



Koinonia

Faith United Methodist Church

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Phoenix, AZ 85021

Phone: (602) 943-3465

From the **PASTOR**

May 2018

I don't know about you, but the month of May isn't my favorite. It's the month when the temperatures outside start to climb, which means spring has already "sprung." And even though we keep hoping that maybe, just maybe, this will be the year that summer doesn't come quite so early...it never fails: by the end of May, summer is in full swing here in the Phoenix area.



Pastor Jody Topping

But just because the temperatures are rising doesn't mean May has to be a total let-down. After all, the month of May is full of celebrations! We get to honor the important women in our lives for the meaningful things they've done over the years, and we get to celebrate the accomplishments of our young people who are graduating from high school and college. May is also the month we remember those who served in our Armed Forces and paid the ultimate price. And as the church, at least this year, May is the month when we celebrate the birthday of the church – Pentecost Sunday – when the Holy Spirit came upon the believers in the Upper Room.

Last October when David and I visited the Holy Land, we went into a room that was called "The Upper Room." Now, it's highly unlikely the room we were in was the actual upper room where Jesus ate his final meal and

where his followers encountered the Holy Spirit. But while we were in that room, I imagined what it must have been like to be in a room like that one when Jesus was in human form. I imagined what it must have been like to feel the Holy Spirit's presence around me. And as I stood there, I felt a shiver go up my spine...and I knew even then, God's spirit was there, in that very room.

This year on Pentecost Sunday on May 20th, we will be in the middle of our sermon series called "Bad Boys & Girls of the Bible." Our "bad girl" that day will be Sapphira. Do you remember her? She and her husband, Ananias, were the ones who, in Acts 5, deceived the community of believers. How does their story relate to the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit came upon the believers like the rush of a mighty wind? Well, that's part of what we'll be talking about on Pentecost Sunday, so hopefully you'll be able to join us!

Throughout the month of May, as we continue through our "Bad Boys/Girls" series, our prayer is that we will all learn something new and different from the flawed characters we encounter in our bibles. If you missed any of the sermons in this series, you will find them on our YouTube channel, which is easily accessible from our FUMC website. See you on Sunday!

Grace & Peace,

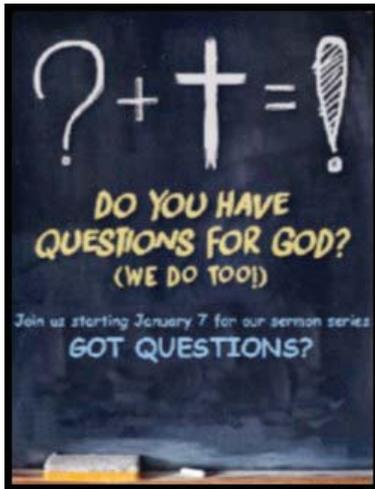
Pastor Jody

Thinking Theologically with Pastor Jody

Remember our “Got Questions” sermon series from earlier this year? During that series we wrote down our own questions that we wanted to ask of God. But since we weren’t able to answer these questions during our Sunday morning worship service, we’re looking at those questions in this column.

“Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good.”

2 Timothy 3:16 CEB



Question: When there are so many different interpretations and ideas about God and Christ and what they said, how do we know what to believe?

Believe it or not, biblical interpretation is not an exact science, which is why this question is so important for those of us who take the Bible seriously. In his book, *Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today*, the Rev. Adam Hamilton makes the point that he believes the Bible is divinely inspired, rather than being dictated by God. What that means is that the biblical authors wrote for a particular community of believers in a particular time and in a particular context, and all of those variables need to be taken into consideration during our interpretive efforts. “When I think of inspired, I think of God-influenced. This leaves open a variety of ways in which the biblical authors were influenced by God.”¹

So why are there so many different interpretations of the things we read about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit in the Bible? Bernadine Racoma, a Senior Writer for an organization called Day Translations, writes, “...for a book that has been written thousands of years ago, some of the original meanings have already been lost along the way....(so) a single Biblical text has now become open to several interpretations. Why does this happen?”² She suggests several reasons why this might be the case.

