



First United Methodist Church of Gilbert Charge Conference

November 16, 2020



2020 Charge Conference Agenda

Call to Order – District Superintendent

Opening Prayer & Focus

Leadership Team Report – What We Have Learned during this year and what it calls us to prayerfully consider for the year ahead. See Focus Points on accompanying page. The Leadership Report may include the 2021 Ministry Plan -- **receive input and vote on acceptance.**

Nominations Report – **to be presented and voted upon**

Membership Report -- **to be presented and voted upon**

Stewardship Report -- a YTD Financial Summary, a synopsis of the stewardship of the congregation, the effects of the Pandemic Period, apportionment giving plan

Clergy Compensation – **vote to confirm**

Candidates for Ministry – **vote to confirm**

Lay Servant Ministers and Certified Lay Ministers – **to be recommended and confirmed**

Charge and Blessing



What We Have Learned
Compiled by the Church Leadership Team/Church Council
East District – Local Church Ministry Plan

Reflective/Focus Thoughts

What has your church body learned about . . .

- priorities of ministry,
 - trust in the Spirit,
 - trust in one another,
 - new ways to keep the congregation connected in ministry and to each other,
 - new ways to reach new people for Christ.
 - does being the church center around its location in the same way as it did pre-COVID-19?
- Our church has learned that being “together” means saying hello to one another on Sunday morning Facebook comments during the worship video premiere. And focusing on the needs of the community by supporting Gilbert Elementary school, the hungry, and other ongoing ministries of the church together. Navigating new ways to connect, for youth and Sunday school classes, and even committees, has been challenging, but we are up to the task, keeping Christ as the focus.
- We agreed that our video service team has been diligent and creative in offering some worship content for part of our congregation. But there is no fellowship and little participation through the TV. When we get a full video capability, including an audience in attendance, we know there will continue to be great value in outreach to our snow-birds, shut-ins, and new visitors. But we will have to be rid of the virus and the burden of continual quarantine restrictions before even better videos will keep the congregation together. Real fellowship and participation were cornerstones of our worship services, and those must be restored.
- Our kids and how to connect and minister to them is our top priority but we also need to support our parents and small group leader so that so that they can connect with their families and through the families of kids. When we connect with the family, the kids, the teachers we create a community. Children's ministry has had to trust in the spirit to use what we could during this time where the majority of the time we can't physically see our kids or parents. We have had to trust in the spirit to minister to our parents during times where they needed prayers and thoughts. We've had to trust in the spirit to minister to our kids during this time of uncertainty. We have had to trust in the spirit to support and uplift our small group leaders and admin. We have had to come up with and trust in new ways our leadership, our families, and even at times our kids while worshipping and teaching remotely. Through brainstorming, learning, and growing we have extended ourselves digitally and have had to be flexible in the moment. We have tried to find new ways to reach our families and kids virtually by creating

online zoom classes for Sunday school, videos and classes for Wednesday Wilds, more posts on Facebook to help engage our families, and even delivering some surprises to the homes of our peeps. We have also been praying and reaching out to even more of those of our families and kids who seemed to be in need. The church is location and our world has moved from a Minecraft realm to virtual soon zoom Sunday school to hopes. I feel like even so the congregants still see the church on Cooper Rd as the focal center of the church.

- Priorities of ministry: providing access to the Word, Sunday video services, communication with congregation, providing multiple ways to continue giving to the church. Trust in the Spirit: Trust that the Spirit will continue to make ways for the church to reach out and provide services. Trust in one another: Trust that people will continue to do the right thing. In many areas it would have been easy for people to say let's wait until this Covid thing is over. New ways to keep the congregation connected in ministry and to each other: Without my Zoom Sunday school class church, as much as I think the video Sunday services are very good, would have become largely irrelevant. New ways to reach new people for Christ: Based on those checking in during the Sunday service the church is reaching a wider audience. Does being the church center around its location in the same way as it did pre-COVID-19? The simple answer is no since we have not been allowed to have in-person services or meetings.

In a time when we are called to address national and systemic racism . . .

- **What are your observations and learnings regarding race relations?**
 - **How has our local church responded?**
 - **What does our local church need to learn?**
- My observation is that we as individuals, church, and community need to listen and really hear the experiences of people of color. I have learned that, while my encounters with people of all colors is loving and respectful, that is not everyone's reality. It is not for me to say what our local church needs to learn. I have not witnessed overt racism in our local church, but I am not a person of color. That would be a question for those others to answer.
 - Children's ministry has learned to listen and help people tell their stories. Our local church has open talk and even begin a class on Wednesday nights. Children's ministry has posted some discussion topics from our curriculum to help families engage in these conversations with our kids. Our local church still needs to learn to not only make a way for voices to be heard but to continue to learn and grow to have eyes and ears of Christ to the world.
 - Since my neighbor and the church are predominately white, I do not really have anything to say. Prior to Sunday I had not had any direct interactions with a person of color for several months. However, based on the article in the newspaper several days ago there are race issues in Gilbert.
 - In a time of such social unrest and division, I am pleased to say that those issues are not evident in our preschool. We realize that most children notice differences between themselves and others. We stress to our students that we are all made by God and we have all been

blessed with different attributes. I use the basic concept that we are all the same and we are all different- isn't that wonderful! Helping our little ones with empathetic interactions will form caring connections with each other.

We live in a social world and it is often unfair to people of color. We, as a body of Christians, recognize those prejudices are unjust and morally wrong. Our church will continue to love one another as God has asked. We will pray for a way forward to an inclusive country and world.

The Ins and Outs. . .

- **What does your local church need to retain from new practices of ministry developed in this season?**
- **What changes does your church need to make to your pre-Covid-19 practices – what is in and what is out?**

- I know that we were already moving toward putting more of our Sunday services online, if not planning on live streaming. This is an important ministry to our homebound members, and one I am glad we will continue. I think we can think of another way of “passing the peace” instead of going back to hand-shaking. I personally like the African bow with hands folded. :)
- Children's ministry needs to continue to engage virtually even after we come together. We will need to change the way that we clean and also teach in our classrooms.
- A well-done video service which to me would be more than just streaming the Sunday service once it starts up again. Even though I do not plan on attending in-person services when they start up again I do not think that the services as currently outlined will be very satisfying, no singing, etc., and if they are streamed with nothing added I think fewer people will watch them.
- Most of us have longed for the way things were before Covid-19. Now that we know this virus will always be with us, we must listen to science. The practices of frequent hand washing, each child having their own crayons, pencils, etc. are a perfect way of cutting down on transmission of any virus or bacteria. Soon, all of these minor inconveniences will become part of our lives and no longer be seen as a hindrance.

Your newly forming church . . .

- **What core values are at the heart of your ministry and informs all you do?**
 - **How is all of what you have experienced and learned this year reshaping the church's ministry?**
- I like to think that Christ's love is at the center of our ministry, and it is this heart for His people that drives everything we do at First UMC Gilbert. I don't know that our experiences of this year have changed that, but have simply focused our efforts into specific ways that are “doable” during this time of social distancing.

