

## Building again!

First Gilbert is building again, but we're not quite building any structures at this point, anyway. Let me explain.

If I have my history correct, a little over 20 years ago First Gilbert UMC moved lock, stock and barrel from downtown Gilbert over to our present location- and there was a large building project to make that happen. Many people gave richly of themselves to build our current facility and provide our beautiful church campus. A few years later the activity center and the classrooms came along to make room for all the people flooding to our church. It sounds like it was a quite a structure and people building project during those years. To my knowledge our membership and worship attendance had peaked in numbers during those years. Then life changed for many people- including the surrounding community of our church. Many more faith communities were started. Many of these faith communities today still attract some of our First Gilbert families because of the vital and unique ministries they offer. And although we have tried to provide vital ministries we have realized that there is much more to do. So where do we go from here? How can we be most faithful to God and His purpose for us? What will it take for us as the Body of Christ at First Gilbert UMC to live into our very unique calling, and be the church family God wants us to be?

Many would agree that it's time to build again- whatever that may mean. Our Strategic Direction Team has worked tirelessly to take us into the future. And now with the assistance of DNA Coaching, which has already begun, we will be providing vital new ministry areas where needed- and all of you are helping us learn about these needs. Areas we are currently looking into include but are not limited to: youth, communications, support services for active participants, and exciting ongoing things for our families. Many believe there are building projects ahead of us, too. The columbarium is coming soon! The sports complex is still in the works- plans are already in progress, and a music building, as well as an all-purpose building, which could be used by our Youth Group and other ministries, of course, has been mentioned as priorities as well.

**But I think the most significant building project will take place in our hearts!** Yes, we can have great planners and coaches, and we can build (and already have built) wonderful buildings, but in order for us to faithfully build God's Kingdom "on earth as it is in Heaven" right here at Gilbert UMC, we must believe without question that God will fulfill His promise to not only show us the way, but give us the grace, love, wisdom and skills to accomplish all that He has planned for us! Yes, with God we can, *and we will*, build again, and again, and again, and again, and we will serve the generations of God's people... are you smiling yet?

Pastor Michael

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## Centennial Ministry Team {CMT} – Strategic Planning

This has been a busy few months for our team. Thank you to everyone who participated in a planning session & survey and the church town hall. We have had over 100 people give valuable input. Over the past year that CMT has been working on a vision for our 100<sup>th</sup> celebration and knowing all wonderful ministries we are celebrating that help people to Meet, Know and Serve Jesus. During this process we have used many resources. In fact some of you have handed me resources that you have.

We introduced you to Dr. Kennon Callahan with the *12 Keys To An Effective Church* while doing the survey and as part of our strategic planning process. We have also been introduced to Dr. Don Nations – known as *DNA Coaching*. With each resource we use, we utilize the ideas that the SPT feels are a match for our church. So let me tell you some more about DNA Coaching:

DNA is a church renewal organization hired by our Annual Conference. Over the years they have helped hundreds of churches, many United Methodist, experience renewal and find new direction as they carry out God's unique purpose for them. DNA has helped each local congregation they have worked with discover where God is leading them into the future.

Again, we will use this resource well and wisely at First Gilbert. We have already participated in the first training session and have met with Don for a site visit. He has many exciting ideas and tools for us to choose from.

Below is the description from the DNA website:

“The DNA in every cell contains the essential information that defines who we are. Vital churches, like healthy bodies, have healthy DNA in every member of the body. Unity on the core values, bedrock beliefs, vision and motivating mission creates a permission-giving spirit and a positive ministry environment. DNA Coaching exists to support your efforts to create this positive DNA in you, your church and your denomination.”

More information visit [www.dnacoaching.com](http://www.dnacoaching.com)

We know we have hard work ahead of us and we ready and excited about our future!

Nancy and Alan Ball  
Co-Chairs, Centennial Ministry Team

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### From a History by Elizabeth Heagren:

The First United Methodist Church of Gilbert has gone through many stages to reach its present condition. It began as a community church, having been organized by a group of families of different Protestant denominations, meeting at what is now the Gilbert Historical Museum.

The first building was designed and constructed by the members and was in use for thirty years. Methodism in Gilbert began as a non-denominational Sunday School in the Highland Public School house at the corner of Baseline and Cooper Roads in 1907. Armed Indians were still criss-crossing the area at that time. In 1909, the Sunday School moved to the new school built at Guadalupe and Cooper Roads, and from there to the new Gilbert School building at the corner of Elliot and Gilbert Roads in 1913.

Formal organization as a Methodist Episcopal Church came on August 15, 1915 with eleven charter members. A new building was begun in 1918 at the corner of Page (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Ash Streets, and became usable in 1919 at a cost of about \$6,500 (with liberal use of volunteer labor). In 1946 the church building was condemned. A new church was built on Gilbert Road on lots donated by E.R. Wilbur.

### Present

Our present church building is located at 331 S. Cooper Road and the land to build it was donated by Marvin and June Morrison. We are in the process of planning a Centennial Celebration for 2015 when we will be officially 100 years old.

If you are interested in being a part of the celebration please, contact Therese Pineda, Centennial Celebration Chair, at [tpinedarn@mac.com](mailto:tpinedarn@mac.com).