First, the Bible has been translated into a number of different languages over the years. In fact, according to some counts, there are close to 900 different English translations alone. In addition, some books in the Bible have never been completed or parts have never been found. In other words, a lot of the words we read in the Bible are, unfortunately, our best guess. “These discrepancies and translation nuances have paved the way for the different interpretations of the Bible....the slightest change in the use of a word or in constructing a sentence might change its entire meaning.”²

Second, the Bible was originally written for the Jews and reflected the Jewish culture and way of life. Unfortunately, too many modern-day Christians interpret the text based on our modern way of life. But that does a disservice to the text. Thus, when we embark on biblical interpreta-

(Continued on page 3)

tion, we should really be asking ourselves “even though this text was written thousands of years ago, how can we apply the lessons we read to our lives today?”

Third, biblical interpretation is a product of human logic and understanding. Unfortunately for us, the authors of the Bible are no longer with us, so they can't fully explain why they wrote what they wrote and why. *“We can only interpret their words based on the way the stories were written. Therefore, it becomes open to so many interpretations and “logical” explanations.”*²

Fourth, even though the different books of the Bible belong to different genres – prophecies, biographies, proverbs, and others – too many people believe every word of the Bible is prophetic in nature. As a result, many interpretations use a completely wrong approach.

Fifth – and perhaps most important – many of us grew up believing certain interpretations of the Bible are correct, so we are reluctant to consider any other interpretations as valid.

And finally, Bernadine Racoma writes at the end of her article, *“It is important to remember that there is no monopoly of truth especially if these ‘truths’ were created by humans. Therefore, if the Bible is open to different interpretations, it is just fine. Just make sure that you get something positive out of these interpretations. Pick up the most important values that can be learned out of Jesus’ life, stories, and teachings.”*

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Jody

¹<https://religionnews.com/2014/05/01/adam-hamilton-offers-scandalous-take-on-scripture/>

²<https://www.daytranslations.com/blog/2014/05/why-are-there-different-interpretations-of-the-bible-4729/>

May 2018 Liturgists

Sunday 5/6 Joshua Warner
5/13 Carolyn MacAlpine
5/20 Virginia FitzPatrick
5/27 Shane Taber



Alfredo Contreras

Are you interested in joining the FUMC Liturgist Team?

To volunteer, please contact Mike German, FUMC secretary/media tech.

Chancel Choir and Handbells Ensemble REHEARSAL SCHEDULES

Choir Practice -> Wednesday night @ 7 PM in the choir room
-> Sundays @ 8:30 AM in the Sanctuary
Contact David Topping, Chancel Choir Director



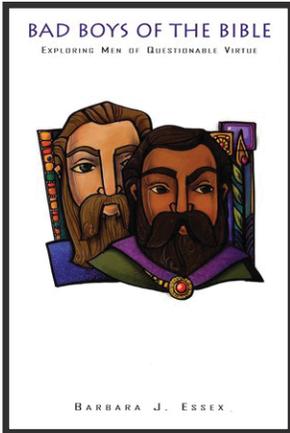
Handbells Practice -> Sundays after Fellowship Time in Room 1-2
Contact Francine Martyn, Handbells Ensemble Director

New Members are Always Welcome!