- The core values at the heart of our ministry is love and children we will continue to engage in ways to bring kids closer to God through learning and growing we will continue to engage our families and support them as they raise their children to be disciples of Christ. We have learned to really think outside the box and meet our families where they are I pray we continue to engage and share with all of our families whether we remain remotely or come back together.
- If we do not find a way to open up, we are going to lose people to those churches that are open. A personal connection is important. Without the Sunday school class, it would be easy to skip Sunday morning all together.
- Our preschool core values remain that we are a family of Christian believers under leadership by God the Father. We want our students to learn about God so they will have a life long relationship with him.
Through our nation's racial strife and Covid-19, I have learned to lean in closer to God, family and friends. My strength comes from God. When the noise of the world and daily living becomes too much, I know He is the only one that will still my soul.

2020 Pastor Report to Charge Conference

What an exciting year this has been for the body of Christ worshipping at First Gilbert UMC. We have managed to move in every direction—often at the same time—and yet, it is a pleasure for me to have the duty as pastor and tell you about it.

First, let me say what an unusual year this has been. It bears no resemblance to any other year in my ministry recollection. We ended 2019 on a high note with big plans for 2020. However, as we began the new year, it quickly became apparent things were changing. All of a sudden we began to hear about a novel virus called COVID 19. This microscopic piece of genetic material has changed our lifestyle, the way we worship, and so many aspects of our life it is hard to know where to begin. So I will start in January, prior to going to online services.

One major task that has kept me very busy from the first of the year until recently is the renovation project that began in earnest mid-March. The renovation plans were conceived by a group of dedicated folks over a period of time and started to become a reality following the completion of our land sale.

Basically, we began by determining the room usage in our education and preschool wings. Then, we examined each room and the work needed. Needless to say, no one person could have achieved the results we now have and I am so appreciative of those who love this church and donated so much of their time and resources.

We made major modifications along the way. Doors were placed in walls where they did not previously exist and walls were moved or torn down completely. The results are amazing. The greatest improvement was achieved was in our nursery. What was once a difficult space is now the best room we have to offer—new (and relocated) bathroom, larger play area, new check in counter with cubbies, and new door to the courtyard. Basically, all the rooms—upstairs and down, received new paint, carpet, lights, ceiling tiles, and water. Yes, water. We were able to install sinks and faucets with hot and cold running water to all rooms except one. This was a major achievement for us—especially in this time of COVID.

The renovation included total reconstruction of the sanctuary narthex including the bathrooms. They are now so clean and inviting. The bathroom in the education wing was also given a new look with new tile, fixtures, and lights. The interesting thing about all of this is most of our church membership has not seen any of these major improvements due to the closures of our facilities precipitated by the virus.

The construction work took over 6 months to complete. Afterwards, we moved to the parking lot, which was completely pulverized, hauled off, regraded, repaved, and restriped. It looks marvelous. The landscape irrigation is being attended to right now and plans for a new entry sign and landscape needs are under consideration.

The renovation of our facilities was not the only major change this year. We shifted to online virtual worship nearly 9 months ago. This is perhaps the biggest adjustment the church has ever had to make. The church closed. Just typing those words is difficult. Fortunately, once again, gifted and talented people in the church stepped up to the challenge of creating online worship. Although there were a few road bumps at the beginning, our virtual church service is something we find energizing and engaging. A group of dedicated staff and non-staff members collaborate each week on the elements of worship—music, liturgy, message, offering and prayers—to bring a meaningful service the people each week. We are grateful to God for equipping us for ministry.

Therefore, I am happy to report that ministry goes on. We have found new ways to reach people while keeping alive the ministries of the past. We are still involved with Family Promise and UMOM. We are still partnered with Gilbert Elementary. We still hand out food boxes and other resources. We still connect with each other as a church. It is tougher. It takes longer. It is sometimes frustrating. But it is always rewarding because this is what we are called to be and do.

In closing I would like to say “thank you” to the congregation. I feel in many ways you have been on the receiving end of the challenges. Even though everything moves at the speed of a mouse click, my day passes in a heartbeat because things take longer to accomplish than they used to. I sometimes feel you get shorted. Someday very soon we will be back together. We shut down quickly but we will come back slowly and cautiously and I know at some point this will all be a distant memory. Thank you everyone for all that you do.

Peace,

Pastor Rick

Report of the Associate Pastor 2020

It would be quite an understatement to say 2020 did not go according to plan for First United Methodist Church of Gilbert, but we proved to be resilient.

Since our last Charge Conference we have spent a lot of time reflecting on who we are as a congregation and what our values and priorities are for the community around us. We started the year preparing for General Conference by participating in a congregational wide study called Faithfully Inclusive. We had great discussion as we looked at the values of First Gilbert. One value that kept coming up was despite what happened in the greater United Methodist Church after General Conference, that we as a congregation at First Gilbert still had a commitment to love our neighbors here in our community. This commitment was evident in our work. For the Christmas campaigns last year we focused a lot on local partnerships and the communities around us in need such as Gilbert Elementary School and Arizona Foster Children.

Our missions outreach in the community expanded past Christmas as we increased our partnership with Gilbert Elementary helping with not only their snack closet and backpacks, but other needs as well. We partnered with the Town of Gilbert and United Food Bank to fill the Gilbert area food pantries during Covid-19. We started our own small food pantry to help the families that come to us in need. Even though the campus was closed, the church was still in mission during this time.

As we all know the community outreach isn't just what we do in missions for our neighbors, but what we do to care for each other as well. While the separation has been difficult this year we have been very creative in ways that we have shown care for each other. While technology isn't as good as face to face contact we have been able to at least see each other's smiling faces and connect through online worship, small group, bible studies, Sunday school, youth group, and children's time. I know Janelle's children's group even attempted to build the church in the Minecraft game!

We didn't let the physical distancing stop us from still connecting on a spiritual level to God and to each other during this time and that was made evident by the people still joining the church, the people that were still being baptized, and the excitement in the chat box when we log into worship each Sunday morning. 2020 and Covid-19 did not defeat First United Methodist Church of Gilbert and I know when we come back together again we will continue our mission to love God and love neighbor in every way possible.

Blessings,

Pastor Diamond

Congregational Care Ministry

Charge Conference Report

2020

As with all, things this year have been different. Congregational Care has continued to minister to First Gilbert in many of the same ways. Before March we visited and prayed with people in homes, nursing homes and hospitals. We visited and prayed with people before surgeries. We gave communion to homebound individuals. After the coronavirus forced us to not be there in person:

- We contacted people by phone. Our CCM's made phone calls to numerous people to help them feel and stay connected and to minister to their needs.
- Food Tidings was continued as the need arose
- Prayer shawls were delivered
- Healing kits were delivered
- Prayers in general continued with the help of the Prayer Chain Ministers and the CCM's
- Cards continued to be mailed for birthdays, anniversaries and for pray support.
- Two new CCM's were trained and put into service.

We have learned how to adapt over the past several months so we can continue to care for the congregants of First Gilbert. Their spiritual well being remains a priority.

What We Have Learned as Children's Ministry

What has your church body learned about . . .