## Sunday Worship & Daily Bible Readings

### October 2

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-14

*There's Church on Thursday!*

### October 9

A 9/11 Service of Remembrance

*No sermon today*

### October 16

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

*True Friends*

### October 23

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

*@ the Name of Jesus*

### October 30

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

*@ the Name of Jesus*

### September 26-October 2

Monday Matthew 21:33-46

Tuesday Exodus 20:1-4

Wednesday Exodus 20:12-20

Thursday Psalm 19:1-6

Friday Psalm 19:7-14

Saturday Philippians 3:4b-14

Sunday Matthew 21:33-46

### October 3-9

Monday Exodus 32:1-6

Tuesday Exodus 32:7-14

Wednesday Psalm 106:1-6

Thursday Psalm 106:19-23

Friday Philippians 4:1-3

Saturday Philippians 4:4-9

Sunday Matthew 22:1-14

### October 10-16

Monday Luke 17:11-19

Tuesday Exodus 33:12-17

Wednesday Exodus 33:18-23

Thursday Psalm 99

Friday 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3

Saturday Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday 1 Thessalonians 1:4-10

### October 17-23

Monday Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Tuesday Deuteronomy 34:7-9

Wednesday Psalm 90:1-6

Thursday Psalm 90:13-17

Friday Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday Matthew 22:41-46

Sunday 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

### October 24-30

Monday Joshua 1:7-17

Tuesday 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Wednesday Matthew 23:1-12

Thursday Matthew 23:5-7

Friday Matthew 23:8-12

Saturday Matthew 23:2-3

Sunday Psalm 107:1-7



## Christian History Adult Sunday School Class

We continue our study of **Free Will and Determinism**. During October we will first look at **Causal Determinism and Agent Causation**. Does every event happen out of necessity based on what happened before it? Greek atomists felt every single motion can be given a fully natural explanation. The Stoics felt that everything was determined by divine providence. We will examine the notion that an individual can make a decision that is not determined by anything else.

Another area of thought is **Compatibilism**, holding that Determinism is consistent with Free Will and responsibility. Some feel an important feature of freedom is the ability to do what you want without being compelled or prevented from acting.

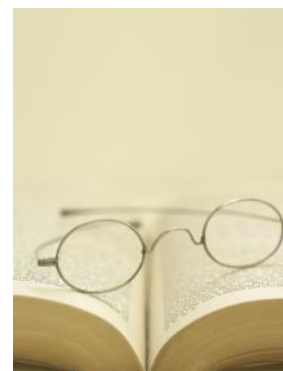
**Hard Determinism** says that Free Will is not consistent with Determinism. They conclude that free will doesn't exist and argue that our actions and decision are determined by prior psychological events, like our strongest motives.

**Impossibilism** holds the view that our sense of Free Will an illusion and it is probably best to continue living under that illusion? Some say they actually experience free will and so of course they believe in it.

If we lack Free Will what are the consequences for **Ethics**? Is it the outcome that makes an action bad or are certain actions forbidden regardless of the consequences? We will end the month with a class on this subject and its implications for how we think of morality.

The class meets each Sunday in room 225 at 9:45am. All are welcome. Please visit the class facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/FUMC-of-Gilbert-Christian-History/114327478609613>



## Our Preschool . . . spreading God's love

Grandparent's Day~ In September we invited the preschooler's grandparents to a special breakfast. The families played a game and the children presented their grandparents with a special craft that they made for them!

God Made Our Wonderful World~ Last month we learned that "All things were made by God" from John 1:3 and practiced our big job of helping to care for God's world.

Halloween~ We celebrate the season by studying pumpkins - Do they float? How much do they weigh? How many inches around are they? How do they feel, smell and look? Wow - this is science in action over here in preschool!

Calling 2 year olds~ We have a few openings in our Parent/Tot class for the Fall and the Spring! Come join us!

If you have any questions about the preschool, call Lora Norris or Lara Fink at 892-9166 or check out the web page at [www.gilbertumcpreschool.com](http://www.gilbertumcpreschool.com) or facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/fumcofgilbertpreschool>.

### Jack-o-lanterns and Singing

At home you can bring the topic of Jesus into the season by using a pumpkin theme: Have the kids draw a face onto a pumpkin shaped circle. Decide as a family how you want the pumpkin to look. Carve the face and let the kids feel the seeds and the ooey gooey insides! What a great time to use lots of fun adjectives! When you light a candle to put inside the pumpkin, discuss how you can all shine with God's love each day and sing this song: (You could light it several evenings).

### This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel? NO!  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel? NO!  
I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
Don't let anyone blow it out,  
I'm gonna let it shine.  
Don't let anyone blow it out,  
I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.



### **PTF (Preteen Fellowship)**

We are in need of volunteers to help with our PTF program for 4th-6th graders on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00pm. If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact Janelle Chiricuzio at [children@gilbertumc.org](mailto:children@gilbertumc.org).

### **Children's Ministry**

#### **Trunk or Treat/Fall Festival** Sunday, October 30th from 5:00-7:30pm

Bring the whole family for a fun filled Fall celebration!

Trunk or treating,, games, and Crafts!!!  
Prize for best decorated vehicle!!!

A "Halloweenie" dinner will be available for a nominal fee. We are in need of volunteers as well as donations for the cake walk (small portions, please).

Please contact Janelle Chiricuzio,  
Children's Ministry Chair, at  
[children@gilbertumc.org](mailto:children@gilbertumc.org) or 480-275-7237  
to help



## The Children's Defense Fund National Observance of Children's Sabbaths.

In our busy lives, we see children who need our attention, we know children who need our attention, we hear on the news that children need our attention, but there is little time in our busy schedules to give that attention. Children's Sabbaths stop us in our tracks and demand our attention. Please join us on **October 30<sup>th</sup>** in church as we celebrate our Children, Children's Ministry and Children around the world.



### **Third Grade Bible Retreat**

To be scheduled at church toward the end of October (date and times TBA). Bibles will be presented at the 9:45am service on October 30<sup>th</sup> ~**Children's Sabbath**

## **Safe Sanctuaries**

So what does Safe Sanctuaries mean to First United Methodist Church of Gilbert and to you, the congregation???

### **It Means:**

Our Church has a policy in place protecting the children, youth, elderly and the volunteers from false allegations of abuse, protects against abuse from happening to the children and youth in our care, and enables our staff and volunteers to recognize and report suspected abuse.

