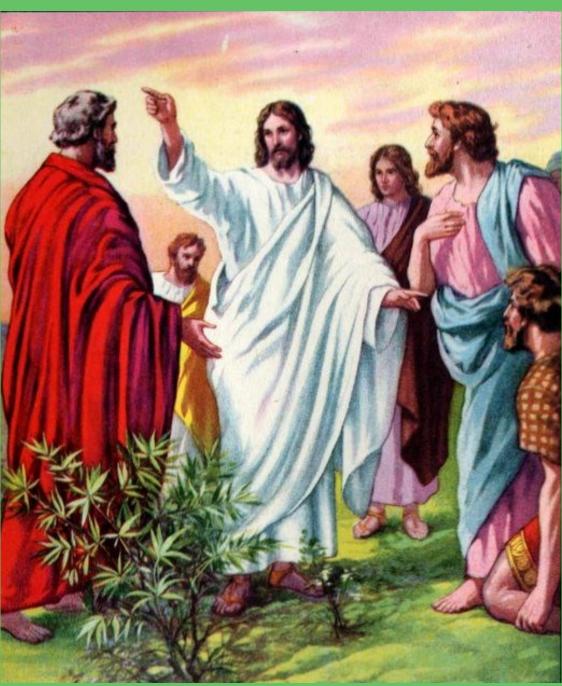
The Evangel First United Methodist Church of Gilbert September 2019



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The Church office will be closed in observance of **Labor Day.**



331 S Cooper Road Gilbert, AZ 85233

480-892-9166

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm Friday by appointment

Attendance on August 11,2019 307

General Fund Giving for August 11, 2019 \$9,888

General Fund Giving for July 2019 \$63,440

Expenses for July 2019 \$66,497

FamilyPromise of Greater Phoenix It's time to celebrate!! We had nine Graduations in July!!! "The extraordinary surrounds us ... we just need to look and listen for it." - Kathy Kaplan

We sure had a busy week hosting 5 different families, 4 moms, 1 dad and 9 children! Praises that two of the moms already had jobs, one was starting this week and the dad was so excited to start work tomorrow. It won't be long till these families will be back on their own. I'm so grateful we had the opportunity to give them a little help along the way. One mom told me this morning that she just felt so much peace here all week. What a blessing.

Random thoughts and

blessings from the IHN Team

On behalf of these families, thank you for playing an important part in our Family Promise program. When you add our Youth to the count, we had well over 50 volunteers! I'm so impressed with the way Youth pitch in... they set up, clean up, cook, serve dinner and have fun playing with the children. They are amazing! A special thank you to their leaders, Ray and Ron, and their parents.

Now a message from Family Promise....

we simply want to share our belief that while we may never meet these families again ... they will always remember us ... just as we remember them ... and that there will come a time when they share the story of Family Promise and it will be one of joy, appreciation and love! Now that to us defines extraordinary!



Loaded up and ready to go!!!!!

BACKPACK DRIVE

" Be The Reason Someone Smiled Today"

Those of you who donated to the Backpack Drive can be assured that you helped put a smile on a child's face on the first day of school. With your donations First United Methodist Church of Gilbert was able to donate over 200 backpacks to Gilbert Elementary School and another 8 to children from Family Promise. Because of the generosity of our church family, we are able to make a positive impact on families right here in our community.

The Mission Committee thanks you for your support, not only with the Backpack Drive, but also for supporting our vision for continued mission outreach. Our upcoming events include:



Senior Santa - December



www.gilbertpreschool.com 480-892-9166

Lora Norris & Adrienne Mesa, Directors



What a great start to the school year! We had a great first few weeks with over 50 preschoolers on campus each week. Our classrooms are filled with 2, 3, 4, and 5 year olds, with both new and returning families. Over the summer we were able to paint the preschool classrooms and the courtyard is now covered with beautiful new green sod! The new pots are overflowing with fresh flowers! Thank you to the church community, Joe Mayne, and the Preschool Ministry Team for helping to create such a loving, welcoming environment for the preschoolers and families!