- Our kids and how to connect and minister to them is our top priority but we also need to support our parents and small group leader so that so that they can connect with their families and through the families of kids. When we connect with the family, the kids, the teachers we create a community.
- Children's ministry has had to trust in the spirit to use what we could during this time where the majority of the time we can't physically see our kids or parents. We have had to trust in the spirit to minister to our parents during times where they needed prayers and thoughts. We've had to trust in the spirit to minister to our kids during this time of uncertainty. We have had to trust in the spirit to support and uplift our small group leaders and admin.
- We have had to come up with and trust in new ways our leadership, our families, and even at times our kids while worshipping and teaching remotely
- Through brainstorming, learning, and growing we have extended ourselves digitally and have had to be flexible in the moment.
- We have tried to find new ways to reach our families and kids virtually by creating online zoom classes for Sunday school, videos and classes for Wednesday Wilds, more posts on Facebook to help engage our families, and even delivering some surprises to the homes of our peeps. We have also been praying and reaching out to even more of those of our families and kids who seemed to be in need.
- The church is location and our world has moved from a Minecraft realm to virtual soon zoom Sunday school to hopes. I feel like even so the congregants still see the church on Cooper Rd as the focal center of the church.

In a time when we are called to address national and systemic racism . . .

- Children's ministry has learned to listen and help people tell their stories. Our local church has open talk and even begin a class on Wednesday nights. Children's ministry has posted some discussion topics from our curriculum to help families engage in these conversations with our kids.
- Our local church still needs to learn to not only make a way for voices to be heard but to continue to learn and grow to have eyes and ears of Christ to the world.

The Ins and Outs...

- Children's ministry needs to continue to engage virtually even after we come together. We will need to change the way that we clean and also teach in our classrooms.

Your newly forming church . . .

- The core values at the heart of our ministry is love and children we will continue to engage in ways to bring kids closer to God through learning and growing we will continue to engage our families and support them as they raise their children to be disciples of Christ.
- We have learned to really think outside the box and meet our families where they are I pray we continue to engage and share with all of our families whether we remain remotely or come back together.

Children's Ministry –

What we have been doing during this year to keep ministering to our kids and families.

- Weekly enews sent to all children's ministry with all you need to do Sunday school at home!
- Weekly video bible stories and songs
- Weekly parents' guide to further engage kids with the bible story
- Weekly extra coloring/activity pages that go along with church lectionary.
- Weekly virtual Wednesday Wilds with lessons and craft ideas to do at home on Facebook taught by teacher
- Weekly prompts on Facebook for families to continue engaging at home with week's lessons
- Zoom Sunday school classes for preschool/Kinder, 1st-3rd, and 4th-6th
- We did an egg drop at all our Sunday school and VBS participants (signed up so far) during Holy week to help get kids excited, share that we miss them, and spread the hope of the empty tomb.
- Created bags with Sunday school and crafting materials for kids to do the weekly lesson. These are then hand delivered to all homes.
- Have posted helpful links in our enews and on Facebook for parents helping to deal with kids stress and parents stress during this time.
- Have posted helpful links to engage families with discussions on race.
- Our small group leaders have reached out to their classes checking on our families.
- We collaborated with family and youth ministries to deliver Halloween "BOO!" bags to 100 families from our congregation.
- We started a Minecraft Realm for our kids to engage in weekly.

Report from Youth Ministry

Prepared by Shayla Paap and Janet Bose November, 2020

The Youth at FUMC started off the year strong. Both Jr. and Sr. High Sunday school classes were attended by an average of 12-18 kids per week. There were also Youth Group activities usually on Sunday evening. One highlight in January 2020 was that a group of 10 Youth attended Winter Camp in Flagstaff and were able to worship and engage in fellowship with youth from 6 other church from around the state. They enjoyed Ice Skating, Lowell Observatory, and serving at the local food bank. Some early 2020 service projects that the Youth participated in included providing meals for Family Promise, serving dinner at UMOM and working at St. Vincent de Paul's Mesa Garden.

2020 started off without a Youth Director however Shayla Paap was hired in mid-February to fulfill this role. Unfortunately, soon after she started, the church was shut down due to COVID so the youth have been unable to meet in-person since then. Additionally the Youth's summer Mission Trip through Sierra Service Project to Chiloquin, OR in July had to be cancelled, as well as the beloved tradition of the Youth Summer Volleyball League which were both cancelled due to COVID.

The youth have continued to have weekly Sunday evening combined Junior and Senior High Sunday School/Youth Group via Zoom which is attended by an average of 5-10 kids. Some of the Zoom activities included playing Trivia, Modified Board Games, Lessons and Bible Devotions, and a Back to School On-Line Escape Room. The youth did participate with other members of the congregation in a drive-thru food drive for the town of Gilbert in May, as well preparing and dropping of meals for Family Promise in both the spring and summer.

Sunday evening Youth meetings will continue via Zoom for the foreseeable future weekly or twice monthly. Just recently with the tiered church re-opening plan, the youth will begin gathering in-person, in small, safe groups, for various service activities such as Volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul's Mesa garden and packing food boxes for the food banks. The Youth had their first in-person service project at the garden in October, with 4 youth and 3 adults in attendance. On Halloween, the youth had their first in-person fellowship, carving pumpkins on the front lawn of the church, which was well attended by 14 youth and 4 adults, who broke into multiple small groups of 2-3 people. Everyone wore a mask, practiced social distancing, and good hand hygiene. Although In-person events are very limited right now, Shayla and the Youth Council feel they are maintaining as strong of a program as possible during these very unprecedented times.

Randy Van Der Pol-Music Ministry

This year has been a challenging year for all of us. I do not believe anyone expected us to be getting ready for the Advent season and still not yet be in service.

A lot has changed in order for us to adapt to the needs of a virtual service. At first, all we were able to do was record music out of our homes. Then, we gradually progressed to the point that 5 people or less could meet at the church to record service music. Now, we are able to have 10 people or less.

The blessing in disguise has been that many people from our congregation have volunteered each week to help with the music.

The overall feeling of teamwork has been incredible, as everyone has focused on our worship being about giving God the glory and continuing to serve.

We have been able to add many different types of instruments, and many varied worship styles of music each week.

I believe we have also established that the virtual worship service is a need for our congregation that will continue in some form post-Covid.

I, like everyone else, look forward to the day (hopefully soon) when we can all worship together again!

Missions Report for Pastor Diamond 11/2020

The Corona Virus pandemic has affected so many aspects of our lives. We are proud to be able to say that our congregation continues to step up when the call comes in for assisting others. Throughout the campus shutdown, members of our church are staying active in supporting the missions of our church.

Almost 100 “Blessing Bags” were distributed to our congregation to be given to homeless folks. Among other items, they contained water, hand wipes, Bibles, a list of resources and granola bars.

Historically, we participate in the UMOM Walk to End Homelessness. However, it was postponed and then cancelled due to COVID-19.

Although we could not host Family Promise on the church campus, we provided dinnertime meals during our scheduled weeks. Most of the meals were cooked and donated by individual congregation members. The missions committee subsidized a few meals as well the usual breakfasts and lunches we purchase. We have another week scheduled in December to host Family Promise as well as a plan to donate Christmas gifts.

The annual Easter basket campaign was also affected by the pandemic. Pastor Diamond put together Easter bags for the children staying at the Family Promise Shelters. Backpacks and purses were given to parents as well.