That we have consciously created a holy, safe and protective community for all of God's children, regardless of age or ability.

As a church family we have established guidelines for appropriate interaction between adults and youths.

As staff or volunteers interact with the children/youth/elderly in a leadership role, we will abide by the Safe Sanctuaries Guideline and undergo the necessary background checks and training as put forth by the Safe Sanctuaries Committee .

If you have questions about receiving Safe Sanctuaries training, or would like more information about the Safe Sanctuaries policy, please contact Lori Wiemers at [volunteer@gilbertumc.org](mailto:volunteer@gilbertumc.org).



# YUUTH STUPH

Greetings!

Our Fall youth program has started with a BANG!! It is wonderful to see so many youth at church these days. Just last week we had over 30 youth (7<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grades) in Sunday school. Tiffany Scott is a returning High School Sunday teacher and is joined by Beverly Durica this year. Sharon Kotsonas and Kendra Rose have teamed up to teach our Junior High Sunday class.

Our Youth Christ Care group on Wednesday nights from 7-8pm is off to a great start as well. Beverly Durica, again, and I are facilitating a group of great young people. Youth Group (UMYF) was a blast the past few weeks! We've been meeting in the activity center at 5pm on Sundays. We make dinner in teams, progress to some fun team building activities and then end up in the sanctuary for an interactive type of worship. Drew Wiemers has been a counselor at Youth Group and is doing an awesome job with the youth. Jonathan Grindle and Mitchell Wiemers serve as volunteer AV Techs for our sanctuary time.

Our PAL program (Sunday adult/Parent helpers) for Sunday school has really taken off, too. I know the teachers really appreciate the help.

It really does take a village to grow a child. Thanks for all the help this Fall!

Take good care  
Mike Stephenson

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

### YOUTH Sunday school

Is offered every Sunday for 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade from 9:45-10:45am

Where~ Junior High- Room 226  
Senior High- Room 308

### A WESEOME TEACHERS AND FELLOWSHIP!!!

**Starting 9/4/11 all youth will gather, first, in room 308 and then after announcements we will split into our separate classes**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ON WEDNESDAYS?

### Youth *CHRIST CARE*

*This will begin 9/7/11!*

Begins right after dinner at 7:00pm in room 308.

Facilitators ~Beverly Durica and Mike Stephenson

Small group/ great discussion...JOIN US!

## YOUTH CALENDAR

### ONGOING

Wed	7:00-8:00pm	Youth Christ Care~ Room 308-Small group Sharing and Spirituality
Thurs	6:30pm	Youth Council meeting Room 226 (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month)
Sun	9:45-10:45am	Confirmation Class 2012 (TBA)
	9:45-10:45am	Youth Sunday School/ Meet in 308 to begin
		Junior High- Room 226—Senior High- Room 308
	5:00-7:30pm	UMYF/Youth Group/Meet in activity center
		Includes dinner- \$3.00 fee

### 2011

10/6	Youth Council Meeting-6:30pm Room 226
10/7-9	Youth Fall Retreat- Pine Rock~ Prescott
10/16-30	Youth Wreath Sales/ Fund-raiser
10/22	Fall Central/East District Youth Event
	Cosmic Bowling~ Brunswick Lanes
	1754 W. Southern Ave, Mesa (
	10PM – 1AM RSVP to Mike by 10/12
	Cost: \$15.25 pp (includes 3 hours of unlimited bowling & shoes)
11/3	Youth Council Meeting 6:30pm Room 226
11/30 or 12/4	Wreath Delivery at church
11/11-13	District Senior High Event
11/20	DCYM Meeting At FUMCG 2:30pm Room 308
	District Council on Youth Ministries
11/24 (Thanksgiving)	Youth~ <b>TURKEY BOWL</b> - FUMCG
12/1	Youth Council Meeting 6:30pm Room 226
12/10	Drop and Shop( Parent's Day Out) Fund-Raiser
	9am- 1pm ( for shopping)

## Youth Missions

### Sierra Service Project (SSP) Senior High

Planned for Summer 2012

Dates and place TBA

### Junior High Mission

Planned for Summer 2012

Dates and Place TBA

## HELP WANTED

Contact Mike Stephenson at church or cell 775 354 3153

### Adult and Youth Volunteer Help

- Youth Council Members  
Help plan and organize the growing youth program.
- UMYF COUNSELORS- Sundays  
5-7:30pm.
- Sunday School Teachers - junior and senior high
- Youth Fall Retreat Counselors
- PALS- Adult Helpers for Sunday school (bring a snack and stay to help out)

## Missions Committee

Lisa Sotomayor, Missions Committee Chair - [missions@gilbertumc.org](mailto:missions@gilbertumc.org)

Thank you for the ongoing support of Gilbert Open Arms Food Bank. The Missions Committee delivered a large amount of non-perishables to **Gilbert Open Arms** - the food bank was very grateful for such a large donation. The **October menu** is canned soup, jelly, crackers, fruit cocktail, and pudding mix.

In September, we cooked and served dinner to the clients of **Watkins's Homeless Shelter** with new volunteers from the church's Singles Group. The extra volunteers were really appreciated, as are our regular volunteers who faithfully cook and serve dinner at Watkins's. We are excited about the new people who are interested in the **Missions Committee**.



Our committee is at the start of a very busy part of the year. We rely on the **congregation** for support with financial contributions, as well as volunteers to help with our fall campaigns. The **Paint-a-Thon** will be on October 22nd - grab a paintbrush and join us as we paint the home of a qualified elderly or handicapped person. No experience is necessary - lunch is included. If you know of a disabled or low income homeowner whose home could use exterior painting, please contact Lisa Sotomayor.