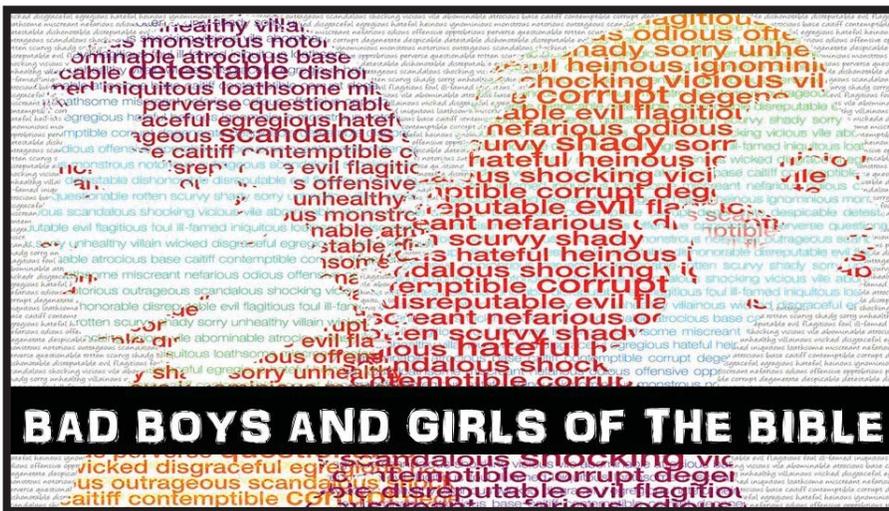
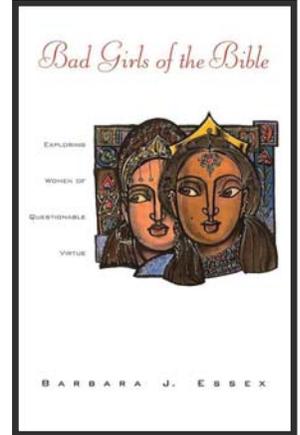


“Bad Boys and Girls of the Bible”

We will continue our “Bad Boys & Girls” Sermon Series throughout the month of May and into the month of June. On Annual Conference Sunday, 6/17, Max McQueen, Executive Director at Lura Turner Homes will deliver the message.



- May 6 Lot's Wife: Homicide or Suicide?
- May 13 Jephthah: “Can I Change My Mind?”
- May 20 Sapphira: Good Intentions or Bad Ends?
- May 27 Samson: “Who Is The Greatest?”
- June 3 Delilah: Enemy or Entrepreneur?
- June 10 The Woman Caught in Adultery
(and her Unnamed Partner)
- June 17 Max McQueen will deliver the message



Dramatic New Security Lighting @ FUMC!



FUMC Lunch Bunch at Applebee's in April

From L to R: LaVonna Goudie, Sandy Cook, Shane Taber; Meg Taber, Carolyn MacAlpine, and Barbara Sullivan

Making Godly Choices

During our “Bad Boys & Girls” Sermon Series we’ve been taking a look at various characters in the Bible – people of questionable virtue – and looking for ways we can learn from their faults.

Our opening sermon in the series was on the first human, who has become known as Adam. We learned from Adam how important it is for us to take personal responsibility for our own actions and behaviors, even when those behaviors are less than stellar.

In the second sermon, we talked about Eve, Adam’s partner, and how she was made out to be the scapegoat for all of humanity’s shortcomings. We talked about how inappropriate and harmful it is to use the Bible to tear people down, and that the biblical text should be a life-giving document that offers us hope for better lives and a better world.

Then, in the third sermon, we heard about Lot and how the less-than-Godly choices he made not only got him into trouble, but caused him to lose everything he had. In that sermon, Pastor Jody shared what the Rev. David Owens from the Church of Christ in Liverpool, NY suggested are Four Principles we should all consider in order to Make Godly Choices.* They are:

Don’t be blinded by the positive benefits of any given choice. Positive aspects are usually obvious, but they can also blind us to anything else – especially the not-so-positive – if we aren’t careful. We are often lured by that which is shiny, pleasing, or attractive. Like the example of the mousetrap: the cheese looks very inviting, but we can’t let it blind us to the trap in which it is placed!

We must not underestimate the impact of negative consequences. When we look back on the bad decisions we’ve made in our lives, we just might see that we overestimated the positive benefits and underestimated (or down-played) the negative aspects of the choice. Usually the negative is far worse than we think it will be, so we need to be realistic when looking at both the positive and the negative.