The congregation continues to support Gilbert Elementary School by supplying snacks, books and school supplies. The Missions Committee voted to purchase \$150 in Fry’s gift cards to assist

them, as well. A need for non-disposable water bottles and earbuds was identified and the congregation eagerly obliged!

Purses and backpacks filled with goodies were collected and distributed to Family Promise for moms in celebration of Mother's Day.

The annual backpack drive yielded 60 backpacks filled with supplies and 60 "Trapper Keeper" type binders were collected and were divided by Gilbert Elementary School and Family Promise.

A need for cloth masks surfaced due to the pandemic. A team of "mask bandits" as we affectionately named the volunteers, sewed over 250 masks for distribution.

The church's annual Turkey Drive is in the works currently. We request donations from the church members and purchase groceries for a Thanksgiving meal (turkey, pumpkin pie, milk, rolls, vegetables, etc). Gilbert AZcend provide us with the addresses of recipients and church members distribute them the Monday before Thanksgiving.

We provide "Pantry Boxes" for folks who come to the church office requesting assistance. The supplies come from both groceries and monetary donations from members.

A cart to collect groceries for Gilbert Open Arms is housed in the Activity Center. Folks have continued to bring in groceries.

LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	By virtue of other offices:
Chris Odell	Chris Odell			Lay Leader(s)
				Lay Members & Alternate
	Judy Bristow			Church Accountant
Secretary				Finance Rep
Judy Bristow				Generosity Rep
				Trustee Rep
				Staff Parish Relations Rep
				Building Committee Rep
				Scout Rep
				Ministry Team Chairs
				Children's Director
				Youth & Family Director
				Welcome & Connection Dir
				Youth Rep: Maddy Paap

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	Special Appointed Teams Serving Under Trustees
	Laurel Redman	George Daily	Terry Bowers	Columbarium:
	Therese Pineda			Therese Pineda

FINANCE				
Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	By Virtue of Other Offices:
Vicki Hanson	Bruce Bettis	Vicki Hanson	Ken Brooks	Senior Pastor
				Associate Pastor
	Bruce Woolsey	Chris Mendoza	Erik Sharff	Trustee Chair
				SPRC Chair
				Ad Board Chair
				Generosity Chair
				Finance Secretary
				Church Accountant
				Lay Member(s) & Leader(s)
LAY MEMBER OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE				
	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	Alternate:
	Ed Stressman	Sharon Kotsonas	Kitty McGrath	
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT/NOMINATIONS				
Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	By Virtue of Other Office
Pastor Rick	Veronica & George Dailey	Erna Huetima	Joan Krueger	Dir. Welcome & Conn
				Associate Pastor
	Lydia Ramirez		Gayle Disch	Lay Leader(s)

LAY LEADERS

	Members Class of 2020	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
			Sharon Kotsonas	

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	By Virtue of Other Offices:
Ed Stressman	Kevin Boesch	Garin Campbell	Glen Compton	Lay Leader(s)
				Lay Member(s)
	Mark Turner	Ed Stressman	Jo Goslar	
	Matthew Ramirez			

Permanent Endowment Fund Committee

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	By Virtue of Other Offices:
Tom Bristow		Jim Hall	Tom Bristow	<i>Finance Rep</i>
			Gary McGrath	June Morrison
				Member Emeritus

ADULT MINISTRY

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
	Diane Rymer		Elaine Miller	
	Charlotte Hazelrigg		Karen Coleman	

FAMILY MINISTRY

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
Eric & Michelle Butler	Doug & Abigail Rhoden	Lydia Ramirez	Eric & Michelle Butler	
		April & Seth Daugherty	Jim & Lori Wilkins	

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
Brittany Murphy	Brittany Murphy	Debbie Munn	Sini Ouellette	
		Ellie Koenig	Lydia Ramirez	

CONGREGATIONAL CARE (NEW)

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	By Virtue of Other Office
Anita Broughton		Anita Broughton		Comprised of CCM's

INVITATION/WELCOMING

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
Tom McKinley		Jackie Barnhart	Val Kellogg	
			Tom McKinley	

MISSIONS

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
Kim Bowers	Stacy Cantwell	Betty Larson	Elice Provence	Youth Rep to Mission
	Chris Cantwell	Mike Miller	Randy Reed	
	Kim Bowers	Sherrona Johnson	Margie Zeilstra	

Youth Council

Chairperson	Ron Mason	Cindie Rempel	Adam Butler	
Elected at 1st Meeting				
	Janet Bose	Alex Houseman	Alecia Hemingson	
	Melanie Lin	Jenna Bose	Maddy Paap	

PRESCHOOL

Chairperson	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	Preschool Directors
Becky Lewis	Becky Lewis		Linda Hartman	Lora Norris
	Singlia Kopp			Betsy Marlinga

HISTORIAN				
	Members Class of 2021	Members Class of 2022	Members Class of 2023	
	Therese Pineda			
WORSHIP				
Chairperson	AV	Greeters	Ushers	Communion
Linda Martell (2020)	Brian Fischer		Gary McGrath	Paige Cantwell (2021)
At Large	Music Director	Contemporary Music	Liturgists	
David Dustman	Randy Van Der Pol	Randy Van Der Pol	Philip Tesarek (2021)	
Francoise Kaj				
Appointed, Not Elected				
IT:	Phillip Tesarek (serves as IT staff)			
AV:	Brian Fischer (serves as AV staff)			
Kitchen:				
Wednesday Meals:				



First UMC Gilbert 2020 Membership Report to the Annual Charge/Church Conference (CC)

Because of the necessary period of isolation and inability for the church community to gather during the Covid-19 Pandemic, this year's CC Membership Report is skewed

Summary

Members reported last CC (Nov. 12, 2019)	595
Members Received since last CC	+23
Members Removed since last CC	-98
Total Members as of (Nov. 16, 2020)	520

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Reflections/Comments

- This report includes large corrections from legacy membership audit, actioned last year by charge vote.
- Due to COVID-19, the First Gilbert Campus was closed from mid-March 2020 to present.
- Worship moved to a fully online format.
- Following the campus shutdown, new members continued to join and baptisms were performed.

Received into Membership 23

Transfers from other UMC's 18

Richard Curran
Julie Curran
Nicholas Diaz
Jeffrey Hendrickson
Fracoise Kaj
Gloria Kapend-Mpez
Isaiah Kapenda
Magaly Kon
Edwin Lillie
Samantha Mutach
Israel Mutach
Signory K.Mutach
David Paap
Shayla Paap
Madalyn Paap
Nathan Pearce
Bill Warren
Glenda Warren

Affiliates 0

Professions of Faith 5

Lindsay Hydinger
Nicholas Karavakis
Jana Ochs
Randall Vanderpol
Melissa Vanderpol

Confirmands 0

Restored 0

Baptisms [4]

Lindsay Audrey Hydinger
Eliana Sophia Karavakis
Hadley Quinn McGhee
Vivian May Olmstead

Transfers from Non-UMCs 0

Reaffirmations of Faith 0

Removed from Membership 98

Transfers to Other UMCs 2

Karen Libby
Sarah Libby

Transfers to Non-UMCs 5

Jackie Holmberg
Kyle Kurtyka
Sandy Kurtyka
Adriana Kurtyka
Gavin Kurtyka

Withdrawals 8

Malcolm Herring
Rod Mader
Arthur Poeske
Sally Poeske
Ed Stone
Sue Stone
Daniel Vrana
Mary Vrana