During August, the students and teachers spend time getting to know one another, learn the classroom routine and behavior expectations. On the third week of school, we dove into academics, learning about God's Creations.

Bible Verse - "And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Parent/Tot class, enroll today- Your 2-year-old can come to preschool with the comfort of their own special adult! Invite a friend to come tour the school and learn more about our Parent Tot program!



Shop at Fry's Food Stores with your VIP card and get great savings, earn fuel points, and help our church preschool. Just go online to FrysFood.com, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Fry's Community Rewards under Community. Log on to your account and search our organization number, **DM609**. You can also find us under **Faith Based or All**, First United Church of Gilbert Preschool. You're all set! Your savings help us to earn money for our wonderful program. Thank you!

Missions- Our preschool contributed to the Gilbert Food Bank by donating peanut butter and jelly to make back to school lunches for local families. Way to go!

Grandparents' Day Breakfasts-

September 4th or 5th from 8:15-9:00am

We love our Grandparents and special loved ones! The preschoolers will host their special person on one of these mornings in the Activity Center. They will eat a breakfast snack, play

a game and spend some memorable time together.



If you have any questions about the preschool, please contact Lora Norris or Adrienne Mesa at preschool@gilbertumc.org or call 480 892 9166.

childrensministry@gilbertumc.or

Director

lanelle Chiricuzio,

September 2019 Children's Ministry

Preschool and Kinder

When was the last time you really looked at everything God made? Taking a moment to walk outside or search for the wonders of the world online will totally change the way you share this month's Bible stories with preschoolers. We need that **WONDER** dial turned way up! ALL the way up! And the best way to do that is to experience some of that wonder! When we take the time to look at this amazing world God made, we are filled with awe and wonder. It's that feeling of wonder we want our preschoolers to have as they learn about God's creation.

Week 1 On days one and two God made the light and dark and sky and water Light and Dark; Sky and Water Genesis 1:3-8 Week 2 On day three, God made the land, plants, and sea. Land, Plants, and Sea Genesis 1:9-13

Week 3 On day four, God made the sun, moon, and stars. Sun, Moon, and Stars Genesis 1:14-19

Week 4 On days five and six, God made the birds, fish, and animals. Birds, Fish, and Animals Genesis 1:20-25

Week 5 On day six, God made the most special thing: people. Then He rested. People; God Rested Genesis 1:26–2:25

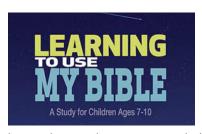
We are going to do a lot of counting together this month—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven—pausing to learn what God made on each day of creation. Through our fun and exciting activities and stories we want our preschoolers to learn God made everything, and IT IS GOOD!

1st-2nd graders

Throughout history God has proven His faithfulness to us, especially in keeping His promise to send Jesus to save us. God will continue to be dependable. The Bible is filled with examples of people who knew first-hand what it means to trust God. This month, we focus on two of them: Jacob and Joseph. Through their stories, we'll discover how we can trust Him no matter what we face.



3rd - 6th graders



This class is designed to encourage kids to take an interest in the bible. We will be running this curriculum in our 3rd-6th grade classes during the months of September and October.

For our 3rd graders and anyone who hasn't received a bible yet we will be giving them one at end of class! If your child has already received a bible from us please have them bring with them! Class meets in room 204 and then we will spread out into smaller groups from there!

Ray Vallera, Youth Director youthministry@gilbertumc.org



Director of Youth Ministries Part-time Position Open 25 Hours Per Week First United Methodist Church of Gilbert



The First United Methodist Church of Gilbert is seeking an energetic, outgoing, creative person with strong organizational and communications skills to direct our youth programs. This person will lead and support the youth (7th through 12th grades) as they develop as Christians through programming and educational opportunities. In collaboration with the Youth Council, he or she will provide Sunday School, youth fellowship, retreats, service projects, outreach and other faith-based growth opportunities. This is a part-time, highly responsible position. The Director of Youth Ministries reports directly to the Senior Pastor. Candidates should have a bachelor's degree in education, religious studies or a related field or the equivalent in experience and education. We are seeking someone who can work both independently as well as collaboratively with youth, parents, church staff and volunteers. Experience in leading a robust, engaging program of activities and events is a plus. We seek someone with a love for working with youth who is enthusiastic about this role and has a strong personal faith consistent with United Methodist teachings.

