2019 Theme
“Changing the World With GRACE”

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.
~ Peter 4:10

United Methodist Women’s
Spiritual Growth Retreat
March 23 @ 8:30 am –
March 24 @ 1:00 pm

Being Light in the World
Retreat Leader: Emily Jones, Executive for Racial Justice, United Methodist Women

Cost per person:
Shared room $115.00 Single room $140. Commuter $60.00
This includes 4 meals for participants who are staying at the Center - Lunch and dinner on Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday. For commuters this includes 3 meals - Lunch and dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday.

Begin and end times:
Arrive at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday
Depart after lunch on Sunday.

Register online: https://dscumc.org/event/umw-womens-spiritual-growth-retreat/
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
DESERT SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE
WEST DISTRICT
LOCAL ORGANIZATION CALENDAR

Conference United Methodist Women Retreat,
Redemptorist Renewal Center, Tucson March 23 and 24, 2019

Cactus Patch Articles Due May 15, 2019

DSC Annual Conference (church) June 12 – 16, 2019
Mesa Convention Center

Mission u, East/West Districts August 2 – 3, 2019
Lakeview United Methodist Church
First Sun City United Methodist Church to assist

Cactus Patch Articles Due August 15, 2019

West District Annual Celebration October 5, 2019
Epworth United Methodist Church, 4802 N. 59th Ave., Phoenix 85033

Desert Southwest Conference Annual Celebration October 27, 2019
Sun Lakes United Methodist Church, 9248 East Riggs, Sun Lakes, AZ 852458

Cactus Patch Articles Due November 15, 2019

Please send Cactus Patch articles to Cheryl Buchholtz:
mailto:westpresBuchholtz@yahoo.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
<th>WHEN REPORTS ARE DUE</th>
<th>SEND TO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 30</td>
<td>Census Report Form</td>
<td>National Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Marilyn Jean Chapman Scholarship and Marilyn Sue Stout Scholarship Applications</td>
<td>District President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Memorial List</td>
<td>District MC Membership Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>Your local organization’s officers information</td>
<td>District Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Local Organization Final Financial Report</td>
<td>District Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Reading Program Participant’s Information</td>
<td>District Secretary of Program Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 31</td>
<td>Living the Charter for Racial Justice Reporting Form</td>
<td>District MC Social Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 31</td>
<td>Mission Today Forms</td>
<td>District President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 31</td>
<td>Outstanding Local Organization Form</td>
<td>Dist. Education for Mission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Last year was the first time I was able to attend Mission u - and I must admit, it changed my life. I participated in a program that addressed Missionary Conferences that I didn’t even know existed. But the thing that changed my life was learning about the Doctrine of Discovery. And I became so indignant about this doctrine and how it is still ruining lives today that it literally makes me sick to my stomach when I think about it.

Today’s political climate has proved that this Doctrine is still ALIVE AND ACTIVE today. I suppose that for many of us, it is OK to be ignorant about matters we do not wish to know about, but I do not think that God wants us to bury our heads in the sand – pretending injustices don’t exist because they don’t touch our lives. Be sure you read the message from our Social Justice coordinator - Paula Sallas. She has been doing an excellent job of calling our attention to INJUSTICES in our world today. We cannot stand by and let our fellow human brothers and sisters suffer. That is certainly not Christ’s message to us today. “When you do it for the least of these, you do it to me.”

Educate yourself about the Doctrine of Discovery - please follow these links to learn more about it.
https://doctrineofdiscovery.org/what-is-the-doctrine-of-discovery

Think about the indigenous people in our country who have lost and continue to lose everything because of this doctrine. Unfortunately, you will learn that the Methodist Church is NOT innocent in this practice -

Papal Bulls of the 15th century gave Christian explorers the right to claim lands they “discovered” and lay claim to those lands for their Christian Monarchs. Any land that was not inhabited by Christians was available to be “discovered”, claimed, and exploited. If the “pagan” inhabitants could be converted, they might be spared. If not, they could be enslaved or killed.

Our Mission u topics promise to be have just as much impact on the lives of those who attend this year. I just can’t make up my mind which one I want to attend. But, I will be there in one of the programs. Shoot… I may have to attend Mission u twice this year.

Hope to see all of you there… I’ll save you a seat!

