Food Bank. I am sure that the folks who receive the fruit will be very happy.



It was a lot of work, but I'm hoping that everyone feels good about the experience.



THANK YOU,
THANK YOU,
THANK YOU!!!!

Many blessings, **Pastor Judy**



CALL FOR CHAINSAWYERS

Desert Southwest Conference is seeking volunteer experienced chain saw operators to support Conference Emergency Relief Team and other efforts. If you have a gas chain saw and would like to participate, contact Jim Reeves (jim44@cox.net; 602-625-4611) and/or Roger Harlow (captntop@msn.com; 928-533-4124) for details.



33rd Annual
DUET CABARET
entertainment by
Dmitri Matheny Group featuring
Renee Patrick

Sumptuous Meal • Dancing • Cocktails
Live & Silent Auctions
Sunday, April 27, 2014 • 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

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\$125 per person • Reservations Required
Be a Sponsor • Host a Table • Buy Tickets

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IMAGINE NO MALARIA

Our Faith In Action.



The people of The United Methodist Church*

Dear Friends,

Together, we have imagined a world free of preventable death and debilitating sickness from malaria. Together, we are making this dream a reality. You are a critical partner in a global effort against this treatable disease of poverty. With your help in 2013, we reached an incredible milestone of \$58 million in life-saving gifts and pledges. This is just over 75 percent of our goal as The United Methodist Church works in a global partnership to eliminate death, sickness and poverty from malaria. In thanksgiving, I celebrate and invite you to continue our work.

Mrs. Bilyatu Luther, a widowed mother of four from Nigeria, also shares her gratitude with you:

Meeting the immediate needs of my children and the extended family members is solely my responsibility in terms of education, health, shelter, feeding and other needs. It has not been easy for me because I am a cleaner earning less than the national minimum wage (18,000 Naira monthly). I have been battling with common malaria since their birth, at great costs. I heard the news that bed nets were being distributed free of charge at The United Methodist Church Hospital Zing, and I solicited to benefit from the distribution. I was given three bed nets. Since we started using these bed nets, the rate at which I come to the clinic with my children with malaria cases has reduced drastically. Prior to the use of bed nets, each of my children and dependents would come to the clinic three to four times during a rainy season. Now, the cost of drugs for the treatment of malaria through this programme has also gone down compared to before the project

The only faith-based partner to the Global Fund, The United Methodist Church is part of a global effort that saves thousands of lives every day.

began. A dose of malaria drug that costs about N450 in the chemist's is now available to us... I wish to appeal to all women, particularly pregnant women and mothers who have children below the ages of 5 years, to be patronizing the UMCN health facilities in order to benefit from this kind gesture accorded the underprivileged women. Children under the age of 5 could also get immunized. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the donors for providing these humanitarian services at virtually no cost. May God bless and reward them abundantly and for touching our lives positively.

Included is a snapshot look at a few of the direct malaria-ministry accomplishments achieved through UMCOR, the relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church. Our successes are made possible through partnerships with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other organizations as we jointly work toward eliminating death and suffering from malaria.

Please visit www.imaginenomalaria.org often. There you will find reports and updated information on our program and ministry accomplishments in Africa, as well as examples of inspiring and creative activities from congregations.

Thank you for your generous contribution of sum \$3679.90 in 2013. Please contact Deeann Bogle, 866-521-1179, for assistance with this financial statement .

Peace and blessings,

Bishop Thomas Bickerton, Chair
Global Health Initiative of The United Methodist Church

1.9 million mosquito nets distributed through The United Methodist Committee on Relief

11,600 volunteer health care workers trained

TRUSTEES HOLD OPEN MEETING

Many Projects Underway

On the fourth of February several members of Faith responded to the Board of Trustees' invitation and attended their monthly business meeting. They were treated to extended explanations of the many projects currently in process under the Board's supervision. Following are some of the items discussed.

- Having replaced both the freezer and refrigerator plans are underway for renovation of the kitchen. The room will be painted and new countertops and appliances will be installed in the



near future. Also in the administration building, the floors in the Koinonia room should be scraped and finished by Easter. Exterior doors are also being replaced on the north side.

- The exterior of all buildings need painting. It is possible the HandsOn Greater Phoenix organization might be able to help with manpower if we furnish the paint. Sprucing up the grounds also includes removal of the very tall palm trees and planting of a hardier, drought-resistant grass in the courtyard.
- Unfortunately we have not been able to find a good solution to the problem with vagrants through counseling or law enforcement. Rooms in the education area are repeatedly being broken into and damaged. In order to keep our property in good condition it has become necessary to establish more physical security. Access to the buildings, grounds and roof is being made more secure with fencing, gates, stronger doors and locks.
- Bids have been solicited for the replacement of the air conditioners on the west end of the education building. They were stolen several months ago.
- A connecting strip of asphalt will be laid between the north end of our current parking lot and the new gate into the Richard E Miller school parking lot. This will provide alternative access to our church.