Stop by the Missions table in the activity center on Sunday mornings for more information about our fall campaigns. **Caring for Christ's Community, One Life at a Time.**

## Music Ministry

### Music Groups Still Accepting New Members

The groups comprising the Music Ministry are all back in full swing, and we are VERY excited about the plans for the coming year. Even though rehearsals have already started, it is NEVER too late to join. If you have ever wanted to be a part of one of our ensembles, NOW is the time. Please contact me in the church office, and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have (or put you in touch with someone who can).

This month, the **Chancel Choir** will start working on music for **Advent**, so if you are interested in being a part of the Advent season music, now is the time to join us.

### Sonshine Singers Under New Leadership

With the passing of Cynthia Marble, the Sonshine Singers found themselves without leadership for this year. However, we are fortunate that Beth Boesch has stepped forward to take the reins of that group. Most of you know of Beth's talent, because over the last year, she has, on several occasions, played trumpet with the Chancel Choir and Wesleyan Bells. Now, our children will be able to work with and learn from Beth, and we look forward to having the Sonshine Singers in worship again this year. If you have a child who is interested in singing, all you need do is stop by rehearsal in 221 upstairs at 11:00 on Sunday mornings.

### Calling All Instrumentalists!

Over the past couple of years, I have been quietly collecting the names of people in the church who play (or "have played") instruments, and that list has grown substantially. Now is the time to start putting all of that talent to good use. In two other churches that I have attended, I helped start small instrumental ensembles, and I would be delighted if we were able to do something similar here. Please watch the bulletin for announcements coming soon about an opportunity to get together with others to play some music and explore the possibilities. Your gifts can only enhance worship through music here in Gilbert.

Marty Province, Director of Music  
[music@gilbertumc.org](mailto:music@gilbertumc.org)

\*\*Next **Third-Friday Jam Session** is October 15, 7:00-10:00 in room 306

## Staff Parish Relations Committee

There are currently two staff openings at church. Application packets for both positions are available in the church office and are due by October 1. Interviews will take place in early October.

The Elementary Sunday School Coordinator resigned recently. During the interim this position is being filled by Mike Stephenson, our Youth Ministry Coordinator. This position is for five hours weekly and requires the person to be available on Sunday mornings to assure that all Pre-K three year olds through 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school classes are adequately staffed and supplied. Additional responsibilities include teacher recruitment and training, ordering curricula and supplies, etc

The other position is for Financial Secretary. This person is responsible for receiving, recording, and reporting on pledges, memorial gifts, etc. More details are available in the application packets. The time commitment averages five hours per week. Kim Dare currently holds this position and will provide training for her replacement prior to her resignation date.

The committee has been working with staff to update job descriptions prior to the end of the calendar year. The budget request for 2012 and personnel policy development will fill out a busy year for this committee.

## Volunteer Needed



*Do you have talent or skill at laying tile???* We are in need of a person to install about twelve family tiles on the wall in the activity center. This is a onetime activity that will require only a few hours.

Please contact Lori Wiemers at [Volunteer@gilbertumc.org](mailto:Volunteer@gilbertumc.org) to volunteer your skills or if you have any questions. Your time and skills are greatly appreciated.

## Wednesday Night Programming

Our Wednesday Night programs are designed to feed your inner spirit while, at the same time, bringing our church community together for a time of fellowship. We will grow together in both spirit and community. All are welcome!

5:00-5:30pm Chapel Chimes (3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade) – Room 211  
 5:30-6:30pm Wesleyan Bells – Room 211  
 6:00-7:00pm Dinner – Activity Center  
 7:00-8:00pm Pastor Michael's Bible Study – Rm 306  
 7:00-8:00pm Pastor Eve's Women's Bible Study - 212  
 7:00-8:00pm Youth Bible Study/Christ Care Groups-308  
 7:00-8:00pm Kid's Time (PreK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) – Room 221  
 7:00-8:00pm PTF (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade) – Room 226  
 7:00-8:30pm Chancel Choir – Choir Room



Nursery care is provided throughout the evening.

Dinner will be available from 6:00-7:00pm each Wednesday. The theme for the dinner on October 5th will be "Take Me Out to the Ballgame". Hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. Coming from work and no time to cook? Consider making a small donation to cover the cost of the entrée and paper products. Food restrictions? Please bring a brown bag meal to enjoy. Our goal is to enjoy a meal together. Please check the bulletin for each week's menu. When the meal is provided, the cost is \$3 per person or \$12 per family.

Please contact the church office with any questions.

**There will be no classes or dinner on October 12th due to fall break.**

## Health Ministry

The Apostle Paul wrote a letter of encouragement: Philippians 4:4-7 “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, *but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.* And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

There are a number of ways to share your prayer requests, petitions and praises with your church family. Every Sunday during worship, you are invited to complete a blue prayer card, which is found in the church pews. If you check the box “*Please Read Aloud*”, your request will be read aloud to the congregation during worship service and placed on the e-mail prayer chain; many people receive this e-mail. When your request is personal or involves another person whom you do not have permission from to announce their concern publically, please check the box “*For Pastoral Care Team Only*”. By checking this box, *only* the pastors and parish nurses will read these and pray for the concern. The “*Add to Prayer Chain*” box indicates that your request will be placed on the e-mail prayer chain but not read during the church service. Again, many people receive this e-mail.

If you have an urgent prayer request for the pastors or parish nurses, please call the church office, 480-892-9166, and leave a message for one of us. An urgent request could be if you are admitted to the hospital, receive devastating test results, sudden and unexpected death of an immediate family member, etc. For Jesus said in Matthew 18:20, “For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”

Praying for you,

Diana Whitford, RN, Parish Nurse

### Alzheimer’s Association CarePro

Are you a caregiver to a family member with dementia or memory loss? The **Alzheimer’s Association’s CarePro Program** is a workshop series for stressed family caregivers, teaching the caregiver coping skills as well as providing support. The workshops (five workshops total, meeting every other week) will be held at our church on Thursdays beginning October 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00-11:30am in room 306. Funding is available to cover respite care and the workshops are free to participants. To register for the class or for more information, please contact Mindy at 602-528-0545.