Check out all of the world maps indicating the various missions supported by United Methodist Women.
https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/maps/mission-maps
Advent and Mary (Mother of Jesus)

At FUMC, Glendale, the United Methodist Women sponsored a Bible study inspired by the 2018 United Methodist Women General Assembly, Columbus, Ohio: The Power of Bold. At Assembly, the story of Mary provided a thread to bind all of the activities. The song and dance routines especially emphasized this message which was shared on the local level by President, Eva Ndavu. The Bible study had the theme: "The Four Faces of Mary".

Throughout the General Assembly, participants explored the biblical story of Mary, mother of Jesus. Mary is a religious, social, civic and even cultural icon whose story is deeply embedded in the hearts and minds of people around world. Mary is an example of what it means to be bold despite life’s challenges. Mary’s story of divine call, her interpersonal relationships, social and cultural norms, and bold action beckon us to revisit our own lives, especially during the Advent season.

The study of the four faces of Mary used biblical references from Luke 1, Luke 2, Matthew 2, and John 2. These are the annunciation, nativity and wedding at Cana. At the beginning of discussions, participants saw Mary as teenage mother, wife (betrothed), and cousin. Mary was reminded, “The Lord is with you” to help her with what must have seemed an overwhelming challenge. This message was reiterated in the all-church Advent study, The Wonder of Christmas, a devotional study by Ed Robb and Rob Renfroe. By the end of the study, discussion also saw Mary as outsider, immigrant and even instigator.

The FUMC United Methodist Women Esther Circle took another look at Mary during their November meeting when Sherry Kopot, docent with the Phoenix Art Museum, gave a presentation, “Mary Christmas.” This was an informative and inspirational program with countless slides of famous paintings of Mary or the Madonna as portrayed through the ages by primarily European artists. Sherry explained the symbolic colors (blue, red, white, green) and objects (book, basket, dove) which often appear in these compositions. This integrated approach to the Advent season was appreciated by many.

I describe it here so that others may use similar approaches in their circles and other groups.
**Tids and Bits by Christine Jones**
United Methodist Women WD Secretary

I want to start by welcoming all the new members of our United Methodist Women and wishing you all a happy new year. We had two wonderful Leadership Development Day Training events. The first was in Yuma and the second was in my home church in Glendale. It was wonderful to see all the women prepared to learn and share with each other. In fact, during the secretary trainings we shared a lot of ideas, suggestions and some new information. It made for a fun and enjoyable training. If you haven’t been to a training day, please attend and encourage other ladies to attend. It is a chance to really learn what your role is in the local unit and some of the best practices for being successful in the position. After all, without you the United Methodist Women wouldn’t be able to do all of the great work they do.

The next fun event we will have will be the Desert Southwest Conference Women’s Spiritual Growth Retreat (aka Spring Retreat) March 23-24, 2019, at the Redemptorist Renewal Center in Tucson. If you have never been to a spring retreat, this is the year to attend. This year they will explore the stories of Esther and Rachael and discover the source of our faith, hope and courage. It sounds exciting. Don’t forget, Mission u is right around the corner. I will be talking about Mission u and the scholarship opportunities more in the next issue of the Cactus Patch. This year is already looking like a fun one.

God bless you, Christine Jones, jones.sensei@gmail.com

---

**Committee on Nominations**
United Methodist Women DSC WD Chairs Pam and Helen Jackson

2019 is going to be a great year for your dynamic mother-daughter Committee on Nominations team. Our 2019 Nominations team includes Lila Dell’Aringa who was appointed to another one-year term. We would like to introduce the newest member - Vicki Keel to the Committee of Nominations for 2019. The Committee on Nominations is the most important job of all district leaders because we are responsible for finding women to run for office. Right now, we still need two more members for the Committee on Nominations team. We are still looking for a mission coordinator for membership care and a communications coordinator. We hope that we can find United Methodist Women members willing to step up during the coming year to run for office in 2020.

In Jesus Name,
Pam Jackson pd-jackson36111@live.com
Helen Jackson phjackson1@q.com
Dear West District United Methodist Women (Ladies all),

This verse, from John 10:10 comes to mind:
"I am come that they might have life, and that they have it more abundantly."

I bring you very good tidings, yes, very good tidings indeed, regarding our West District pledge to conference for the year of 2018!