Member Deaths 7

Julie Brooks
Dennis Greeley
Margaret Knoll
Nancy Moberg
Leland Morrison
Bonnie Paisley
Diana Ramsey

Non-Member Deaths [4]

Hugh Doss
Ron Goslar
Marilyn Krueger
Noah James Mendoza

Removed by Charge Conference 2019

(via two-year list and charge vote) 20

Kamryn Bayer	Richard Frazier	Sue Rollins
Kelsey Bayer	Rick Frazier	Eric Schmidt
Kendall Bayer	Gary Lang	Jonda Shamsiddeen
Elizabeth Blackledge	Katie Lang	James Shuler
Greg Ford	McKinley Lang	Bob Tognacci
Marie Frazier (Mrs.)	Sharon Poeske	Grant Wagner
Marie Frazier (Miss)	Logan Reynolds	

(via legacy membership records audit and charge vote) 56

Amanda Alibrandi	Megan Foutz	Sean Slamka
Erin Alibrandi	Phyllis Foutz	Megan Spittell
Melody Alibrandi	Megan Gamarra	Akaysha St. Pierre
Phil Alibrandi	Diane Hagenson	Alexis St. Pierre
Brady Anderson	Ramon Miguel Hernandez	Andre St. Pierre
Andrew Ball	Judy Kellogg	Jennifer St. Pierre
Austin Becker	Sarah La Point	Chris Toney
Charles Blackledge	Tanner Lang	Sandra Toney
Steven Blackledge	Alexander Martin	Jennifer Vickman
April Bracht	Amanda Martin	Christian Waechter
David Bracht	Matthew Olson	David Waechter
Chester Brown	Jesse Ossian	Nina Waechter
Mikey Figuero	Skylar Ossian	Susan Waechter
Cheney Flood	Alexandria Rakowski	Ernie Wilkowski
Jennifer Flood	Alma Riedel	Shirley Wilkowski
Madison Flood	Brendon Rizzo	Jim Willis
Taylor Flood	Haley Rizzo	Katherine Willis
Gene Foutz	Sharon Russum	Samantha Willis
Jennifer Foutz	Stacy Schmidt	

Membership Removals to be considered

****Due to COVID-19 complications, do not include 1st and 2nd year removal lists unless important purpose for including is discerned.**

1st Year List

Deferred per Conference recommendation

2nd Year List

Deferred per Conference recommendation



Report of the Finance Committee

The report of the Finance Committee shall be made on this form, or one revised and adapted by the Annual Conference. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and chairperson of the committee on finance

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert Church _____ Charge _____
Central East District Desert Southwest Annual Conference

For the period beginning 11/12/2019 and ending 11/16/2020
DATE OF PRIOR CHARGE CONFERENCE DATE OF CURRENT CHARGE CONFERENCE

I. ORGANIZATION

1.a. Has the committee been organized according to the 2016 *Book of Discipline* (§258.4)? Yes No

b. Names of officers?

Chairperson Brian O'Brien Vice Chairperson _____
Treasurer(s) Casey DeWitt Financial Secretary Samantha Callahan

II. BUDGET AND COMMITMENT PLAN

2.a. Has the committee submitted to the Church Council, or its equivalent, a complete budget for the ensuing year? Yes No

If not, why not?

b. Did the committee give the Church Council an opportunity to request financial support for recommended ministries (§258.4)? Yes No

If not, why not?

3. How frequently does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer send members and contributors regular reports of their giving?

Monthly Quarterly Semi-annually Annually No, we do not send reports

4. Is giving by individual participants in the local church regularly reviewed? Yes No;

If not, why not?

5. What are the plans for raising sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the Church Council (§258.4)?

6. Does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer report regularly to the Church Council on the giving trends in the church/charge? Yes No

If not, why not?

III. THE HANDLING OF CHURCH FUNDS

7. Does the Treasurer regularly make reports to the Committee on Finance and the Church Council on the financial position of the church (§258.4b)? Yes No

If not, why not?

8. Are all benevolences and other connectional funds remitted monthly to the conference treasurer (§258.4b)?

Yes No

If not, why not?

9.a. What bank(s) have been designated by the Church Council as a depository (§258.4d)?

see attached

b. Are all accounts FDIC insured and in amounts at or below the current FDIC insurable limit? Yes No

If not, why not?

Our accounts at the UMFCU are currently cumulatively above the \$250,000 because funds are being held there to pay renovation bills that are currently coming in. Once the renovation projects are complete, the funds at UMFCU will be distributed among our other bank accounts in order to be below the \$250,000 threshold at each institution.

c. Are all accounts in the name of the church? Yes No

If not, why not?

10.a. Has the committee established written financial policies to document the internal controls of the local church (§258.4d)? (*Attach as a supplement.*) Yes No

b. Have these policies been reviewed by the committee and found to be adequate and effective (§258.4d)?

Yes No

11. Are the church offerings counted by a counting committee in accordance with the mandates of the *Discipline* (§258.4a)? Yes No

If not, why not?

12. Are all funds deposited promptly in accordance with procedures developed by the Committee on Finance (¶258.4a, d)? Yes No

If not, why not?

13. Are financial officers of the church bonded (¶258.4b)? Yes No

If not, why not?

14.a. Have the financial records of the church and all its organizations been audited for the prior fiscal year (¶258.4c)? Yes No

b. If not, why not?

Due to the COVID 19 we were unable to schedule an audit. Once restrictions are eased we will schedule

c. Were there any recommendations or exceptions? Yes No

d. If there were recommendations or exceptions, how has the church addressed them?

Signed 

Printed Name: BRIAN O'BRIEN

Date: 10-30-2020

Report of the Finance Committee 2017-2020

Prepared and edited by the General Council on Finance and Administration and authorized as the official form for this purpose.

Report of the Finance Committee Attachment

Section III

9.a. What bank(s) have been designated by the Church Council as a depository (§1258.4d)?

- United Methodist Federal Credit Union
- Goldwater Bank
- Live Oak Bank
- First Internet Bank

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

November 2, 2020

The Endowment Committee has continued its review of the Endowment documents as well as brochures, which are designed to inform the congregation about the Endowment fund. Desert Southwest Methodist Foundation, the fund custodian, is assisting the committee with developing documents which will explain how people may contribute to the fund.

We have also been working on a list of appropriate items that could be funded by contributions by congregants or others to the Endowment Fund. Our aim is to coordinate our efforts with the Stewardship Committee.

In addition, the Desert Southwest Methodist Foundation has provided advice to our committee on how to move forward as well as providing specific options to our congregation with regard to contributing to the permanent endowment for Gilbert First United Methodist Church.

Future steps include completing all the necessary information to be given to the congregation along with an explanation of the mechanisms for providing funds for the Endowment Fund. Currently, there is a preliminary list of major ministry avenues or projects within our church to which funds may be directed.

The Endowment Fund is fully functional at this time and people can donate funds to it at any time.