### Cancer Prayer Circle

The next **Cancer Prayer Circle** will be **Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** at 4:00pm in the sanctuary. The prayer circle is open to individuals with cancer, cancer survivors, those wishing to prevent cancer and those supporting cancer patients. Our guest speaker will be a naturopathic oncologist who will discuss diet as well as provide be a Q & A session. All are welcome.

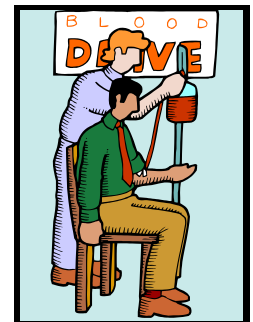


### Flu Shot Clinic

The church will host the **Mullen Immunization Flu Shot Clinic** on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 12:30pm in the activity center. For more information, please visit [www.flushotusa.com](http://www.flushotusa.com).

### Blood Drive

The next **Blood Drive** will be on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00am to 11:30am in the activity center. Signups will be on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> between church services in the activity center. You may also sign up by visiting [www.bloodhero.com](http://www.bloodhero.com) (sponsor code FirstUMC) or by calling Chris Thompson at 480-892-5640.



## All Saints Day

We will be celebrating All Saints Day on November 6th during all three worship services. You are invited to bring a flower (from your garden or elsewhere) with you that day to bring forward and lay in a basket near the altar during the singing of "For All the Saints" in honor of a saint in your life who has gone before you. If you are able, please bring more than one flower for our guests who do not have one of their own, but would like to participate in this act of commemoration.



## Membership & Evangelism

Bev Graham, Chair—[newmembers@gilbertumc.org](mailto:newmembers@gilbertumc.org)

**COFFEE ANYONE?.....**We all enjoy our time of fellowship in the activity center after the service, but if you also appreciate having beverages or light snacks, PLEASE consider helping to make it happen. We are in need of coffee hosts to set up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. This requires less than an hour of your time on a given Sunday morning...but it takes the coffee an hour to perk, so it needs to be started by 8:00 at the latest. The rest simply involves preparing beverages and setting out light snacks which are provided. We also need someone to clean up every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Specific instructions are posted in the kitchen.....we just need YOU!!!!

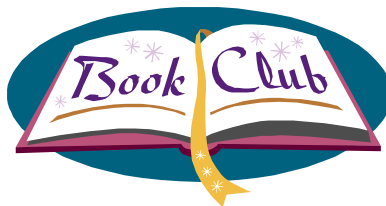
**DINNER for EIGHT** is returning in the fall.....Come one. Come all!!! This is a casual and fun way to get better acquainted with more of your church family. These small dinner groups typically meet once a month but each group determines their own schedule as well as location for their gatherings. If you've already signed up, you will be contacted in October as to which group you're in. If you've not signed up, it's not too late. We will add folks and groups as the need arises.

**Name Tags**—Just a reminder that magnetic name tags can be ordered at any time. If you don't have one, consider getting one to help us all get better acquainted. Simply stop by the red Welcome to Worship cart on the church patio and place your order. They are \$8.16 each, which is to be collected at the time your order is placed. Name tags often arrive within the week, so check back the next Sunday for the status of your order. Easy as 1, 2, 3!!!



## Book Club

The selection for the October 27th meeting is The Help by Kathryn Stockett. The group will meet at the home of June Morrison. Please bring a sack lunch to enjoy while discussing the book. For more information please contact Myrna Eshelman via email at [myrna.eshelman@gmail.com](mailto:myrna.eshelman@gmail.com) or call Myrna at [480-216-3038](tel:480-216-3038). Everyone is welcome.



## Singles Group Activity

The Singles Group will attend the Music Instrument Museum (101 & Tatum Blvd) on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. The group will meet at our church to carpool. The museum entrance fee is \$12. Please contact Sharon Salazar at 480-238-0072 or [sharone2937@msn.com](mailto:sharone2937@msn.com) for more information.

## Immigration Forum

Dayspring United Methodist Church will host an Immigration Forum on Saturday, October 15th from 9:30-3:00pm. This educational program is open to everyone and will address immigration issues from all perspectives. The event is free – a catered lunch will be provided for \$7. Reservation forms are available in our church lobby and office. For more information, please contact Janet Baker at [janetbaker@cox.net](mailto:janetbaker@cox.net).

## Recycling News

The two green and yellow Paper Retrievers in the church parking lot accept paper and flattened cardboard including junk mail, newspapers, catalogs, magazines, phone books, office paper, blueprints, and flattened cardboard boxes. The church receives money for each ton collected—please consider collecting your cardboard and paper each week and dropping it off in the bins.

Please look for the recycling containers in the narthex, activity center, kitchen, classrooms and offices to dispose of ANY recyclable items! Most Sunday School classrooms have blue cans intended for recyclables. There are some large cans in the activity center that are marked for recyclables as well as some decorative containers meant for cans and bottles. If you aren't sure what can be recycled, there is a chart on the large green can in the activity center

In order to be successful in our recycling efforts, we need everyone's support! Please help keep the church green and clean by being aware of the recycling containers and assisting with emptying them as needed or contacting someone if you notice a container is full. The housekeeping staff does not empty the recycling.

The church also collects empty Capri Sun and other drink pouches, used ink cartridges, aluminum cans and old cell phones. These may be placed in the containers in the entryway of the activity center or brought to the church office.

We need your help! Volunteers are needed to help with the Green Team projects, and to help identify more ways that the church can be 'Green'. Anyone interested please call the church office.