Due to the generosity of many West District United Methodist Women groups, West District was able to give more than $3,000 over our pledged amount for 2018! Thank you all for your gracious giving of your time, energy, intellect and finances. I am so grateful to be a part of West District team! Hey! Has anyone told you lately, YOU ARE AWESOME!

2019 is going to be a wonderful time of fellowship, learning, praising, helping, loving, caring, training, accepting, enjoying and following in HIS footsteps.

Luke 6:38 "give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you will use, it will be measured back to you."

On another note, please be sure to note my change of address: it is P.O. Box 555, Buckeye, AZ 85326

Go in peace and Serve the Lord!
Sincerely, Your sister in Christ
Michele Justice, WD Treasurer
SGBD2@outlook.com

THE PURPOSE OF THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.
Here is my report on my exciting life as a full-time United Methodist Woman.

We hosted the West District Leadership Development training hosted at my home church, First United Methodist Church of Glendale, January 26. I am brand new in the role of president of our local unit, so I got to welcome 80 United Methodist sisters. It was exciting and wonderful to have so many wonderful women in one place. I was glad to have six Education for Mission sisters attend and participate in my training class: Jeanne Rumbold from FUMC Glendale, Pat Ormond, from FUMC Sun City, Judy Houdek from Lakeview, Barbara Krisell from Liberty, Leona Zastrow from New Song, and Mary Ann Kinser from Shepherd of the Hills. We each shared our experiences and ideas for mission and reported on what our groups had done for mission. It was a privilege and an honor to meet and converse with those lovely women.

The week before that, my West District Officer sisters and I traveled to Yuma to conduct the same training there. Only one of the two UMC churches, Gila Mountain, who hosted our training, participated the training, so it was one-on-one training, but still a privilege and an honor. I met with Nancy Iverson. She has been Education for Mission there for a while.

I have had the opportunity to take on many roles at my church since I retired three years ago. I can only brag about what God has done in my life, and remember the words of 2Timothy 1:12, "I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day." The United Methodist Women Prayer Calendar has become an important part of my daily routine.

What a great time we had in Yuma and Glendale for the Leadership Development Days. I am proud to call all of you sisters in Christ. The opportunity to meet so many ladies that share the same excitement as I to work together in mission for women, youth and children is wonderful.

The reading list again this year has many great books. We had more readers this last year than before. With such diverse subjects to explore I think many more will read this year. Remember 5 books is all you have to read for recognition. But since only 5 is so easily accomplished, you need to challenge yourself and read 10, 15, or 20. The book I'm currently reading is “The Same Sky”. I want to read the one about Eleanor Roosevelt but someone else has already checked it out. I also have “Escape from Green Mansion” and “Walking on Lava”. So many books, and so little time.
Next, let’s think about membership. We still need someone to step up and become the coordinator for Membership Care. As you can see the District Leadership Team has lots of fun. This is one of the easier positions on the team. This would be a great opportunity for someone to join us. We only meet 4 times a year for team planning. You can contact any of the District Officers if you might be interested.

Colleen Becker, Secretary of Program Resources

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**
United Methodist Women DSC WD Jen Kistler

Ladies, I think I have some food for thought and I’d like to share it with you. What is one of the most important behaviors Jesus has told us we need to possess, except to be loving? Give this some thought – for he has made a lot of commandments about our behavior and yet one seems to stand out more than many others.

Hint: If we are not this, we are unable to do much else he asks of us. Without this characteristic, we remain unreachable and unteachable, therefore, not very useful to our fellow man and our efforts to bring others to Christ. With this characteristic, we are more openminded, yet more vulnerable at the same time.

Have you figured it out? The behavior Jesus wants us to exhibit is that of “being humble.” All through the New Testament, Jesus’ actions are all about humility. Even though He is God, He humbled himself before others – from all those times when he hung out with what society considered riffraff and outcasts to the times when he washed the disciple's feet. It is practically impossible to do a good job if we think “we know it all.” God cannot guide us if we are not humble.

I know this because I have tried it in many aspects of my life. I was unsuccessful and unhappy with outcomes. I am not saying as Christian women we must be perfect – God doesn’t expect that. We just need not to be arrogant and prideful – we must listen to our God.

Here are some scriptures that I have found helpful in our journey to being humble.