Interested candidates should submit a resume, letter of interest and contact information for three professional references to secretary@gilbertumc.org. The position is currently open; applications will be accepted until the position is filled. A background check will be required for the candidate selected for this position.

Upcoming events for Youth

UMOM – Read to Me: Tuesday September 10th (5:30-8pm)

We have room for 6 students to go with Ron Mason. Read one-on-one with children living at UMOM. Book donations are always greatly appreciated. All ages and categories are helpful.

St Vincent de Paul, Mesa Garden- Sat & Sun, Sept 28/29

7:30 - 11:00 (pick one or both days) Complete re-do of the main garden, and resealing the wood tables and structures. We have 8 open seats for this one.

Sept. 29th 5-7pm at First Mesa UMC

Dinner followed by a program on anxiety presented by Tina Rees. Please RSVP for food count.

November 10 Dinner & Sand Volleyball at Dayspring.

RSVP needed. Additional details on time and dinner to be announced.

Questions or comments? Contact Ray Vallera: youthministry@gilbertumc.org

A few of testimonials from the youth about their Summer Mission Trip

Sarah Butler

It was a Sunday, June 30th, to be exact. A hot summer day, and 10 youth and 2 adults gather into a white van covered with drawings and markings of all sorts, everything from inside jokes to art. They departed on their way, into a brand new world of new beginnings and new friends.

After a long 6-hour drive, they arrived at their destination, a church in the heart of the sunny city of San Diego, almost a dreamland of nice weather and people filled with energy and happiness. Other church youth groups arrived at the same church we were at, some from the vast plains of Texas, some from the lakes of Minnesota, and others from a nearby city in California. All different types of people, all from different parts of the country, yet all gathered to do one thing: serve.

The first day was normal, everybody ate, set up their sleeping bags and mattresses, and played some icebreaker games. Then it was time for us all to go to sleep, and the next day the week's missions begun.

Our group started the day at a small place called Brighton place, an assisted living care home. All sorts of people lived there, some could only speak Spanish, some preferred not to speak at all. But the people we did speak to truly touched our hearts: those who told tales of serving in the military and also moving as a child from somewhere as far away as Australia to America. We would go back to this place many times throughout the week, and each time would be filled with the happiness that these people brought. Their stories, their pure joy, and their will to stick with their friends was enough to keep us going.

Then we left Brighton place, where we headed to a part of town where poverty was more prominent, to a place known as the Community Christian Service Agency, or the CCSA, a small organization dedicated to offering food and clothing to those living in poverty. Here we packed bags of food, sorted clothing, and cleaned up the area. At the CCSA, we were able to see the dedication the workers have for helping others. Some were there full time, dedicating every second of their day to helping. I recall some volunteers saying how they were formerly homeless, but got back on their feet and were now able to help others who had been in the same situation. Here you could truly see God's work being done through the workers here, and their willingness to sacrifice their own time and effort to help others.

The final place we went to was the San Diego food bank, which supplies food not only to places like the CCSA but also directly to those living homeless or in poverty. Here we packed cans of food into boxes and sorted through produce donated by grocery stores. The amazing thing about this place is that we were able to see all sorts of people volunteering, young and old. Some were just volunteering in their free time, some came for community service, and others came because they were on a mission, like we were on. Either way, it was a clear sign on how God invites all people to come and help.

At the end of the day, we always went to St Vincent De Paul, an organization that provides housing and meals for the homeless. Here we showered, but each day we were able to see how bad the poverty is in San Diego. Just driving there, you could see people on the streets, huddled

together under makeshift tents made out of plastic bags. Some arguing, some begging for food, others just walking around trying to make use of their time. That's when I realized that these people have very different lives than our own. Most people have heard the saying "just be thankful you have a roof over your head", well I had never completely understood it until now. These people have no houses, no clean clothing, and don't know where their next meal will come from. But I realized something. While these people are much more different than us, God doesn't see them any differently than he sees us. God doesn't care how you got to where you are now, he loves you nevertheless.