We must seek advice from God and from other godly individuals. When we look back at some of the people in the Bible, we often find the reason they made bad choices was because they didn’t ask for advice from godly people. And why do you think that is? For the same reason we don’t ask: we simply don’t want to know what they think because more often than not, they will advise us to go down a different path than the one we want to take. In other words, they will recommend the godly choice when our real desire is to make the ungodly one...and suffer the consequences.

Finally, **we have to ask ourselves a very important question: Will this decision enhance my relationship with God?** If the answer is yes, then it’s very likely a Godly decision. But if the answer is no – in other words, if the decision is likely to compromise our walk with God, then it’s probably a bad decision, regardless of potential positive aspects. Because nothing – absolutely nothing – is more important than our relationship with God. And if a choice we are making pulls us away from our daily walk with God, if it causes us to be disconnected from God, then we really shouldn’t go down that path.

Our hope is that these four principles will help us all make better choices in our lives.

Blessings, *Pastor Jody*

*Adapted from “Letting God Choose,” a sermon by Rev. David Owens, Church of Christ, Liverpool, NY delivered June 19, 2017.

The Deacon's Dialogue

Since June 2015, I have been working with adults who suffer from mental health concerns, substance use, and are homeless. It was a blessing for me to be part of a program from its infancy, to help work out processes and to deliver the best client care to our adult clients.

In March 2017, I was promoted from working directly with clients to supporting and supervising our staff. It was a joy to help our team grow and develop and support them along their path.

During the month of March, I spent a great deal of time discerning the next steps in my career path and ministry within public behavioral health. I felt that God was calling me to something that is different and unique from what I have been doing over the last three years.

Starting in late April, I became a High Needs Case Manager with our children's program. In this position, I work with young adults of various ages and their families to help them build and develop healthy relationships and coping skills that will assist them in becoming happy, healthy young adults.

In my capacity, I work with families, schools, the juvenile justice programs, residential treatment facilities, and other behavioral health providers to support our children and families become stable.

Please hold me and my team in your prayers as we transition our kiddos to our team.



Pastor Joshua Warner

From May 17—20th, I will be leading the annual Strength For The Journey 2018 weekend retreat at Mingus Mountain Camp & Retreat Center near Prescott. SFTJ is celebrating its 26th year, creating a respite from the challenges that come from an HIV diagnosis.

Through the SFTJ retreat and programming throughout the year, we have created life-long supportive relationships between our campers, our staff and our church. SFTJ began as an idea from a few of our clergy colleagues in the early 90s and has served thousands of campers through the years. Interested in sponsoring a camper? Please go to <https://dscumc.org/event/strength-for-the-journey-2018/> for additional information.



Please hold our campers, our volunteer staff, and the Mingus Mountain staff in your prayers as we travel from all around the country for this amazing life-affirming event.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Joshua

Rev. Joshua L Warner, M.Ed. M.Div.
Cell # 602-790-1154



AIDS Walk Phoenix 2015



May Meetings @ Faith UMC

- ◆ Tues. 5/1 & 5/15 6 PM Grief Processing
- ◆ Tues. 5/8 6:30 PM Church Council
- ◆ Sat. 5/19 8 AM UM Men's Breakfast
- ◆ Tues. 5/22 7 PM Neighborhood Outreach

Faith Lunch Bunch News

by LaVonna Goudie

Do YOU like to EAT and share fellowship together? Then, come join the monthly lunch outing with the Faith Lunch Bunch! We get together on the third Thursday of each month for lunch at 11:30 AM.

In April we met at Applebee's on West Peoria for salads and special lunches. It was decided to head to Abacus Inn for a Chinese lunch in May.

Please join in the fun with us on May 17th at 11:30 AM at Abacus Inn located at 3509 West Thunderbird Avenue. We welcome all for food, fun and fellowship. And if you have a May birthday, we'll be sure to sing "Happy Birthday" to you!



Chinese Restaurant

Sunday After Service Discussions

Looking for opportunities to dig a little deeper after Pastor Jody's sermons? Please freely join one or both of these hour-long small groups.