Tom Bristow, Chair

Statement of activity in support of ongoing ministry candidate status for Sylvia Harris

Over the last year, I have continued in my studies for my Master of Divinity degree. I am on track to complete with my degree requirements in the summer of 2021. I have continued in leadership at First United Methodist Church of Gilbert through both internship opportunities as well as my staff position as Director of Welcome and Connection. I have had the opportunity to give several sermons, serve as worship leader repeatedly, serve several times as liturgist, and work with the planning, development, and implementation of worship during the pandemic. I have continued to work with the Renovation Team as well as beginning to work with the Covid Leadership Team to develop plans for reopening the local church. I had the honor to represent the church at the conference level, serving as a voting delegate to the 2020 Desert Southwest Annual Conference in June. Beyond the local church, I have been serving on the conference's Commission on Religion and Race since late January. In May 2020 I officially changed my ministry track to the Elder track and will be pursuing appointment to a local church in July 2021. As I continue to follow my call to ministry, I want to say thank you to the congregation of First United Methodist Church of Gilbert for their ongoing prayers, support, and love for myself and my family. We could not be faithful to God's call in my life without the many ways you have encouraged and loved us.

Candidate for Ministry

Call Statement, Introductory Paragraph

My name is Sharon Kotsonas, I am a sales professional, Lay Leader, and founder of Weekly Collective Volunteers. My family, my home church and my community are especially important to me. Outside of my full-time job, my time is dedicated mostly to my family and Weekly Collective Volunteer events. I am blessed to serve my home church and community, making it my mission to be an instrument of love and peace and reconciliation.

My Call to Ministry

Discerning my call to ministry has become less about *how* and more about *what*. Nowadays, I am less concerned about *how* I will minister to the hurting world around me, which tittle or credentials will I need, what qualifications do I need, etc. Instead, I am more concerned with *what* can I do, what can I say, how may I use what I have to help those around me who are suffering greatly. Current COVID cases are on the rise, affecting many families in our community. How might the church help? How might Weekly Collective help? What can I do to help? Those are the questions lingering on my mind. I feel call to action.

Understanding My Call

I relate my call to Evangelism. I know without a doubt that God is inviting me to continue to minister to his people by offering love, hope and support for their faith journey. I am called to model my faith and belief system in a matter that others can identify and apply into their own lives.

My Support System

In 2020 most of my support system has been consistently through my immediate family. The current pandemic, resulting in church closure and other opportunities cancelled; has reduced my support system.

I. Fruitfulness in Ministry

- A. How have you made and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? Please share some recent examples.** I nurture the young members in our congregation every Sunday during the Children's Moments by bringing Bible lessons, prayers, hands-on demonstrations, real life applications, and other practical ways to be Christ's hands and feet in the world. I challenge them to practice love, compassion, and forgiveness at home, at school and in their communities to show others that they belong to Christ.
- B. What have you learned about yourself and God through your service?** I have learned that with God all things really and truly are possible. That I am more than a believer in Christ – I am an ambassador of Christ, proudly wearing the helmet of salvation and the sandals of peace for his good works. If we are willing to allow God to use us for his purpose, He will use us, and He will strengthen us for the task. The greatest gift we can give God is our service, just as Christ came as a servant to do the will of the Father, so should we serve others.

The Moral and Social Responsibility of Licensed and Ordained Ministers ¶310.2d.

Candidates seeking to become certified for licensed or ordained ministry shall... agree, for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness of the gospel, and in consideration of their influence as clergy, to make a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life as set forth in ¶¶ 103-105; 160-166, and to this end they shall agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, integrity in all personal relationships, fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singleness, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God

What is your understanding of this agreement? As I seek a formal blessing from this committee to advance in becoming licensed for Evangelism, now more than ever I am expected to conduct myself respectably and with integrity in all matters, bringing honor to God. I understand the need to care for my health and my body for the work he has entrusted me. My dealings, actions and words will testify of God's work in me; therefore, the best service is my continued growth in knowledge of God and His grace. I understand and accept the guidelines and standards set in the Book of Discipline.

In Christ,

Sharon Kotsonas

Lay Leader, First UMC of Gilbert



CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARGE CONFERENCE

Report for year ending 2020

Part 1) DATA ON THE CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

Name (Mrs. ___ Ms. ___ Mr.) Philip S. Tesarek
 Address 1612 E Jacinto Ave
 City/State/Zip Mesa, AZ 85204
 Telephone (H) 480-510-4588 (C) 480-510-4588
 E-mail ptesarek@gilbertumc.org
 Name of District East
 Name of Church First United Methodist Church of Gilbert
 Church Address 331 S Cooper Rd
 City/State/Zip Gilbert, AZ 85233
 Church Telephone 480-892-9166

(Part 2) STATUS OF THE CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

For initial application as a Certified Lay Minister ()

1. Are you currently a Certified Lay Servant? ___yes ___no
2. What year did you complete your Basic Course? _____
3. What year did you complete your Advanced Course for certification as a lay servant? _____
4. What was the title of your Advanced Course? _____
5. Which of the following required modules have been completed?
 Module 1: Call and Covenant for Ministry ___ Module 2: The Practice of Ministry ___
 Module 3: Organization for Ministry ___ Module 4: Connection for Ministry ___

(Upon completion of the required course work and after completion of appropriate screening and assessment, the CLM candidate requests a letter of recommendation from his/her District Superintendent. The CLM candidate then applies in writing and appears before, the district committee on ordained ministry for interview and recommendation for certification.)

For recertification as a Certified Lay Minister

1. What year did you first become certified as a Lay Minister? 2019
2. Date of last review of CLM status: May 2019 Approved: yes ___no
3. What year did you complete your last approved continuing education event? October 2018
4. What was the title of your last approved continuing education event? CLM Module 4. New: Nov 2020: "Teaching Adults"

(Upon completion of an approved continuing education event and ministry review by his/her church council or charge conference WHERE MEMBERSHIP IS HELD, or if under assignment WHERE ASSIGNED, the CLM requests a letter of recommendation from his/her District Superintendent. The CLM candidate then applies in writing and appears before the district committee on ordained ministry for interview and recommendation for re-certification.)

(Part 3) REQUEST OF THE CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

I request a recommendation from my pastor and church council or charge conference to become or continue as a Certified Lay Minister.

Date October 1, 2020 Certified Lay Servant/Certified Lay Minister 

For those not currently under assignment:

() I request a ministry review by my church council/charge conference where my membership is held. *(every two years)*

For those currently under assignment:

() I request a ministry review by the church council/charge conference where I am assigned. *(every two years)*

Date _____ Certified Lay Minister _____

(Part 4) RECOMMENDATION OF THE PASTOR (for initial application)

I recommend concurrence with the request of this person to become or continue as a Certified Lay Minister.

Date 11/5/20 Pastor Rev. Rick Casbolt

(Part 5) RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL/CHARGE CONFERENCE

The church council or charge conference of _____ (church/charge) recommends the above person become or continue as a Certified Lay Minister.