He doesn't care how much money, how much stuff, how many friends you have, he loves you for you. This trip has changed me in countless ways that I wouldn't be able to list--but I know something for the most part: if God does not judge those who are less fortunate, then why should we? In His eyes, we are all human, and he loves us equally, so shouldn't we do the same?

It doesn't matter where you come from, what problems you face each day, God loves you. He will always love you—there's no doubting or questioning that. And one day--no matter how you are struggling right now, God will help you, and one day, you may be able to help others and make His world a better place.







Sean Wyatt

The mission trip was a week-long trip in San Diego that occurred over the week of July 4th and involved most of the Jr. High Sunday school students. The things I enjoyed about the trip were the nursing home visit, the San Diego food bank, and CCSA.

At the nursing home, I enjoyed learning and spending time with the elderly. They all were so welcoming when they saw us. One person I met there became blind later in life and said he was a video game developer before he became blind.

At the food bank, we filled boxes with food to deliver to places like CCSA, and sorted moldy food from non-moldy food to be put into boxes.

CCSA, or Community Christian Service Agency, was where we made bags or "starter bags" filled with food for everyone who needs them, others sorted clothes for people to use.

What the trip meant to me was to see how people less fortunate than me lived. I got to help a lot of poor people, and being my second trip, was still as impactful as last year's, but just as impactful in its own way. With that said I will definitely do this again next year.

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

Friday September 13 is D-Backs Faith & Family Night Baseball game, fireworks, & starring the Christian band "King & Country"

2019 "Lights of Hope" September 14th 6:30-8:00PM Since September National Recovery Month come and join us for uplifting night of hope. All hurting Mom's and family welcomed.

Walk for UMOM at the Phoenix Zoo September 21st 6-9 am

September 29 at 12:30 pm and 24th at 6:00 pm room 142 • Safe Sanctuary classes for staff and volunteers. Contact Sylvia at connection@gilbertumc.org for info.

Save the Date for Trunk N Treat Oct 31st 6-8 PM come and join in the Fun and Fellowship!



Gilbert Men's Ministry

Pathfinders Breakfast Invitation

Saturday September 14 • 8 - 9:30am • Activity Center Please RSVP to: MensGroup@gilbertumc.org

- Come enjoy a hearty breakfast
- Meet men for spiritual growth and support
- Personal testimonial & life sharing
- Audio & Video correlation
- Opportunities for involvement in Gilbert Men's Ministry

2019 UMOM WALK to End Homelessness

You can talk the talk, but can you walk the walk...to end homelessness? Join us for a 1K race to help support UMOM to raise money and awareness for families, single women, and youth experiencing homelessness.

Help make history as UMOM defends their Guinness World Record!

Each ticket purchased includes a swag bag, commemorative t-shirt, flip-flops, and all-day access to the Phoenix Zoo on the day of the event. The Missions Committee will also be providing each person that signs up with a cooling towel

Sign up before September 9th and get early bird rates!

To register to join our First UMC Team or to donate go to: https://fundraise.umom.org/ team/241406

E-mail Sherrona Johnson at mysherrona.johnson@gmail.com with any questions.





2019 TAM Lights of Hope

(The Addict's Mom)

Saturday, September 14, 2019 From 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
At First United Methodist Church of Gilbert
331 S. Cooper Road, Gilbert, AZ 85233
Candles and light refreshments provided
You are welcome to add a photo of your loved one to the Memory Board
Uplifting speakers and resources

Registration starts at **6:30** pm in the activity center

Guest Speakers take the stage at **7:00** pm

Closing Candlelight Ceremony **7:45 to 8 pm** in the courtyard

Donations of men & women's socks and underwear will be collected for the Aris Foundation.