HOPE= Honest Open Perspective Exchange

This lively discussion group meets after the service during Fellowship Time on the second and third Sundays. In May HOPE will meet on 5/13 and 5/20. So, please bring your coffee and snacks to Room 4 at 11:15 AM and join the thought-filled and lively HOPE conversation!

4SWBS = 4th Sunday Women's Bible Study



All Faith women are invited to join the monthly 4SW Bible Study discussion which will be held on May 27th in Room 4 from 11:15 AM. We will discuss a selected daily devotional, with questions from *The Upper Room* and also hear the scriptural focus read in English, Spanish and Tamil.

Led by Shane Taber and Eunice Moreno Moses, all FUMC women are invited to join our faith-filled discussions. This month's meditation on "Losses" will focus will be Psalms 40 and 84.



On Wednesday mornings at 10 AM, a group of friendly folks from Faith UMC meets at the Caribou Coffee/Einstein Bagels shop located on the north side of Northern Avenue between 19th Avenue and the I-17 Freeway. All are welcome to join us for our weekly faith-filled discussion. We usually end by about 11:30, and would love to have you join us for coffee/tea and theological conversation with Pastor Jody and friends. Hope to see you there!



Faith UMC Growth & Vitality Survey Results

During the month of March, members and constituents of Faith UMC were asked to participate in a survey developed by the Conference Growth and Vitality Initiative Team. We had 25 surveys submitted, which is a return rate of about 31% of our membership and about 42% of our average weekly attendance...which is an awesome return rate!

The results of the survey have been tabulated and will be given to our Church Council for review and to make decisions about what next steps we will take in response to the feedback. In the meantime, we wanted to provide you with some of the data we received:

- ◆ Most of those who completed the survey are members of this church;
- ◆ Everyone who responded either Agreed or Strongly Agreed that relationships with other members are easy to form;
- ◆ Everyone either Agreed or Strongly Agreed that the clergy and staff are caring and accessible;
- ◆ 56% Agreed and 36% Strongly Agreed that our church provides a variety of opportunities to connect with others;
- ◆ 88% Agreed or Strongly Agreed they are respected and valued by the church;
- ◆ 48% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, and 44% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed that our church needs to have a more important influence in the surrounding community;
- ◆ 52% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, 32% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed, and 12% either Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed that our church needs to more actively reach out and engage with the surrounding community;
- ◆ 52% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, 40% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed, and 4% Disagreed with the statement "I wish this local church would partner with other UMC

churches in some of its local missions/ services";

- ◆ 54% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, and 46% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed with the statement "I wish this local church would work collaboratively with other UMC churches in sponsoring classes, concerts, and other offerings";
- ◆ 96% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, and 4% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed that the pastor and staff encourage and support their gifts and service;
- ◆ 84% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, and 4% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed that our church offers opportunities for them to learn and grow;
- ◆ 88% Agreed or Strongly Agreed, and 8% Neither Agreed nor Disagreed that Faith UMC is willing to try new things;
- ◆ In response to the statement "I intentionally seek out visitors and welcome them to his local church," 20% said Almost Always,



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28% said Frequently, 40% said Sometimes, 4% said Rarely, and 8% said Never;

- ◆ Responding to the statement "I have invited friends to this local church," 4% said Almost Always, 4% said Frequently, 52% said Sometimes, 24% said Rarely, and 16% said Never.
- ◆ With regard to the statement "Stories of changed lives are shared in this local church," 8% said Almost Always, 16% said

Frequently, 60% said Sometimes, and 16% said Rarely.

We want to thank those who participated in this survey as it provides vitally important information and opinions about the ministry at Faith UMC. If you would like to be involved with reviewing and evaluating the survey results and determining next steps, please contact Pastor Jody so you can be advised of the process.



Online E-Giving: A Great Way to Give

As summer approaches, we know that many of our friends will be heading out of town in order to "beat the heat" here in the Phoenix area. We also know that means that you may fall behind on your financial giving while you're on vacation. If that's the case, we have a wonderful solution for you: Online Giving!!!