- Col. 2:18  Col.2:23
- 1 Peter 5:5  Prov. 15:33, 18:12 and 22:4
A little more about me…Jen Kistler, Spiritual Growth

Hello Sisters in Christ! 3 - 2019

I have been a member of United Methodist Women for eight years. I have accepted the Spiritual Growth position on the District Leadership Team. It is truly God’s idea. My God has a sense of humor. When you get to know me better you will probably agree.

A little about me:

I grew up thinking I had to be perfect. I spent a lot of time berating myself for making sooooo many mistakes. Through many experiences and many loving and spiritual people, I found Christ and committed my life to him. What a ride it’s been!!!!

I am looking forward to getting to know you, and for us to learn together.

May you be blessed in your missions for Christ.

Jen Kistler

P.S. my new e-mail address is bionicjen@gmail.com

Many thanks to Arvilla Jungman and Jeannine Reynolds, Desert Southwest Conference Co-Chairs of Nominations for driving to the West Valley to meet with West District Nomination Co-Chairs Pam and Helen Jackson for some very up-close and personal training. The training was very useful and thorough and we all appreciated the personal attention and training. If you missed this important training in January, contact Pam or Helen to get materials and phone training.

God’s Work Our Hands
Being a black woman in America and being pregnant is dangerous both to the mother and the infant. According to the CDC Black mothers in the United States die at three to four times the rate of white mothers. Black infants are twice as likely to die as white infants - 11.3 per 1000 compared to 4.9 per 1000 white babies. This death rate is higher today than it was in 1850. An extensive article in the New York Times Magazine by Linda Villarosa delves into this issue with some astounding results. According to the article the issue is two-fold. The experience of being a black woman in our country exposes you to: 1) toxic stress and 2) weathering.

**Toxic stress** is the result of ongoing aggressive and insulting remarks. These experiences are related to being treated differently because of their color, being treated as if they are less intelligent, being discriminated against in housing, being treated differently by police, being followed around in stores, and experiencing discrimination in the workplace. These events are stressful to their bodies.

**Weathering** fires up a woman's internal response to these continuous events throughout her life. These traumatizing events age the bodies of black women. These issues are not related to a woman's educational level or financial status. It is the life long stress of these repeated issues releasing stress hormones into her body that causes pre-mature aging. Scientifically it has been determined that a black woman's body is 71/2 years older than her white counterpart.

Black mothers suffer from a variety of physical problems. These maternal complications include but are not limited to Postpartum Hemorrhage, Fibroids and Preeclampsia, Uterine Rupture, Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection, and Peripartum Cardiomyopathy.

Additionally there appears to be an unconscious bias by doctors and other health care providers dealing with black women and related health issues.

Solutions to these issues are possible through action. These issues can be addressed to your state legislators. Then contact your national representatives in Washington to encourage bills addressing these issues locally and nationally, funding programs, and especially important is the inclusion of black women when dealing with this issue. The issue needs to be addressed and resolved.
It was my honor to be able to deliver the message at Liberty UMC on their United Methodist Women Sunday on February 16, 2019. What an exciting time it was to be standing at the pulpit of a church that was recently designated as a Historic building.

Liberty United Methodist Church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on December 28, 2017. The National Register is the official listing of the nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation.

An all church luncheon was held after the church service complete with a cake honoring the 150th birthday of UMC. The food was delicious and the fellowship was delightful. I felt so welcomed by this church community, that I plan to visit again. Thank you to my United Methodist Women sisters and their hubbies for their warm reception and hospitality.

-Cheryl
IT’S CENSUS TIME…..ONCE AGAIN!

WHERE has this year GONE?????? It seems it was just a month or two ago we were talking about the annual United Methodist Women census - but it was almost a year ago! And now…it’s that time again. I hope that this article will help all of our units get their information turned in to National - so we can be 100% reporting our membership in the West District.

To help you out, here are some reminders:
You can fill out your annual census worksheet December 31 or early January. All you need are these numbers:

A. Last year's starting Total Members ______(I.E., use 1/1/18 total - the number you reported online late last winter/early spring)
B. New members added during last year ______ (I.E., all who joined any time in 2018)
C. Losses ______(Again, any deaths, move aways, resignations during 2018)
D. Last Year’s End-of-Year Total Members ______ (A+B)-C)
E. Double Check: ______ Entry in D SHOULD match the total of your membership list.
F. Next Year’s starting Total Members ______ (copy entry in D to next year’s worksheet, Line A).