September is designated by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as National Recovery Month. We will be hosting our first TAM "Lights of Hope" event on Saturday, September 14, 2019 from 6:30 pm to 8 pm at the First United Methodist Church of Gilbert, 331 S Cooper Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85233. The purpose of this event is to bring light to the ongoing drug and alcohol epidemic affecting so many families in our community. We will provide information and resources, as well as hope and support to people affected by this disease. Speakers will include a representative from the AZ Attorney General's office, Founder of the Hurting Moms Mending Hearts organization and Not My Kid Program Director. Additional organizations like PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones), Celebrate Recovery, and others will be present to share materials and information about their program.







Meet our new members

*******Unfortunately pictures were not available at time of publication.

Delaine and
Richard
Anthony

Delaine and Richard Anthony are transferring from Dayspring UMC. Delaine is a dentist and Richard an engineer. She enjoys reading and knitting. He enjoys guitar (jazz and fingerstyle), motorcycles, and bicycling. They are parents of Claire Regnitz and grandparents of Emma and Olivia Regnitz.

Jake and Claire
Regnitz with
daughters
Emma and
Olivia

Claire and Jake Regnitz are also transferring from Dayspring UMC. They have been married 6 years. She is a Physician Assistant in Primary care and he is a Pharmacist for a hospital. They have two little girls; Emma Rose (3) and Olivia Ashley (9m) which keeps them very active.

Joan Egenes Joan Egenes joins us from Iowa, where she was a Certified Lay Minister for the Methodist Conference. She has 4 adult children. One of her adult children live and works as a dentist here in Gilbert. Her love of photography (professional) has taken her the USA and to countries around the world.