Date _____ Church Council Chair _____

(Part 6) MINISTRIES OF THE CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

During the past year, I have participated in **caring ministries** as follows:

- served as a volunteer in a care-giving institution
- provided one-on-one caring
- at a hospital, nursing home, or to a shut-in
- in membership/evangelism visitation

- served in caring/outreach projects (food pantry, prison ministry, etc)
- other caring activities (Please list) Scouting for Food

During the past year I have participated in **leading ministries** as follows:

- served as member of committee, board, commission, council, task force, etc.
- as a volunteer at a community agency
- at my local church
- beyond my local church

on my District Conference _____ Jurisdiction _____ General Church level

- other leading activities (Please list) Scouting Chairman for Desert Southwest Conference UMC; Unit Leader for Boy Scouts of America

During the past year I have participated in **communicating ministries** as follows:

- brought message in 2 worship services
- served as worship leader in 4-6 services
- delivered _____ devotional messages

taught 1-2 classes

shared my faith story _____

- other speaking activities (Please list) teaching Safe Sanctuary; coordinating Liturgists

During the past year I have participated in additional opportunities for ministry as follows:

Liturgist Coordinator; Scouting Ministry Coordinator; IT Manager

(Part 7) PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH BY THE CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

In what activities have you engaged and/or what books have you read or used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life; improve your understanding of the Bible; improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church; and to improve your skills in caring, leading, communicating and speaking?

sermon prep with exegetical commentaries on Mark, Matthew; personal reading and studying; Wesley Study Bible; BeADisciple Course on "Teaching Adults"

(Part 8) FEEDBACK BY THE CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

Do you feel called to be in service in any area of ministry, either in the church or outside the church, in which you are not currently involved? yes no If yes, please list those areas below:

I would like to preach more often, locally and as fill-in at other churches. I'm very active with Scouting Ministry,

(July 2017)



**LAY SPEAKER
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARGE CONFERENCE
Initial Application or Request for Renewal**

Report for year ending 2020

Part 1) DATA ON THE LAY SPEAKER

Name (Mrs. ___ Ms. ___ Mr. X) Philip S. Tesarek
Address 1612 E Jacinto Ave
City/State/Zip Mesa, AZ 85204
Telephone (H) 480-510-4588 (C) 480-510-4588
E-mail ptesarek@gilbertumc.org
Name of District East
Name of Church First United Methodist Church of Gilbert
Church Address 331 S Cooper Rd
City/State/Zip Gilbert, AZ 85233
Church Telephone 480-892-9166

(Part 2) STATUS OF THE LAY SPEAKER

For initial application as a Lay Speaker ()

1. Are you currently a Certified Lay Servant? ___yes ___no
2. What year did you complete your Basic Course? _____
3. What year did you complete your Advanced Course for certification as a lay servant? _____
4. What was the title of your Advanced Course? _____
5. Which of the following required Lay Speaking courses have been completed?
Leading Worship ___ Leading Prayer ___ Discovering Spiritual Gifts ___
Preaching ___ United Methodist Heritage ___ United Methodist Polity ___

(Upon completion of the required course work, the Lay Speaker candidate will be examined by the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries and recommended to the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries to be considered for certification.)

For renewal as a Lay Speaker

1. What year did you first become certified as a Lay Speaker? April 2018
2. Date of last review of Lay Speaker status: October 2018 Approved: X yes ___no
3. What year did you complete your last Advanced Course? 2018. New: Nov 2020: "Teaching Adults"
4. What was the title of your last Advanced Course? Leading Worship. New: Nov 2020: "Teaching Adults"

(Part 3) REQUEST OF THE LAY SPEAKER

I request recommendation of my pastor and my charge conference to begin/renew as a Lay Speaker for the ensuing year.

Date October 1, 2020 Lay Servant [Signature]

(Part 4) RECOMMENDATION OF THE PASTOR

I recommend concurrence with the request of this person to begin/renew as a Lay Speaker for the ensuing year.

Date 11/5/20 Pastor Rev. Rick Corbett

(Part 5) RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL/CHARGE CONFERENCE

The church council/charge conference of First United Methodist Church of Gilbert (church/charge) recommends the above person begin/renew as a Lay Speaker for the ensuing year.

Date _____ Church Council Chair or District Superintendent _____

(To be completed by those requesting renewal as a Lay Speaker)

(Part 6) MINISTRIES BY THE LAY SPEAKER

During the past year I have participated in *caring ministries* as follows:

- served as a volunteer in a care-giving institution
- provided one-on-one caring
- at a hospital, nursing home, or to a shut-in
- in membership/evangelism visitation
- served in caring/outreach projects (food pantry, prison ministry, etc)
- other caring activities (Please list) Scouting for Food

During the past year I have participated in *leading ministries* as follows:

- served as member of committee, board, commission, council, task force, etc.
- as a volunteer at a community agency
- at my local church
- beyond my local church
- on my District Conference Jurisdiction General Church level
- other leading activities (Please list) Scouting Chairman for Desert Southwest Conference UMC; Unit Leader for Boy Scouts of America

During the past year I have participated in *communicating ministries* as follows:

- brought message in 2 worship services
- served as worship leader in 4-6 services
- delivered devotional messages
- taught 1-2 classes
- shared my faith story
- other speaking activities (Please list) teaching Safe Sanctuary; coordinating Liturgists

During the past year I have participated in additional opportunities for ministry as follows:

Liturgist Coordinator; Scouting Ministry Coordinator; IT Manager

(Part 7) PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH BY THE LAY SPEAKER

In what activities have you engaged and/or what books have you read or used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life; improve your understanding of the Bible; improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church; and to improve your skills in caring, leading, communicating and speaking?

sermon prep with exegetical commentaries on Mark, Matthew; personal reading and studying; Wesley Study Bible; BeADisciple Course on "Teaching Adults"

(Part 8) FEEDBACK BY THE LAY SPEAKER

Do you feel called to be in service in any area of ministry, either in the church or outside the church, in which you are not currently involved? yes no If yes, please list those areas below:

I would like to preach more often, locally and as fill-in at other churches. I'm very active with Scouting Ministry,

What additional training or support do you need or would suggest to further your ministry:

BeADisciple has excellent courses and diversity

Give any recommendations you have for improving Lay Servant Ministries in your District or Conference:

More education to clergy and DS's about using Lay Servants, Lay Speakers, and Lay Ministers. More visibility needed at Conference

Note: District Directors are encouraged to respond to any comments within this section.

NOTICE: After this form is completed and signed by those listed above, the Recording Secretary of the Charge Conference is requested to reproduce THREE copies: (1)Lay Speaker, (2)District Director of Lay Servant Ministries, (3)District Superintendent. The Recording Secretary of the Charge Conference keeps the ORIGINAL.

(Revised September 2016)



**CERTIFIED LAY SERVANT
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARGE CONFERENCE
Initial Application or Request for Renewal**

Report for year ending 2020

Part 1) DATA ON THE LAY SERVANT

Name (Mrs. Ms. Mr.) Sharon Katsonas
Address 3861 E. Baranca Rd.
City/State/Zip Gilbert AZ 85297
Telephone (H) _____ (C) 480.223.7863
E-mail Sharon Katsonas@gmail.com
Name of District East
Name of Church First UMC of Gilbert
Church Address 331 S. Cooper Rd.
City/State/Zip Gilbert AZ 85233
Church Telephone 480.892.9162

(Part 2) STATUS OF THE LAY SERVANT

For initial application as a Certified Lay Servant

1. What year did you complete your Basic Course? _____
2. What year did you complete your Advanced Course? _____
3. What was the title of your Advanced Course? _____

For renewal as a Certified Lay Servant

1. What year did you complete your last Advanced Course? 2016
2. What was the title of your last Advanced Course? Go Preach

(Part 3) REQUEST OF THE LAY SERVANT

I request recommendation of my pastor and my church council/charge conference to begin/renew as a Certified Lay Servant for the ensuing year.