What's that you say? You've never given online or electronically before? Well, take it from someone who knows: online giving is definitely the way to go!! David and I have been giving online ever since the process was set up at Faith UMC...and there couldn't be an easier way for us to support the ministries at Faith UMC! Here are a few reasons why:

It's easy! Setting up your online giving takes just a few minutes...simply follow the instructions below and you can set up a one-time financial gift or a recurring gift (one that occurs on a regular basis).

It's predictable! By setting up your online giving on a recurring basis, your financial gifts will be transferred from your account (checking, savings, or credit card) on the same day based upon when YOU want the transfer to occur.

It's consistent! When you give at the same time every week or month, both your cash flow and the church's cash flow benefit.

It's flexible! By simply going back into the system, you can increase, decrease, modify, cancel, or add to your giving. It's as easy as 1-2-3!!

It's secure! We recognize that, especially these days, online security is a big deal...and we don't want anyone to compromise the security of their accounts. For that reason, we have made sure we are working with reputable vendors who will make sure all of our data is secure...not just the church's data, but yours as well. To that end, we have been assured by both our online giving and church database vendors that the processes they use for our online giving are safe as well as secure.

Both General Fund and Pastor's Discretionary Fund (PDF) Giving Available

When our church added online giving as an option several years ago, we were only able to give to the General Fund, which meant only our Committed Giving contributions could be done online. However, just this past year, Vanco (our online giving vendor) and Realm (our church data-

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base vendor) added functionality to allow us to give to multiple accounts, so we've added as an online giving option the ability to give to either the General Fund or the PDF...or both! For example, this year, David and I made an additional pledge to the PDF over and above our regular Committed Giving pledge...and then we set it up to be given online! This makes our giving doubly easy!

Ready to Give Online?

So now that you know how safe, secure, and easy it is to give your financial gifts online, there are two ways you can proceed:

First, if you would like to try it out by giving a one-time gift, simply go to our website at www.faithumcphoenix.org and scroll down to the bottom of the home page. There you'll find the Online Giving icon...click on that and it will take you to a page where you can make a one-time gift to our General Budget account.

Second, if you are ready to set up either a one-time or recurring gift, here are the instructions for getting it all set up:

1. Using your favorite browser, log into www.onrealm.org/FaithUMC
2. You will be directed to a login page. Choose the option to "Register Now"
3. When you get to the "Register" page, put in your email address and create a password, then retype the password to confirm it. *Note: Please be sure the email address you use is the same one we have set up in your membership record. If you are unsure, contact the church office at 602-943-3465.*
4. The system will send you an email to the address you entered in order to confirm your identity. Once you respond to that email, you should be able to repeat #1 above, but instead of clicking on "register now" you'll enter your email address and password in order to get into your record.
5. Once you get into your record, click on your name at the top of the page. A dropdown menu will display. One of the options will be "Manage Account and Settings". Click on that option.
6. There will then be an option to "Add Payment Method". When you click on that, you'll get a screen that will ask for the payment information. To give directly from a checking or savings account, simply click on the down arrow in the field "Account Type".
7. Enter the account information, including the routing and account numbers. Then save that account.

8. After you do that, you'll go back to your profile page and click on the "Give" button. There you'll set up the amount to be given and if you wish, you can set it up as a recurring gift.

Enter the frequency for the gift, and when you want the gifts to be given. For example, if you want to give once a month, then choose that option, then you can choose the day of the month you want the gift to be transferred from your account to the church's account.

Choose the fund, either General Budget or Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to which you wish to give. And be sure to save your changes before you exit. If you need assistance with this process, please contact me for assistance.

Oh...and one last thing: As with any electronic processes, there is a small fee that the church pays in order to cover the cost of online giving, so if it's possible for you to increase your giving by just a few dollars a month to help cover that cost, that would be very helpful.

Grace & Peace, *Pastor Jody*

Are You Sharing Your Spiritual Gifts?

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."