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## End of Life Seminar

The church will host a *free* informational seminar entitled **PLANNING AHEAD for All the Right Reasons**, presented by Joe Mayne and local Dignity Memorial providers.

Planning ahead for funeral and cemetery arrangements is a subject we all think about from time to time, but few of us actually do anything *about it*. The death of a spouse or family member is considered one of life's most stressful events that each of us will one day face. On a regular basis, we plan for stresses and concerns in life, like sickness, accidents or loss of job or property, yet we do little to prepare for the inevitable things, like the death of a spouse or family member. A common reaction of a husband and wife may be, "We're fine. We don't need to do this right now!"

The Dignity Memorial providers of the Gilbert area recognize how difficult funeral and cemetery planning can be, and through this seminar, will explain what planning ahead is, the wrong way and right way to do it – in 4 easy steps. We believe that no one should be uninformed and unprepared on the day that they experience the death of a loved one. You will receive valuable information and answers to all of your questions. Refreshments will also be served.

Join us on Sunday, October 23rd at 2:00pm in room 308. Please call the church office to reserve your space.

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## Visual Arts Team Update

Fall is here, finally! Many of us welcome seasonal changes, both inside and outside of the church. In a few weeks we will begin the "new year" in the church calendar. This season is called Advent: the first Sunday in Advent is November 27. The Visual Arts Team is busy planning and creating a new set of banners that will be displayed when the Advent season begins. They are consistent with the theme and colors of Advent – our time of preparation for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ – and will add to our current beautiful Advent paraments.

Showcase: The current display, "Psalm 23" will remain on display in the narthex until Advent begins. Please take a few moments to enjoy the original artwork created by several of our members and friends. We want to thank all of you who have provided artwork for the displays! We have received many positive comments and pray that as you view and perhaps even study the artwork, new pathways will open for you to experience God.

Blessings to you this day and all days,  
The Visual Arts Team

# Get a jump on your holiday gift making and join us for FUMCG <sup>2nd</sup> Make and Take Craft Day

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
9am – 12noon  
activity center

All are welcome, regardless of your level of experience in doing crafts. Bring a friend, family member, co-worker or neighbor.

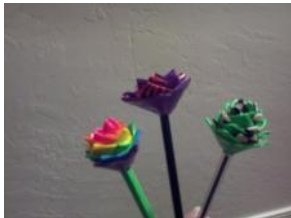
Fun ~ Fellowship~ Laughter~ Crafting is what this day is all about!!!

Starting October 2nd, you will see the registration forms in the bulletin. Also that same Sunday, you will be able to stop by the activity center and see the crafts, up close and personal.

You have to hurry - you only have until October 21st to register, so don't wait.

Here are just a few samples of the items that will be available to make:

Duct tape flower pens.  
2 for \$2



What a great gift for the little girl in your life. Tutu for \$10. Comes with a matching hair bow. You can make extra bows for \$1.50. Choose pink and white or lavender/teal/light blue.



Card Table Tent for a Boy or Girl \$25  
Great NO SEW project



You pick the letter and then paint and bling it. This is the latest craze for the tweens and teenagers. \$6

*Carmel apples and simple truffles will also be offered!*



Cute Christmas Door Hanger.  
Great gift! \$6

Never held knitting needles before,? Come and learn how to knit, very simple, \$1.50

## General Fund Financial Summary at August 31, 2011

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Actual Over/(Under)</u> <u>Budget</u>
General Giving	\$371,185	\$407,875	(\$36,690)
Other Income	\$99,416	\$75,136	\$24,280
Total Income	\$470,601	\$483,011	(\$12,410)
Total Expenses	\$469,164	\$486,261	(\$18,097)
Income Over/(Under) Expenses	\$2,437	(\$3,250)	\$5,687
Operating Cash on Hand			\$114,331
Ideal Minimum Operating Cash on Hand			\$140,000
Average weekly giving income YTD at 8/31/11			\$10,605
Average weekly giving income YTD last year (at 8/31/10)			\$11,707
Average weekly giving needed to meet our approved 2011 annual budget			\$11,827

Our giving remains behind budget but so far this year we have also been able to keep expenses below budget. We are coming into a busy season for the church, culminating in the many activities of the Advent and Christmas seasons. We are also increasing our funding for Youth Programs, under the exciting leadership of Mike Stephenson.

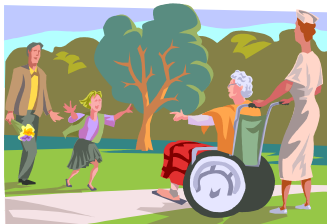
Watch for information on our Stewardship Campaign. We know that some of our members are suffering under the current economy. It is that much more important for those who can afford to give generously, to pray over their support of our church's many ministries. God appreciates all of our gifts, large and small.

If you have any questions about the church's finances, please contact John Bowers, Finance Chair (480-471-6567, [Financechair@gilbertumc.org](mailto:Financechair@gilbertumc.org)) or Deanna Helland, Treasurer/Church Accountant (480-892-9166, [accountant@gilbertumc.org](mailto:accountant@gilbertumc.org)).

Thank you for your faithful financial support of our church.

### **Gilbert Alzheimer's Support Group for Caregivers of People With Dementia**

The Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter has started a new support group for caregivers of people with dementia in Gilbert at our church. The group meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 1:30-3:00pm in room 212. Pre-registration is not required. If you have questions about the group or need more information, please contact Mindy at the Alzheimer's Association at 602-528-0545.



### **Zumba Classes**

Rev. Tina Rees offers Zumba classes on Saturdays from 8:30-9:30am in the activity center.

Zumba is a dance fitness class that incorporates Latin rhythms and dance moves to tone your body and increase your cardiovascular health.

For more information, please contact Tina at 602-341-8241 or [tinarees@cox.net](mailto:tinarees@cox.net).