If you want to get started now, you can already fill in line A, if you didn’t already when you did the 2017 online entry - it’s last year’s line D.

You can also do a preliminary total of new members, updating it as you go through the last 3 months of this year, as well as your losses, again updating for any more in the 4th quarter.

After December 31, 2018 Contact: Colleen Becker

Your Online Census for 2018 is due by Saturday March 30, 2019
https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/

Thanks to the editor of the South District Newsletter, Alice Brown and President, Bobbie Norris for this article.
Any woman may be a member of United Methodist Women by choosing to become involved in our organized mission movement and may join by committing herself to the PURPOSE through participate in meetings, prayer, giving, study, action or service. (The president of the unit is the only one who must be a member of the United Methodist Church.)

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 23rd

Annual United Methodist Women DAY OF GIVING

Join United Methodist Women members around the country on March 23rd for the Third Annual Day of Giving to The Legacy Fund, part of our five-year 150th anniversary celebration! The Legacy Fund is a permanent endowment to support the work of future generations of United Methodist Women.

It’s easy to give!

- Online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund
- By phone: 800-278-7771 (8 am-6 pm EST, Monday-Friday).
- Text Legacy 150 to 41444.
- By check to:
  Office of the Treasurer
  United Methodist Women
  475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115

Write “The Legacy Fund” in the memo section.

Let’s show our support of this great organization!!

OOPS!

I overlooked Willowbrook’s paperwork for their Mission Today Award in January. Please accept my sincerest apologies. This teaches me to keep my office more organized. ~ Cheryl ~ your groveling President
"We acknowledge the global impact of humanity’s disregard for God’s creation. […] We therefore support efforts of all governments to require mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and call on individuals, congregations, businesses, industries, and communities to reduce their emissions.” Social Principles, United Methodist Church

Dear United Methodist Women Climate Justice advocates,

Thank you for your support for our "Faith to Ford" campaign to protect our Clean Cars and fuel efficiency standards, which are under attack by the current administration, the automakers, and Big Oil. The current Clean Car Standards are set to nearly double fuel efficiency by 2025, and are the single most significant global warming policy we have on the books. But the auto industry wants to slow the drive to cleaner, more efficient, hybrid and electric vehicles, just when they are most needed.

We are focused on Ford because they pledged to support the standards in 2011, even joining President Obama onstage when they were announced, but then changed their tune as soon as Trump was elected. The former Ford CEO even led a meeting of automakers with President Trump shortly after he took office asking for greater “flexibility.” The administration quickly complied and the EPA proposed weakened standards.

United Methodist Women in partnership with Interfaith Power & Light and United Church of Christ have been putting pressure on the Ford Motor Company to stand by the Clean Car Standards that they initially supported and to cease their advocacy for a weakened standard or “additional flexibility.”

Let’s bring pressure to bear on Ford Headquarters via their dealerships. By letting them know that people in their communities – people of faith in particular – want cleaner cars and are concerned about their company’s efforts to undermine the Clean Car Standards.

In addition, please continue to encourage others to sign the petition to Ford. We will add their names to be on the scrolls delivered to Ford dealers across the country. (www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/ford)

With Hope,

United Methodist Women in partnership with Interfaith Power & Light and United Church of Christ
West District Honor Roll
January Presentations

Mission Today Awards
Calvary United Methodist Women
Epworth United Methodist Women
First United Methodist Women, Glendale
First United Methodist Women, Phoenix
First United Methodist Women, Sun City
Gila Mountain United Methodist Women
Lakeview United Methodist Women
Liberty United Methodist Women
Mt. View United Methodist Women
New Song United Methodist Women
Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Women
Trinity United Methodist Women, Phoenix
Willowbrook United Methodist Women

Living the Charter for Racial Justice
Prescott United Methodist Women
First United Methodist Women, Glendale
First United Methodist Women, Sun City
Trinity United Methodist Women
Lakeview United Methodist Women

Reading Awards
Epworth 3
FUMC Glendale 10
FUMC Phoenix 1
FUMC Sun City 6
Gila Mountain 3
Lakeview 10
New Song 4
Liberty 4
Prescott 2
Shepherd of the Hills 10
Trinity Phoenix 6
Willowbrook 5
Ladies….it is time to plan now for **Mission u 2019**. Start looking for candidates for scholarships now - We have terrific topics this year.