Romans 12:6-8 (ESV)

In Paul's letter to the church in Rome, one of the things he reminds the Christ followers is the importance of using their spiritual gifts in order to glorify God. So what is a spiritual gift? Simply put, it is a gift, given to each of us by God, that we are able to use in order to do the work God has called us to do. For some, their spiritual gifts might be the gift of prophecy, or service; for others, they might be the gift of teaching or administration; and for still others, their gifts might be providing comfort care, mercy, and prayer support. What's more, Paul emphasizes that no spiritual gift is better than any other; all gifts given to us by God are extremely important, and we are meant to share them, no matter what where we are in our lives.

What's more, spiritual gifts are an important part of our ministry as followers of Christ at Faith United Methodist Church. And because they are so important, they are meant to be shared with the church...and with the community. How can we share our gifts? One way is by participating in the life of the church, by supporting acts of service and compassion in our community. Another way is by being part of the worship team, serving as a liturgist, a greeter, or sharing your musical skills in the choir or by playing an instrument. Yet another way is by serving in leadership, using your gifts and talents in ways that guide the ministries of the church.

Here at Faith UMC, we have many opportunities available for individuals to use their spiritual gifts, and as we near the season during which we will be looking for volunteers

to fill a number of leadership slots, those of us on the Lay Leadership team are asking you to prayerfully consider new and different ways you might share your spiritual gifts in 2019.

For example, here are just a few of the "spots" on the Leadership Team that we will or may need to fill this coming year:

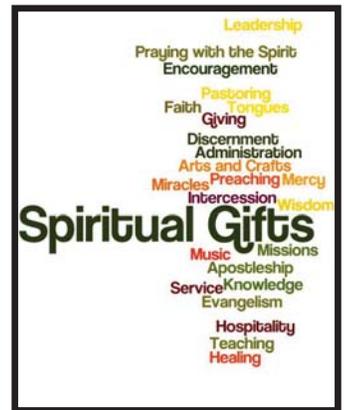
- Church Treasurer
- Staff-Parish Relations Committee members
- Faith UMC Foundation Board Members
- Neighborhood Outreach/How to Reach New People Team
- Sidewalk Sunday School ministry volunteers
- Prayer Chain volunteers (must have access to email)

We hope you will consider volunteering for one or more of these leadership opportunities, and when our Lay Leadership team contacts you, you will also prayerfully consider their requests.

If you have any questions regarding any of these opportunities, please contact Pastor Jody.

MORE HELP WANTED: Sunday AM Children's Ministry Positions Available

In addition to the volunteer positions listed above, we still need to fill two positions in our Sunday morning children's ministry team: an elementary level Sunday School teacher as well as a "floating" assistant, who will be available to both the teacher and the nursery worker during the Sunday morning worship service. These positions are available immediately; applications are available from the church office.



Prayers are requested for our Conference missionaries, Osias and Desiree Segura, serving in Nicaragua in Central America.



The U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua has ordered all eligible family members of the U.S. government employees to exit Nicaragua until security improves. On April 23, we learned from Desiree that they are safe and making plans to leave the country. They will stay in Costa Rica until the security issues calm down.

Osias and Desiree are very fond of our faith community. They have joined us at Faith UMC for worship twice to share the vital ministry they lead. Please keep Osias, Desiree, their young son and families, and those impacted by the violent protests in Nicaragua in your prayers during this difficult time.

Faith UMC Prayer Chain

The prayer chain at FUMC is voluntary and all are encouraged to participate as personal needs and requests dictate. Please contact the Rev. Joshua Warner with your prayer requests by cell phone, 602-790-1154 or email, joshual-warner@gmail.com. Folks wanting be added to the prayer chain may also contact LaVonna Goudie, at plazgoudie@cox.net or the Faith UMC office, 602-943-3465.