## Servants in Worship in October

	8:15	9:45	11:15
<b>Acolytes</b>			
Oct 2	Emily Ingalls William Batz	Allison Wendt Emma Strazz	
9	Ainsley Snyder Katelyn Johns	Phoebe Leong Lizzie MacFarlane	
16	Emily Ingalls William Batz	Hayley Vallera Rilie Fairley	
23	Reagan Metz Alexandra Scharff	Katelyn Mason Lizzie MacFarlane	
30	Katelyn Johns William Batz	Brandon Sy Makena Sy	
<b>Liturgists</b>			
Oct 2	David Baker	Angus MacFarlane	Linda Faber
9	Wendy Bryant	Lisa Strazz	Paul Contreras
16	Jo Asplin	Aaron Leong	Michelle McClain
23	Eileen Parry	Pam Berg	Sumiko Sober
30	Pat Baker	Rich Van Slyke	Kelly McClain
<b>Ushers</b>			
Oct 2	Tom Dare Jim Johns	Mike West Hal Fairley	Herb Miller Vikki Richardson
9	Eileen Parry Jon Salak	Michael Griffith Angus MacFarlane	Michelle McClain Kelly McClain
16	Ed Riedel Darrin Orndorff	Gary McGrath Teri Martin	Linda McKinley Paul Contreras
23	Art Poeske Jim Ramsey	Stuart Wiemers Drew Wiemers	Michelle McClain Kelly McClain
30	Tom Dare Jim Johns	Glen Compton Ray Vallera	Linda McKinley Paul Contreras
<b>Greeters</b>			
Oct 2		Strazz Family	
9	Ruby Rosemond-Taylor		Pat Pletcher
16	Sheahan Family	Karl & Sharon Kotsonas	
23			
30			
<b>Coffee Hour Set-Up</b>		<b>Coffee Hour Take-Down</b>	<b>Altar Flowers</b>
Oct 2	Fred & Karen Perez	Wiemers Family	Judy Pierce
9		Hal & Kim Fairley	Tom & Linda McKinley
16		Margie Sessums, Joan Krueger	Jim & Katherine Willis
23	Ruby Rosemond-Taylor	Ashley West, Lara Klinkner	John & Susan Bowers
30		Cindie Rempel	Bob & Barbara Brown

### Our Condolences to

- ❑ The family of Millie Barb on her death
- ❑ Curtis Provance and family on the death of his mother-in-law
- ❑ Beverly Ogden on the death of her brother
- ❑ Jessica Topolski on the death of her grandfather
- ❑ Tommy Campbell on the death of his father.



## October Anniversaries

- 3 Jim & Lori Wilkins - 24 yrs
- 6 David & Pat Baker - 32 yrs
- 8 Odus & Diana Elliott - 46 yrs
- 8 Philip & Ernestine Tesarek - 17 yrs
- 9 Tommy & Pam Campbell - 18 yrs
- 12 Mike & Lara Klinkner - 9 yrs
- 13 Jon Salak & Eileen Parry - 9 yrs
- 13 Michael & Diane Crann - 23 yrs
- 15 Jim & Katherine Willis - 18 yrs
- 17 Mike & Lynn Munson - 41 yrs
- 18 Eric & Mandi Willenbrink - 3 yrs
- 19 Kevin & Teri Becker - 20 yrs
- 21 Dan & Janet Bose - 10 yrs
- 22 Steve & Deanna Helland - 28 yrs
- 27 Brock & Alicia Somsen - 17 yrs
- 28 Bob & Caroline Skinner - 51 yrs

## October Birthdays

- 1 Franklin Nickerson  
Brenda Rico
- 2 LeRoy Englebrecht  
Tori Richter
- 3 Bonnie Grimes
- 4 McKinley Lang  
Art Poeske  
April Ryan
- 5 C'Anna Pless  
C'lerra Pless  
Carol Schroeder
- 6 Joe Taylor
- 7 Aaron Aegan  
Earl Knight
- 8 Norm Symons
- 9 Ellie Kimbrough  
Eileen Parry  
Savannah Richter
- 10 Kate Klinkner  
Brittany Schreiner  
Chloe Tognacci
- 11 Erin Alibrandi  
Pam Cowgill  
Sophia Morey  
Robyn Oswald  
Al Zangri
- 12 Kaz Neubauer  
Ryder Robbers
- 13 Beverly Durica  
Cori Spittell
- 15 Jason Flanders  
Carylon Morey
- 16 Jennifer Lazbin  
Dave Moberg  
Cora Rickman
- 17 Irene Groves  
Elizabeth Heagren  
Akino Neubauer
- 18 Lora Norris  
Ashton Olson
- 20 Jan Compton  
Jo Goslar  
Amber Howarth  
Eric Sutton
- 21 Allan Peterson  
Bob Skinner  
Ben Smith
- 22 Audrey Krahenbuhl  
Tim Ryan  
Tim West
- 23 Pam Stressman  
Ann Yamamoto
- 24 Connor Johns  
Jesse Ossian
- 25 Kevin Morey
- 26 Kendall Bayer  
Brianna James  
Brandon Sy
- 27 Charlotte Hazelrigg  
Tara Pettengill
- 28 Joshua Anderson  
Allan Peters  
Jake Wagner
- 29 Carol Peterson

## Special Celebrations

*If your anniversary and birthdays are not listed in the monthly newsletter, please contact Dina in the church office so that we can celebrate your special days.*