**July 12-13**
Mission u North
Trinity United Methodist Church, Las Vegas

**August 2-3**
Mission u East/West
Lakeview United Methodist Church, Sun City

**August 23-24**
Mission u South
Catalina United Methodist Church, Tucson

To register or for information:
Check the conference website in Spring
[https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/](https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/)
Dean – Glenda Hill

**TOPICS**

Theme:
*Radical Discipleship: Then and Now*

Spiritual Growth Study:
Practicing Resurrection:
The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship

Women United for Change:
150 Years in Mission

What About Our Money?
A Faith Response
I don’t know where the time goes but it’s Cactus Patch time again.

Our annual Christmas Tea that we had in December was a sell out and always a well received and successful fundraiser. Among the local missions that we are happy to help support here in Yuma is Crossroads Mission and Precious Treasures.

We are now in full swing preparing for another FUN fundraiser, our annual Spring Luncheon and Style show. The theme this year is “Put Your Best Foot Forward” and our Style show fashions will be presented by Bonworth.

Ladies attending the Luncheon can also check out our monthly craft sale, which for the March sale will also include “white elephant” items, which are gently used items generously donated by our Gila Mountain UMC congregation. We did this last year and the support was overwhelming. So we’re hoping for an encore presentation.

Until next time, have a blessed day.

Submitted by:
Sherry Leh
New Song United Methodist Women
Surprise, AZ

After having a very successful Christmas Tea at the church in December, we moved into the New Year with our first Program on January 12th with Lila Dell’Arlinga presenting our Pledge Service which was well done and with good attendance for our first meeting.

January 20th was our United Methodist Women’s SUNDAY. The Women from the New Song Choir shared special music that morning with our Program Resource Chairperson, Michele Olsen conducting both services. Our special Guest speaker that Morning was our Shepherdess, Christine Jones, who shared a wonderful sermon that was well received by many people in our church. The new Officers of the United Methodist Women were installed that morning also.

February 8th the United Methodist Women put on a Silent Auction and BBQ that was well attended by members in the church and guests who donated items to bid on and enjoyed a great meal. The Auction was extremely successful; besides being a fun evening for everyone, the auction brought in money for missions and other Outreach programs that we support each year.

March 9th 10:00 AM our program will focus on Civil Rights and racial injustice in Arizona. We are having a Special Guest speaker that morning, Mark Brown who will talk on this important subject with us as he shares important decisions made in Arizona. This program, like all of them are open to everyone and if anyone from any sister churches are interested in attending this important program, please feel to join us. We are also hosting a Pot luck Salad lunch and if any people are interested in joining us that day, we ask that they contact our Social Action Chairperson, Juanita Howard @ 623-584-4342 and be included in our count.

On April 13th at 10:00 AM we are presenting a “Spot light” Program on Eve’s Place as well as our own Eve’s Cookers. A Pot Luck lunch will follow this meeting, with members bringing something to share. We look forward to hearing more about Eve’s Place and learning about ways we can help out.

The United Methodist Women’s Reading Program is off to a good start and we have with many new and interesting books available for us and people from the church to read. One of the books from our reading list is being used for a Bible study group in the church.

Submitted by New Song Communication Person, Bev Regoulinsky
In spite of small church membership, Trinity United Methodist Women is very involved in the life of our Church community and neighborhood, national and global missions.

In December, we hosted our annual visit from Sherry Kapoot, art docent from the Phoenix Art Museum, featuring her slide presentation of Fine Art for the season. It was followed by a delicious pot luck lunch provided by the membership. We also celebrated the season with a cookie walk.

In January we once again raised money for missions with our “fun and tasty” Chili Cookoff. Our February Unit meeting was combined with Trinity’s Fellowship Dinner to host Pastor Kelly Bender, speaking on UMOM Caring for Hearts Mentally and Spiritually. UMOM is another mission that we support.