Connecting with Faith UMC

Website:

faithumcphoenix.org

Videos of Sunday sermons:

faithumcphoenix.org/sermon-videos/

On Facebook

facebook.com/FaithUMCPhoenix

facebook.com/groups/FaithUMCPhxGroup

In Memory of Scott FitzPatrick 1970—2018

The memorial service for Scott FitzPatrick will be held Saturday morning, June 2nd at Faith UMC. Scott, the son of Mike and Virginia FitzPatrick, died in his Florida home on April 19. Scott grew up attending FUMC along with his sister Jennifer Leyvas. Scott graduated from Apollo High School in Glendale then continued his studies at Phoenix College.



**Deadline for the
June 2018
issue of the *Koinonia* will be
Friday, May 25th.
Please submit all articles,
information, and photos to
Shane Taber, Editor.
(sctaber56@gmail.com)**

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 cooperation 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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 2018	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; transform: rotate(-2deg); display: inline-block;"> May Anniversary 28 Judy & John Goad </div>	1 9:00 am Zippers - Rm 4 10:00 am Quilters - Rm 4 6:00 pm Grief Group - Lib	2 10:00 am Study Group - Caribou Coffee 7:00 pm Choir Practice-CR	3	4	5 1:00 pm Recovery-Rm 4
		6 8:30 am Choir-Sanctuary 9:30 am Worship-Sanctuary 10:45 am Coffee Chat - K 11:00 am Handbells - Rm 4 12:00 am Sidewalk SS 1:00 pm Samoan Worship	7 Office Closed 6:00 pm Quilters - Rm 4	8 9:00 am Zippers - Rm 4 10:00 am Quilters - Rm 4 6:30 pm Church Council - Rm 4	9 10:00 am Study Group - Caribou Coffee 7:00 pm Choir Practice-CR	10 Ascension Day
13 Mothers' Day 8:30 am Choir-Sanctuary 9:30 am Worship-Sanctuary 10:45 am Coffee Chat - K 11:00 am Handbells - Rm 4 11:15 am HOPE - Rm 4 12:00 am Sidewalk SS 1:00 pm Samoan Worship	14 Office Closed 6:00 pm Quilters - Rm 4	15 9:00 am Zippers - Rm 4 10:00 am Quilters - Rm 4 6:00 pm Grief Group - Lib	16 10:00 am Study Group - Caribou Coffee 7:00 pm Choir Practice-CR	17 11:30 am Lunch Bunch -	18	19 8:00 am UMM Breakfast-K 1:00 pm Recovery-Rm 4
20 Pentecost 8:00 am Handbells - Sanctuary 8:30 am Choir-Sanctuary 9:30 am Worship-Sanctuary 10:45 am Coffee Chat - K 11:15 am HOPE - Rm 4 12:00 am Sidewalk SS 1:00 pm Samoan Worship	21 Office Closed 6:00 pm Quilters - Rm 4	22 9:00 am Zippers - Rm 4 10:00 am Quilters - Rm 4 7:00 pm Neighborhood Outreach - Rm 4	23 10:00 am Study Group - Caribou Coffee 7:00 pm Choir Practice-CR	24 Aldersgate Day	25	26 1:00 pm Recovery-Rm 4
27 Peace with Justice Sunday 8:30 am Choir-Sanctuary 9:30 am Worship-Sanctuary 10:45 am Coffee Chat - K 11:15 am 4SWBS - Rm 4 12:00 am Sidewalk SS 1:00 pm Samoan Worship	28 Office Closed Memorial Day 6:00 pm Quilters - Rm 4	29 9:00 am Zippers - Rm 4 10:00 am Quilters - Rm 4	30 10:00 am Study Group - Caribou Coffee 7:00 pm Choir Practice-CR	31	May Birthdays 01 Eric Barimbui 10 Derek Martyn 12 Joe Cox 17 David Rohrer 26 Cathleen Henderson 29 Adam Fuchs	01 Roberta Clawson 07 Jeff Goudie 11 Joan Hancock 17 Ed Hays 18 Paula Masi 28 Elizabeth Mercer 29 Emily Mercer

Open hearts

Open minds

Open doors

**The People of the
United Methodist Church**



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



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 in the conference.

KOINONIA

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Talent, Prayers, Gifts, Service and Witness.*