Other items covered included plumbing repairs, phone service, possible use of education rooms by Lura Turner Homes, sanctuary lighting, and the West Alice Community Garden.

SELLABLE RECYCLABLES

Clarifications and Additions

First of all, Faith's United Methodist Men thank all those members of the congregation who've participated in this effort – even to the extent of asking neighbors and/or co-workers to contribute. Please keep it up, for during 2013 we raised over \$580! That enables us to support many worthwhile mission/outreach projects – as well as the environmental impact.

Secondly, we don't want to discourage anyone from participating/continuing to participate by making things too complicated. **HOWEVER**, there are some steps that would be **HELPFUL** in our processing of your donations. So, if you can keep them in mind as you process *potential* donations, it will be greatly appreciated. Two immediate examples of helpfulness at the individual donor level are:

- Separate the various items (e.g., aluminum cans and plastic bottles) in separate bags if reasonably convenient. (If not, we can cope with your “missed bag.”)
- **PLEASE** do not put your donations into the green aluminum can barrel in the Koinonia room. It's okay to put them into the gray collection barrel placed outside in the breezeway on Sunday mornings, which we can then process elsewhere as apropos. But in the Koinonia room – unless you're prepared to take your aluminum can offerings out of any bags you bring in, please place those bags beside the green barrel.

Plastic Bottles – We have several clarifications about this item which we've learned in working with them over the past several months. In a phrase: Not all plastic bottles are “created equal!”

- We can only use **clear** plastic bottles (recycle code 1/“PETE”). Cloudy/opaque plastic bottles (recycle code 2/“HOPE,” for example like milk comes in) should be recycled in your municipal service. The wholesalers with whom we deal will only accept plastic bottles whose label indicates that they are subject to the deposit-charge/redemption-credit in all or some of the following states: CA, CT, HI, MA, ME, OR or VT. (It's only off of those that they make their profit and why they are willing to pay us 40¢/lb. for them.) So, what are those eligible clear, plastic bottles? They are those in which filtered water, soft drinks, power drinks, fruit juice, tea and like come. And when you donate those (a) leave their caps on – which “legitimately” adds to the weight, but (b) empty out any remaining beverage, which is not

“sellable.”

- Other plastic containers cannot be used by us – even though they may have recycle code 1 on them. Products such as the boxes fresh berries come in, hand soap, disinfectants, salad dressing, ketchup, and peanut butter may come in plastic bottles/jars that have recycle code “1” on them, but please recycle them in your municipal service.

Additions – Are you ready for more, dear reader; or have your eyes glazed over? If not, then here are some additional sellable recyclables that we're ready to take on if y'all are willing to work with us on them. Again, separate bags/containers for bringing them in would be helpful. In addition to any **general scrap metal** you may occasionally have, we'll also take your “**tin**” cans. These are sellable as scrap steel (which includes cat food cans, even though they are mostly aluminum). Throw the lids in too – even the metal lids off jelly, applesauce, spaghetti sauce, etc., glass jars! Please “reasonably” rinse them (strip off the paper label for recycling with your municipal service if you are so inclined). I don't want to attract vermin while accumulating the various items.

We can also sell your used **aluminum** foil, aluminum pie/baking pans and even the aluminum foil lids on fruit, pudding, or yogurt cups – again, reasonably rinsed. The price we get for these is considerably more than for steel, but significantly less than what we get for aluminum cans; so this is another “separation” category.

Finally, we can also sell **insulated wire** that can be cut off of no longer usable electric appliances. And if that appliance is made of metal, we can “process” that for you also. Give us a call, directly or via the church office (Mike German is one of our UMM group) and we'll arrange to pick it up at a mutually convenient time.

Thanks for “listening” – but most of all, for participating.



*Gary Drown, UMM
Treasurer*



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PHOENIX AREA

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Resident Bishop
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JULIE O'NEAL
Administrative Assistant to the Bishop
joneal@dsucmc.org

February 19, 2014

Dear Members and Friends of Faith United Methodist Church,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, who calls us to ministries of love and peace!

I have said this before, so I may begin to sound repetitious, but I give thanks to God daily for the privilege of serving as your bishop this season of my ministry! I rejoice when I meet faithful United Methodist congregations that are reaching out in a myriad of exciting, innovative ways to touch lives and transform neighborhoods through your acts of generosity and caring in the name of Jesus Christ.

Although we continue to face some difficult circumstances and challenges, our Conference is healthy and working toward vitality in all our congregations and ministries. Through our connectional giving, our "apportionments," we are able to accomplish ministries on behalf of us all. We therefore make do much together which we might not be able to do alone.

