The Evangel First United Methodist Church of Gilbert



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CHURCH OF GILBERT 331 S Cooper Road Gilbert, AZ 85233 480-892-9166

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm Friday by appointment only

Attendance June 21st....146

Virtual viewing 112



Our New Secretary

Kristin Vanden Branden

Born to Dave and Gayle Vanden Branden in upstate Washington during her father's time in the Army, she moved around quite a bit during her youth. She is the oldest of 2. Her younger brother is married with 2 children.

Kristin began a career in the Airlines as a Flight Attendant in her early 20's. The first 2 airlines she flew for were small charter companies that both went bankrupt but she gained a tremendous amount of knowledge that most people never experience in a lifetime.. having been chosen as only 1 of 9 people to certify all of the aircraft for the first charter she worked for. The second company was the sister company to Carnival Cruise Lines and since Kristin isn't much of a "cruiser" she gave all of her free cruises each year (4 in total) to her brother. He and 7 of his closest friends cruised around Mexico and the Caribbean like the kings they "think" they are.. believing that they hit the jackpot!

Kristin was eventually ready for the big leagues and applied to major airlines. She was hired by Southwest Airlines and the rest is history. 26 years later and A BUNCH of stories under her belt, she is still employed with them but not flying anymore. One of the perks of "seniority"!

Kristin is absolutely thrilled to be at First Gilbert and looks forward to meeting everyone. She is enjoying her new pace and living life "on the ground". She lives in Mesa with her best friend Holland, who is a strawberry blonde, energetic, 5 year old Goldendoodle.

Kristin gives ALL the glory to God for where she is in her life and trusts HIM in ALL things and knows that life is nothing without HIM!

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Sunday July 30,2023 9:30 -10:30am

Please join us for our 1st ever Back to School Bash! We will have fun games and surprises for the kids as we celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of the new school year! Preschool -thru 6th grade in the Activity Center for our Back to school Bash!



Contact Pastor Adriana at pastoradriana@gilbertumc.org

Summer Adult Ministry Classes

We are winding down with the Summer programming. Check out the next page for what is coming in the "Fall."

Sunrise Assisted Living Facility, Thursdays (1st & 3rd Thursday at 10am), led by Adriana:

August 3rd—The Walk, Chapter 1 August 17th—The Walk, Chapter 2

First Gilbert Sunday School, Sundays at 9:45am in room 130. Ongoing class facilitated by the Choir team. Please note that this class will be on hiatus during the summer months.

First Gilbert Sunday School at 11am in room 136, Facilitated by Pastor Adriana. We are continuing the study called The Walk by Adam Hamilton. This study looks at five essential practices of the Christian life. A great class that can be dropped into for an individual session.

August 6th—The Walk, Chapter 5 August 13th - The Walk, Chapter 6

First Gilbert Wednesday Night Study at 6:30pm in room 130, Facilitated by Pastor Rick. Please note that this class will be on hiatus during the summer months. A new class will begin Wednesday, August 30th. More information to come soon!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 9:30am, led by Sonja Ruhland.

New study begins August 8th. The new study is Acts: Awakening to God in Everyday Life by Melissa Spoelstra. Any questions, please contact Sonja.Ruhland@gmail.com.

Be the ONE!

Here are a few opportunities to volunteer and serve a ministry here at First Gilbert.

- Participate on the Adult Ministry team.
- Help on a Sunday morning, setting up/cleaning up items for coffee hour in-between services.
- Lead a Men's Bible Study group.
- Man the "Red Welcome Cart" as people arrive for the 8am service.
- Volunteer to help with upcoming Trunk or Treat.
- Provide transportation to church to someone who can not get to church but really wants to be present.

For any of these items please contact Pastor Adriana at PastorAdriana@gilbertumc.org.

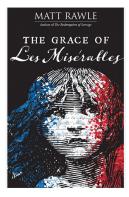


Fall Adult Ministry Programming

It is strange to talk about "Fall" when it is so hot! Below are the plans that are confirmed. There will be information as additional decisions are made. The Wednesday Night Potluck will kick-off this new Fall Season. *It will be Wednesday, August 30th dinner anytime between 5:30pm-6:30pm*. Choir and classes begin on that same evening. The Fall Potluck dates will be the last Wednesday of each month (August 30th, September 27th, October 25th, and November 29th).

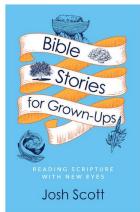
The Grace of Les Miserables

Victor Hugo's Les Miserables is a truly epic story. In this seven week study *The Grace of Les Miserables*, author and pastor Matt Rawle dives into six ideals found in the story – grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope – each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together out in the world. This study will kick-off with a screening of this classic musical. The class will watch the 2012 version featuring Hugh Jackman, Anne Hathaway, Russell Crow, Amanda Seyfried, Helen Bonham Carter and more. This class will be led by Jan Casebolt. Study books are available, just let the office know if you need one.