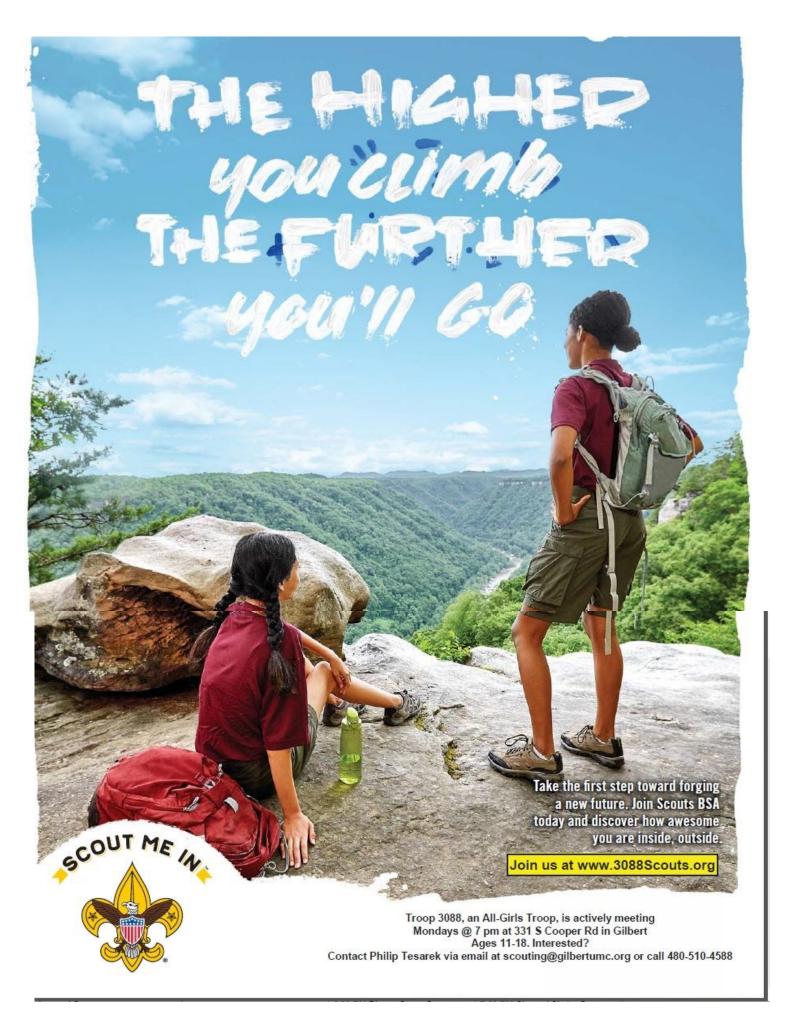
Your Funds At Work

A quick update on how the funds from the Capital Campaign and Land Sale are being used. Under the supervision of the Trustees, the air conditioning unit in the Sanctuary has been replaced. They have also overseen the inspection and updates to the elevator lift, and it is once again operational. They are also continuing to do the necessary work on several other air conditioning units in need of repair or replacement around our campus.

The renovation team has continued to do the work necessary to craft a plan of action on how to best address the needs of our campus. Our work continues to focus on improvements to our Cooper Road signage, nursery design, adult meeting rooms, campus security, and bathroom facilities. Legwork on these projects continues to be their focus in order to ensure the best use of funds to address these areas of critical need.









Congregational Care Support Groups

For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Diamond at pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org or 480-892-9166



Grief Share Support Group

For those grieving the loss of someone close to them. This support group Led by Kay Pealstrom is meeting on Saturdays from 9am-10:30am in Room 133.



Parents with Young Children

This support group is for parents who have new babies or a child under 12 months.

To join contact Lydia and Matt Ramirez at lydiamramirez@gmail.com



Living Hope Support Group

A group for those experiencing trauma or dealing with PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). This group meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm.



Please join the First United Methodist Church of Gilbert's Tuesday Morning Womens' Bible Study as we explore the Book of Luke.

> Tuesday, August 20, 2019 Room 142 (library) 9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Books will be available for purchase on 8/20

Please contact Christy Robertson Yoder at roberch1@yahoo.com or the church office with any questions. To register for free childcare, please contact Janelle Churicuzio at childrensministry@gilbertumc.org.

Ministry Fair



On August 25th we celebrated the many different ministry opportunities offered here at First United Methodist Church of Gilbert. It was both a celebration as well as a connection opportunity. If you weren't able to make a connection to an area of ministry during this fair, please contact Sylvia Harris to help you connect into the area of service and ministry which speaks to you. She can be contact in the church office or at

connection@gilbertumc.org.





Get connected to First UMC of Gilbert!

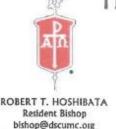
Like the youth say It's Time 4 Us To Do Something!

Take a class Join a committee be the

Hands of Christ Today



A message from our Bishop......



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PHOENIX AREA 1550 E. MEADOWBROOK AVENUE PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85014-4040

> JULIE O'NEAL Administrative Assistant to the Bishop joneal@dscumc.org

July 19, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of First United Methodist Church of Gilbert.

Grace and peace to you in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ!

I write on behalf of the leadership of the Desert Southwest Conference to express our gratitude for your faithfulness and continuing support for the ministry and mission of our Conference and for the spirit with which congregations like yours are responding to the financial challenges we are facing.

Recently you received reports from our Conference Treasurer's office detailing the status of apportionment giving for the first six months of 2019. Those statistics speak of churches like yours that are making a strong effort in support of the apportionments and the ministries that are sustained by your generosity. I know that this is possible because of excellence in your leadership.

We do not take your congregation's support for granted. We appreciate the commitment you are demonstrating, and we recognize the faithfulness that accompanies your support of the apportionments of the Desert Southwest Conference and The United Methodist Church.

There are many places where your giving makes an incredible difference. Within the bounds of our own Conference, for example, your apportionment dollars help train and mentor our newest pastors who began their ministries among us. Apportioned funds help provide education and experience to better equip them for their ministries. This same kind of support is offered to lay persons so that they can be better prepared to lead their congregations with excellence. Your apportionment contributions also go to fund our New Faith Team which encourages and enables the efforts to spread the Good News by starting second campuses. These are but three examples; there are many more.