## In Our Prayers:

Luke Alls	Warren/Agnes Begley	Katie Bouchie	Brenda Chavez	Travis Dare
Roberta Dean	Bob/Margaret DeBolt	Margo Doss	Pauline DuBon	Skip Eshelman
Heather Ford	Virginia Franklin	Ruth Gieszl	Irene Groves	Joyce Harvey
Elizabeth Heagren	Ruth Heer	Karl Honaker	Sumiko Jones	Garnet Kepp
Calista Kerr	Earl & Pat Knight	Jean/Bob Langdon	Doris Lane	Walt & Ila Mae Luken
Teri Martin	Blanche McDonough	Franklin Nickerson	Bonnie Paisley	Aldon & Marilyn Pell
Pat Pletcher	Wilbur Post	Susan Prosser	Logan Reynolds	Schleiger Family
Alice Smith	Bill Spence	Barbara Valbuena	Linda Vernoski	Jake Wagner
Diana Whitford				

Our Evangel prayer list represents those on our prayer list who are within our congregation. Let us lift them into the Lord's care. Our Prayer Chain ministry includes all submitted prayer requests, those within our church community and those for our extended families, friends and community. Please email prayer requests to [umcprayerchain@gilbertumc.org](mailto:umcprayerchain@gilbertumc.org) or fill out a pew prayer card on Sunday morning

Rev. Michael Bryant, Senior Pastor - [pastormichael@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastormichael@gilbertumc.org)  
 Rev. Eve Williams, Associate Pastor – [pastoreve@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastoreve@gilbertumc.org)  
 Rev. Tina Rees, Associate Pastoral Care – [tinarees@cox.net](mailto:tinarees@cox.net)  
 Administrative Board Chair, Ed Stressman - [estressman@cox.net](mailto:estressman@cox.net)  
 Adult Ministry Chair, Molly Hahn – [hahn926@cox.net](mailto:hahn926@cox.net)  
 Centennial Celebration, Nancy Ball - [nball@marleykemf.org](mailto:nball@marleykemf.org)  
 Children’s Ministry, Janelle Chiricuzio - [children@gilbertumc.org](mailto:children@gilbertumc.org)  
 Church Accountant, Deanna Helland - [accountant@gilbertumc.org](mailto:accountant@gilbertumc.org)  
 Church Secretary, Dina Reid – [dina@gilbertumc.org](mailto:dina@gilbertumc.org)  
 Finance Chair, John Bowers – [financechair@gilbertumc.org](mailto:financechair@gilbertumc.org)  
 Financial Secretary, Kim Dare – [finance@gilbertumc.org](mailto:finance@gilbertumc.org)  
 Health Ministry Director, Therese Pineda - 602-686-1259  
 Joseph Ministry, Herb Miller – [herbmiller@cox.net](mailto:herbmiller@cox.net)  
 Kitchen Ministry, Lori Wiemers—[volunteer@gilbertumc.org](mailto:volunteer@gilbertumc.org)  
 Land Development Chair, Joan Krueger-[joank@yahoo.com](mailto:joank@yahoo.com)  
 Lay Leaders, John & Susan Bowers – [jandsbowers@yahoo.com](mailto:jandsbowers@yahoo.com)  
 Membership, Bev Graham - [newmembers@gilbertumc.org](mailto:newmembers@gilbertumc.org)  
 Ministry Team Chair, Mike Clark - [mikewoodbridge@earthlink.net](mailto:mikewoodbridge@earthlink.net)

Missions Chair, Lisa Sotomayor - [missions@gilbertumc.org](mailto:missions@gilbertumc.org)  
 Music Director, Marty Province - [music@gilbertumc.org](mailto:music@gilbertumc.org)  
 Nursery Coordinator, Diane Chaon - [nursery@gilbertumc.org](mailto:nursery@gilbertumc.org)  
 Organist, Jonathan Cochran - [thebigjlc@yahoo.com](mailto:thebigjlc@yahoo.com)  
 Pastoral Care Team, Diana Whitford - [dianawhitford@q.com](mailto:dianawhitford@q.com)  
 Prayer Chain, Michelle McClain –[umcprayerchain@gilbertumc.org](mailto:umcprayerchain@gilbertumc.org)  
 Preschool Committee Chair, Sharon Dalton – [sharond52@cox.net](mailto:sharond52@cox.net)  
 Preschool, Lara Fink /Lora Norris-[preschool@gilbertumc.org](mailto:preschool@gilbertumc.org)  
 Staff Parish Relations, Jo Asplin - [joasplin@yahoo.com](mailto:joasplin@yahoo.com)  
 Stephen Ministry, Rev. Michael Bryant-[pastormichael@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastormichael@gilbertumc.org)  
 Trustees Chair, Al Reynolds - [trustees@gilbertumc.org](mailto:trustees@gilbertumc.org)  
 Visual Arts Team, Wendy Bryant - [wlrbyrant@cox.net](mailto:wlrbyrant@cox.net)  
 Volunteer Ministry, Lori Wiemers - [volunteer@gilbertumc.org](mailto:volunteer@gilbertumc.org)  
 Webmaster, Susan Prosser – [webmaster@gilbertumc.org](mailto:webmaster@gilbertumc.org)  
 Wedding Coordinator, Jaci Shaw - [jacishaw@yahoo.com](mailto:jacishaw@yahoo.com)  
 Worship Committee Chair, Herb Miller - [herbmiller@cox.net](mailto:herbmiller@cox.net)  
 Youth Coordinator, Mike Stephenson - [youth@gilbertumc.org](mailto:youth@gilbertumc.org)

## Christmas Wreath Fundraiser

The youth group will begin taking orders for their Christmas wreath fundraiser on Sunday mornings beginning October 16<sup>th</sup> through October 30<sup>th</sup>. Swags and centerpieces will also be available for purchase. The orders will be delivered to the church after Thanksgiving. You may also order wreaths or centerpieces as gifts to be delivered to family and friends in other parts of the country. For more information, please stop by the youth table in the activity center on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> or visit [www.sherwoodforestfarms.com](http://www.sherwoodforestfarms.com).