Pastor Kelly Bender speaks to a Trinity Unit/ Fellowship Dinner Group Pot about his experiences as a pastor and the call to serve part-time at UMOM. 
http://umom.org

United Methodist Women’s Sunday on February 24th featured Deb Herrmann, our Vice-President speaking on Congregational Care, a subject very near and dear to Trinity.

Our program in April is entitled “Witnessing to New Life” and it will be a baby shower. If you miss playing those crazy baby shower games, join us for a morning of fun and silliness while collecting much needed baby items for ______.

Besides the bake sale on Palm Sunday, our United Methodist Women pie bakers take orders for homemade pies to be delivered in time for Easter dinner. This project has been very successful in helping us meet our Mission giving budget.

We host our Annual Mother’s Day luncheon on May 11th. Our theme this year is Kentucky Derby and we invite you to join us and wear a hat to both celebrate the Kentucky Derby and honor our mothers. More information will be forthcoming to all units.

If the word isn’t getting out, United Methodist Women are losing out. Please be sure to share the information in this newsletter with those who don’t have access to a computer or printer.
Prescott, United Methodist Women Weekend
Jan 19 & 20 2019

Sat. January 19 and Sunday January 20 were Prescott United Methodist Church’s special United Methodist Women “weekend” here at the church. We introduced our new officers at the Sat. evening and at the 10:30 AM service along with taking part in the service.

The officers were installed at the 9:00 AM service along with assisting in the service. Our guest speaker was Rev. Jeri Wilkerson, the Wesley Foundation director at Arizona State University. We featured a sign-up sheet in the narthex at each service along with information materials and we had several women show interest in attending our meetings. We then invited the congregation to join us for Coffee Fellowship to share our beautiful 150th birthday cake!

The recipients for our United Methodist Women recognition pins for 2018 were Carol and Jim Lark. They manage the Granite Creek Hunger Ministry along with their dedicated volunteers who prepare & serve food each Saturday at lunchtime for 100 people or more. They do this for the homeless or those struggling with having enough food. During November through March they serve meals on our church campus inside Esther Hall; and from April through September they serve meals at Granite Creek Park in Prescott.

Congratulations to Carol and Jim.
~ Cheryl Buchholtz, West District President

Editor’s note: WE LOVE PICTURES!!!!!!
Mountain View, Cottonwood

Annual Christmas "Cookie Walk" Ovens in Cottonwood were heating up early this past holiday season, some even before Thanksgiving, in preparation for the baking marathon that would lead to Mt. View United Methodist Women’s Christmas "Cookie Walk". Advertising went out early to the community and when one entered Mt. View Verde Hall on the morning of December 15th they could truly imagine they had come to Santa’s bake shop. Six long tables displayed homemade pies, sweet breads, fudge, candies and 50 plus trays of cookies of various sizes, shapes, ingredients and decorations. A shopper would say to a United Methodist Women worker holding a to-go-box, "I would like two of these cookies, six of those", etc. The box or boxes would be weighed and sold at $6 a pound.

Often before a guest left, with a big grin on her face, she would add a pie or sweet breads to her purchase of candy and cookies. In addition to boosting Cottonwood United Methodist Women’s treasury it gave the community an opportunity to purchase homemade goodies for themselves, neighbors, get-togethers, and for gifts. A lucky shopper won the beautiful handcrafted Christmas arrangement door prize and complimentary coffee and hot chocolate were served to add to the warmth, coziness and spirit of the Christmas season.
March 17th is "United Methodist Women Sunday" at Mt. View. The choir from Rainbow Acres, a residential Christian community serving adults with developmental disabilities, will be a part of both services. The pot luck following will honor our musical guests.

Spring housecleaning often brings forth items for our annual "United Methodist Women Rummage Sale", this year May 3rd and 4th. There will be a room for books, one for clothes and the main hall for kitchen items, linens, Christmas decorations, jewelry, and children’s clothing and toys. Something for everyone!

Annual "Fun Day" is always a welcomed event. This year it will be a tea with each table decorated by a member with her own china, table covering and centerpiece. Not only will the décor be creative, but also with each lady sporting a hat of her finding or own creativeness. There will be prizes for the prettiest hat, the most outrageous, etc. May 18th will truly be a "Fun Day" at Mt. View in Cottonwood.

Happy Springtime and blessings to all.