Thank you, members and friends of Faith United Methodist Church for your generosity in contributing 100.07%% of your apportionments for 2013!

It has been my experience that churches that contribute joyfully to their apportionments are giving of their resources and their faith in order to be a part of the connecting linkage of United Methodism in the Desert Southwest. You are contributing to outreach such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief. You assist our denomination's efforts to provide support for leaders, both lay and clergy for our churches. Part of your apportionment dollars goes to fund the ministry of support and supervision through our District Superintendents, our Conference staff, and your bishop. And you also assist in offering support for our retired clergy.

The stories of ways your apportionments touch lives in the name of Jesus Christ are numerous. But none would be possible without your participation. I deeply appreciate our common ministry that connects us in a network of caring disciples of Jesus Christ, and I thank you wholeheartedly in the name of our abundant God who calls us to mission and ministry in the compassionate love of Jesus Christ.

Blessings and peace,

Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata

With joy, I recall our meeting. It was a joy to be present with you to see your campus, but more importantly to work with some of your faculty and I pray for the fruit of your vision for your future vitality!

DESERT SOUTHWEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

602-266-6956 • 800-229-8622 • Fax 602-279-1355

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MARCH 						
Birthdays: 3/1 Eunice Archer, 3/2 Betty Altomare, 3/11 Paul Goude, 3/12 Colton Krolack, 3/15 Wendall Smith, 3/24 Pat Evans, 3/30 Esther Frank Anniversaries: 3/8 Gordon & Barbara Babbitt, 3/17 Ron & Susie Blackstone, 3/23 David & Joey Devlin						
2 8:30 am - Choir Rehearsal - S 9:30 am - Worship-S 10:00 am- Sunday School 10:45 am- Coffee Chat-K 11:15 am-Handbells-Rm 1-2 1:00 pm - Samoan Worship-S 1:00 pm-Confirmation Class	3 6:00 pm - Quilter-Rm 4 6:00 pm - TOPS-Rm1-2 6:30 pm-Scouts-K	4 9:00 am-Zippers-Rm 1-2 10:00 am. - Quilters-4 6:30 pm- Trustees-Rm 1-2	5 10:00 am-Lenten Study-1-2 Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm Sanctuary 8:00 pm -Choir -CR	6 9:00 am-RIAZ-K 6:30 pm-DBS-Rm-1-2	7	8 7:00 am-UJMM-K 6:00 pm-Bird Club-K
9 8:30 am- Choir Rehearsal - S 9:30 am - Worship 10:00 am- Sunday School 10:45 am - Coffee Chat - K 11:15 am-Handbells-Rm 1-2 1:00pm - Samoan Worship	10 6:00 pm - Quilter-Rm 4 6:00 pm - TOPS-Rm1-2 6:30 pm-Scouts-K	11 9:00 am-Zippers-Rm1-2 10:00 am-Quilters-Rm 4 6:00 pm-Finance Com. 7:00 pm-Ad Council	12 10:00 am-Lenten Study-1-2 5:45 pm Soup & Salad Supper-K 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer-S 7:30 pm-Choir-CR	13 9:00 am-RIAZ-K 6:30 pm-DBS-Rm 1-2	14	15 7:00 am-Flea Market March 2014 - Page 14
16 8:30 am- Choir Rehearsal - S 9:30 am- Worship-S 10:00 am- Sunday School 10:45 am - Coffee Chat - K 11:15 am-Handbells-Rm 1-2 1:00 pm-Samoan Worship-S 1:00 pm-Confirmation Class	17 Saint Patrick's Day  6:00 pm-Quilters-4 6:00pm -TOPS - Rm 1-2 6:30 pm-Scouts-K	18 9:00 am-Zippers-Rm 1-2 10:00 a.m. - Quilters-4 6:00 pm-Movie Night-S	19 10:00 am-Lenten Study-1-2 5:45 pm Soup & Salad Supper-K 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer-S 7:30 pm-Choir-CR	20 9:00 am - RIAZ - K 11:30 am-Lunch Bunch 6:30 pm-DBS-Rm 1-2	21	22
23/30 8:30 am- Choir Rehearsal - S 9:30 am - Worship 10:00 am- Sunday School 11:00 am - Coffee Chat - K 11:15 am - Handbells - Rm 1-2 1:00pm - Samoan Worship	24/31 6:00 pm-Quilters-4 6:00pm -TOPS - Rm 1-2 6:30 pm-Scouts-K	25 9:00 am-Zippers-Rm 1-2 10:00 a.m. - Quilters-4 7:00 pm-Neighborhood Outreach	26 10:00 am-Lenten Study-1-2 5:45 pm Soup & Salad Supper-K 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer-S 7:30 pm-Choir-CR	27 6:30 pm-DBS-Rm 1-2	28	29