Date 9/30/2020 Lay Servant Sharon Katsonas

(Part 4) RECOMMENDATION OF THE PASTOR

I recommend concurrence with the request of this person to begin/renew as a Certified Lay Servant for the ensuing year.

Date 10/6/20 Pastor Pastor Rich Casbolt

(Part 5) RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL/CHARGE CONFERENCE

The church council/charge conference of _____ (church/charge)
recommends the above person begin/renew as a Certified Lay Servant for the ensuing year.

Date _____ Church Council Chair or District Superintendent _____

(To be completed by those requesting renewal as a Certified Lay Servant)

(Part 6) MINISTRIES BY THE LAY SERVANT

During the past year I have participated in **caring ministries** as follows:

- served as a volunteer in a care-giving institution
- provided one-on-one caring
- at a hospital, nursing home, or to a shut-in
- in membership/evangelism visitation
- served in caring/outreach projects (food pantry, prison ministry, etc)
- other caring activities (Please list) Community food drive, suicide prevention support (Town of Gilbert)

During the past year I have participated in **leading ministries** as follows:

- served as member of committee, board, commission, council, task force, etc. Town of Gilbert
- as a volunteer at a community agency Weekly Collective LLC
- at my local church
- beyond my local church
- on my District Conference Jurisdiction General Church level
- other leading activities (Please list) Lay Leader - SPAC & Finance Annual Conference, AD. Conf.

During the past year I have participated in **communicating ministries** as follows:

- served as worship leader in 20+ services
- delivered 30+ devotional messages Children's Moments
- taught _____ classes
- shared my faith story 2
- brought message in 1 worship services
- other speaking activities (Please list) Sub for Pastor @ Foothills UMC

During the past year I have participated in additional opportunities for ministry as follows:

Leadership Institute 2019 & 2020

(Part 7) PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH BY THE LAY SERVANT

In what activities have you engaged and/or what books have you read or used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life; improve your understanding of the Bible; improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church; and to improve your skills in caring, leading, communicating and speaking?

Read Dare to Lead Book to help improve caring & leading skills.

(Part 8) FEEDBACK BY THE LAY SERVANT

Do you feel called to be in service in any area of ministry, either in the church or outside the church, in which you are not currently involved? yes no If yes, please list those areas below:

What additional training or support do you need or would suggest to further your ministry:

Give any recommendations you have for improving Lay Servant Ministries in your District or Conference.

Note: District Directors are encouraged to respond to any comments within this section.

NOTICE: After this form is completed and signed by those listed above, the Recording Secretary of the Church Council or Charge Conference is requested to reproduce THREE copies: (1) Lay Servant, (2) District Director of Lay Servant Ministries, (3) District Superintendent. The Recording Secretary of the Church Council or Charge Conference keeps the ORIGINAL.



**CERTIFIED LAY SERVANT
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARGE CONFERENCE
Initial Application or Request for Renewal**

Report for year ending 2020

Part 1) DATA ON THE LAY SERVANT

Name (Mrs. Ms. Mr.) Mike Miller
Address 2308 F. Austin Dr.
City/State/Zip Gilbert, AZ, 85296
Telephone (H) 480 632 9060 (C) 602 999 7554
E-mail jmiller49@cox.net
Name of District East District
Name of Church First UMC of Gilbert
Church Address 331 S Cooper Rd
City/State/Zip Gilbert, AZ 85233
Church Telephone 480 892 9166

(Part 2) STATUS OF THE LAY SERVANT

For initial application as a Certified Lay Servant

1. What year did you complete your Basic Course? 2016
2. What year did you complete your Advanced Course? _____
3. What was the title of your Advanced Course? _____

For renewal as a Certified Lay Servant

1. What year did you complete your last Advanced Course? 2018
2. What was the title of your last Advanced Course? Leading worship

(Part 3) REQUEST OF THE LAY SERVANT

I request recommendation of my pastor and my church council/charge conference to begin/renew as a Certified Lay Servant for the ensuing year.

Date 9/30/20 Lay Servant Mike Miller

(Part 4) RECOMMENDATION OF THE PASTOR

I recommend concurrence with the request of this person to begin/renew as a Certified Lay Servant for the ensuing year.

Date 10/6/20 Pastor Pastor Rich Casbolt

(Part 5) RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL/CHARGE CONFERENCE

The church council/charge conference of _____ (church/charge)
recommends the above person begin/renew as a Certified Lay Servant for the ensuing year.

Date _____ Church Council Chair or District Superintendent _____

(To be completed by those requesting renewal as a Certified Lay Servant)

(Part 6) MINISTRIES BY THE LAY SERVANT

During the past year I have participated in **caring ministries** as follows:

- served as a volunteer in a care-giving institution
- provided one-on-one caring
- at a hospital, nursing home, or to a shut-in
- in membership/evangelism visitation
- served in caring/outreach projects (food pantry, prison ministry, etc)
- other caring activities (Please list) See BACK OF Page For Missions
PRAYER MINISTER

During the past year I have participated in **leading ministries** as follows:

- served as member of committee, board, commission, council, task force, etc.
- as a volunteer at a community agency
- at my local church
- beyond my local church
- on my District Conference Jurisdiction General Church level
- other leading activities (Please list) Setup, Serve, Cleanup Communion

During the past year I have participated in **communicating ministries** as follows:

- served as worship leader in _____ services
- delivered _____ devotional messages
- taught ALPHA classes
- shared my faith story _____
- brought message in _____ worship services
- other speaking activities (Please list) _____

During the past year I have participated in additional opportunities for ministry as follows:

(Part 7) PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH BY THE LAY SERVANT

In what activities have you engaged and/or what books have you read or used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life; improve your understanding of the Bible; improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church; and to improve your skills in caring, leading, communicating and speaking?

(Part 8) FEEDBACK BY THE LAY SERVANT

Do you feel called to be in service in any area of ministry, either in the church or outside the church, in which you are not currently involved? yes no If yes, please list those areas below:

What additional training or support do you need or would suggest to further your ministry:

Give any recommendations you have for improving Lay Servant Ministries in your District or Conference.

Note: District Directors are encouraged to respond to any comments within this section.

NOTICE: After this form is completed and signed by those listed above, the Recording Secretary of the Church Council or Charge Conference is requested to reproduce THREE copies: (1) Lay Servant, (2) District Director of Lay Servant Ministries, (3) District Superintendent. The Recording Secretary of the Church Council or Charge Conference keeps the ORIGINAL.

(Revised April 2014)

3 day WMCOR Training in Phoenix
WMCOR Relief Mission Tulsa, OK
Sipan Int'l Mission Trip (2)
Jan 2020 & March 2020

Others *

Miko Miller
9-30-2020