---

**First United Methodist Church, Glendale**

FUMC Glendale, had a big 90th anniversary celebration February 3, for our historic sanctuary. Then February 10, we had a Sweetheart Sunday. Eighteen couples renewed their wedding vows at a 5:00 p.m. ceremony. Some had been married more than 60 years. One couple had been married less than 60 days. Just reading the list of couples made me teary. Lots of family members attended. Tom Wick, retired pastor and member of our congregation, officiated. When he asked who gave their blessing to these unions, the congregation gave a resounding "We do!" Our youths dressed up and acted as bridesmaids and groomsmen. There was a flower girl. Instead of throwing rice, they blew bubbles. We had wedding cake and punch afterward, and admired wedding pictures on display. My favorite was Vesta Roper’s from 1947.

We are trying to raise money to do needed restoration of our sanctuary. With this in mind, I dreamed up a Mardi Gras dinner and jazz concert, Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Tickets go on sale after our United Methodist Women's Sunday service February 17, $12 for adults, $7 for children. This will be a joint United Methodist Women/United Methodist Men project and should be fun.

Submitted by **Linda Triolo, United Methodist Women President**
On Friday, February 15, the local unit of United Methodist Women of Sun City hosted their annual Italian dinner in the fellowship hall. This is our first Mission fundraiser for the year. With the help of some of our great men from the church we served more than 150. Cathy Murray, our wonderful pianist and organist, provided background music for the evening.

On Sunday we celebrated United Methodist Women Sunday for both services. Phyllis Murray, Lay Leader, for the North District provided a warm and inspiring message, “Are We a Bethany”.

Unit members served as greeters, ushers, scripture readers, and all other aspects of the service. Rev. Lois Hedden provided a handbell solo “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”.

We awarded our Special Mission Recognition Pin to Sandy Martin. She has been the great cook for our Italian dinner the last few years.
We always welcome information from other Units about where to find interesting and worthwhile programs. This morning, I received such a submission from Sandy Hillegass, First United Methodist Women, Phoenix.

LOOKING FOR AN INTERESTING PROGRAM?
ATTENTION AVID READERS

Reverend Marjorie Palmer is a retired minister from Alabama who has rekindled a life-long dream of becoming a writer. With her experiences of being a mother, an elementary teacher, a student attending Wesley Theological Seminary, being the Director of Religious Education for US Army Chapels in Germany and serving many Methodist Churches in the United States, she has written a number of books. Her latest one, "Winnie’s Walk and Misty Falls" is on the preferred United Methodist Women Reading List. She calls this book a journey of faith and romance.

Well known book reviewers have highly recommended this book as it gives the readers an insight into parishioner's lives and experiences and is meant to bring new people into the church. The characters portray many of the same problems everyone sees in their everyday lives. It gives the reader Christian insight in dealing with people and problems.

Rev. Palmer grew up in Phoenix and attended First United Methodist Church where she met and married her husband Dave. She also graduated from Camelback High School and attended college here. While she lives in Alabama, her parents still reside in Phoenix. She visits Phoenix on a regular basis to visit with her parents. She will be speaking to circles at First United Methodist Church in the fall and would gladly be available to speak to additional circles in the valley.

Groups can contact Rev. Palmer at marjoriepalmer@cottesera.com to make arrangements for her to speak to your group. The website for her latest book is https://sites.google.com/a/cottesera.com/winnie-s-walk/
A is for apron...

What a fun and educational walk down memory lane for United Methodist Women at Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church in Sun City West! Our February unit meeting featured aprons from our mothers, grandmothers and members. Each member and guest were asked to wear a special apron for our luncheon and program. We enjoyed hearing each and every story. Those stories brought back such great memories! Thanks to everyone who participated!
The United Methodist Women of Epworth United Methodist Church held their General meeting on February 16th. Their guest speaker was Christine Jones, Secretary of the West District leadership team. Christine’s program was about her teaching experiences as she and her family traveled to China, Japan and the Middle East.

Several men also attended the meeting and were very impressed with her presentation.

Submitted by Carol McCall, President

~ Editor note: Here is another example of a unit sharing a program with others. We have a very wide range of stories and experiences amongst our members that many would be willing to share.

SAVE THE DATE:
EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST WOMEN to host 2019 West District United Methodist Annual Meeting on October 5th. Make this date part of your planning now!