As you plan for the Fall when church ministries swing into high gear, I hope you will make sure to take advantage of ways the conference supports you. As you encourage and teach your congregation about our apportioned giving, we are ready and eager to assist you. I hope you will utilize the videos that we have produced to assist in the interpretation of the apportionments. These videos can be found on the Conference website at https://dscumc.org/home-2/apportionments/.

In a time when some are questioning whether to support The United Methodist Church, we know that there are courageous efforts to love like Jesus, act for justice that exist and thrive because of you. There are many expressions of transformational faith that are happening under the banner of The United Methodist Church.

I thank you for every faithful effort you make to lead your congregation in ways that result in growth and vitality. I give God thanks for your leadership and assure you that the leaders of the Conference stand ready to give our assistance and support. I hold you in prayer even as I ask for your prayers for our connection of congregations and ministry settings that comprise the Desert Southwest Conference.

In Christ,

Bob





Thank You From the Gilbert Elementary Tigers



Dear First United Methodist Church, Thank you for school Supplies, Snache and drinks. It is very kind of you.

> From Gilbert Elementry Student Leader Mia

Thank you so much for your thought! act of kindness. Our school has really benefited from all your help frigo



September 2019 Event Calendar

	Porate work of ou	2 Labor Day Office Closed r hands	3 Tuesday Morning Bible Study	4Wednesday night fellowship and classes	5 Christian women's Fellowship Alpha Class 6:30 Women's Ministry	6	7
8		9	10Tues Morning Bible Study	11Wednesday night fellowship and classes Disciple III begins	12 shawl meeting 1PM Alpha Class 6:30	13 Faith and Family night at the Diamondback game	14 8-9:30 Mens Breakfast 6:30 pm"Lights of Hope" at FUMC of Gilbert
15		16	17Tues Morning Bible Study	18Wednesday night fellowship and classes A Study of Prayer Practices begins	19 book club 11AM Alpha Holy Spirit weekend 6:30	20 Alpha Holy Spirit weekend 6:30 Sat from 8-2	21 Holy spir- it weekend for Alpha 6-9am UMOM walk at Phx. Zoo
22		23	24Tues Morning Bible Study 6-8 pm Rm 142 Safe Sanctuary	25Wednesday night fellowship and classes	26 Alpha Class 6:30	27	
in 14	2:30-2:30 Room 42 Safe anctuary	30					

October 2019 Event Calendar

		1	2	3 Christian Women's Fellowship Alpha Class 6:30	4	5
6	7	8 Tues Morning Bible Study	9 Wednesday night fellowship and classes	10 Shawl ministry 1pm Alpha class 6:30	11	12
13	14	15Tues Morning Bible Study	16Wednesday night fellowship and classes	17 Book Club 11AM Alpha Class 6:30	18	19 Men's breakfast 8-9:30 am
20	21	22 Tues Morning Bible Study	23 Wednesday night fellowship and classes	24	25	26
27	28	29Tues Morning Bible Study	30Wednesday night fellowship and classes	31 Trunk or Treat	*** ***	

Elinore Englebrecht Jake Regnitz

Jake Regnitz 24 Lisa Martin 24 Lydia Ramirez 27

24



September Birthdays

Catherine Panella	2
Gail Greeley	2
Kimberly Fairley	3
Amanda Diegan	4
Emily Crann	6
Julie Brooks	6
Melissa Coleman	7
Tom Knoll	8
Chris Cantwell	8
Dan Hahn	9
Susan Mix	9
Cindie Rempel	12
Kathryn Church	13
Sarah Metz	14
Eric Butler	14
Paige Cantwell	14
Laura Boever	15
Brenda Strom	17
Christopher Odell	17
Marilyn Pell	19
Zack Young	20

Alexandra Houseman

Drew Ball

Bruce Woolsey

Addie Fairley

Katie Bouchie

Jeanie Hirsch



September Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
2	Kelcy and Greg Skinner	19
7	Elinore and LeRoy Englebred	cht 72
7	Lisa and Bill Martin	28
8	Jim and Pat Bohart	50
9	Lori and Stuart Wiemers	24
19	Sylvia and Michael Harris	10
20	Julie and Kenneth Brooks	39

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