Thursday, September 7th 6:30pm– Watch Les Miserables Thursday, September 14th 6:30pm– Grace Thursday, September 21st 6:30pm– Justice Thursday, September 28th 6:30pm– Poverty Thursday, October 5th 6:30pm– Revolution Thursday, October 12th – No Class Thursday, October 19th 6:30pm– Love Thursday, October 26th 6:30pm– Hope

In *Bible Stories for Grown-Ups: Reading Scripture with New Eyes* pastor Josh Scott looks at familiar Bible stories and reveals new details and interpretations for an adult audience. This sex-week Bible study will consider stories many read as children including Noah's Ark, the binding of Isaac, Jonah and the big fish, Jesus and Zacchaeus, Jesus healing a blind man, and the parable of the talents. Scott reimagines these stories and opens new visions for readers to understand well known pieces of Scripture in our current cultural environment. This class will be led by pastor Adriana Hernandez. Study books are available, just let the office (or Adriana) know if you need one. This class is held on Sundays at 11am.



Sunday, September 10th 11am– Chapter 1 Sunday, September 17th 11am– Chapter 2 Sunday, September 24th 11am– Chapter 3 Sunday, October 1st 11am– Chapter 4 Sunday, October 8th – No Class Sunday, October 15th 11am– Chapter 5 Sunday, October 22nd 11am– Chapter 6



SSP Stockholder Luncheon August 13, 2023 In Activity Center

All are invited. This luncheon is a Thank You for all who invested in the youth for SSP this summer. Join us for a light lunch, homemade desserts, a Video presentation from SSP and stories from the youth. We hope to see you there after church on Sunday 8/13!

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sions@gilbertumc.org



Summer-time Mission Opportunities

Trapper-Keeper Drive: This year's drive was a success! School supplies are being purchased and delivered to Gilbert Elementary. This congregations generous hearts donated almost \$1,000.00. Thank you for your faithful giving!

Heat Center Collection Items: Beginning July 23rd—August 27th, the Mission Team will be collecting bottled water and sunscreen. Each Sunday, these items can be dropped off in the Narthex (entrance to Sanctuary) or dropped off at the church office. These items will be distributed to local Heat Centers that provide



supplies to homeless individuals during these critically hot months in Arizona. Donations will be distributed to the Justa Center and the Wesley UMC Heat Center.

Family Promise: The Mission Team is striving to figure out all the components so we could be ready to host at least one week in 2024 for Family Promise. This is a week where we host families who are working towards there goal of having their own place to live. During the week we host the overnight and provide meals to families. If this interests you at all or if you have questions about how to help please contact Pastor Adriana at PastorAdriana@gilbertumc.org.

Earth Care: Summer time are the driest months. Here are some water-saving tips. Instead of using the garbage disposal for produce scraps, compost them. Or better yet, upcycle when possible. Apple peels, overripe bananas, and pineapple cores made delicious smoothies. Carrot trimmings, onion skins, herb stems, tomato and pepper cores, etc, added to veg cooking liquid, then strained , make a great stock for soup or rice. Keep a freezer container to add to over a few weeks, and make you stock all at once. Your disposal will last longer too! This tip and others can be found at dscumc.org/ committee/earth-care/. Our Desert Southwest Conference has a team that is focused on Earth Care. This site also has information on signing up for their newsletter and how to get involved.

5 Ways to Stay Hydrated in the Arizona Heat

According to the Arizona Department of Health Services, on average, 1400+ residents will end up in the hospital this summer due to heat-related illnesses. Let's make sure you are not one of them! Staying hydrated during the summer is critical. Dehydration occurs when you lose more fluid than you take in, which can seriously impact your body's normal functions. As we get older, our body's natural thirst mechanisms can begin to fail, which makes dehydration more like-

ly.

The six most common signs of dehydration in adults according to the Mayo Clinic are:

- Extreme thirst
- Less frequent urination
- Dark-colored urine
- Fatigue
- Dizziness
- Confusion

1) Here are some common-sense, and easy to remember ways to stay hydrated: 1) Drink water before you get thirsty. If you wait until you are thirsty, you have already allowed yourself to become dehydrated. Anticipate the need for more water in your diet this summer. Try beginning your day with a 16 oz. glass of water and consider skipping your coffee and drinks with alcohol, because both promote fluid loss. How much water should you drink daily? Calculate ½ your body weight in ounces (e.g., a 130 lb. woman should drink at least 65 ounces a day). And if you are outside or exercising in the heat, add 12 ounces every 30 minutes. Most of all, pay attention to how you are feeling.

2) Bring water with you EVERYWHERE you go

Whether you are heading out for a walk, hike, swim, or drive, bring your water bottle. You may not realize it, but in our dry heat your sweat is evaporating constantly and quickly, so you must replenish it. If your activity level is going to be moderate to high, consider replacing water with a sports drink to replace the sodium, chloride and potassium lost when you sweat.



3) Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables

Fruits and vegetables contain water, nutrients, fiber and potassium. They are smart dietary choices to supplement your water intake. Processed foods and baked goods have minimal water content.

4) Make hydration a habit

We are creatures of habit. So why not incorporate water consumption with everyday activities. Drink water before and after every meal. Drink water before and after meetings. And definitely drink a glass of after going to the bathroom.

5) Take notes, if your body requires 65+ ounces of water a day, monitor it. Keep a pen and paper handy and track how much you are drinking and how it makes you feel. Do this until you truly understand what it takes to reach your daily water intake and wellness goals.

Look out for heat stroke symptoms, too

Heat stroke is a serious and potentially deadly condition caused by our bodies overheating. This can happen as a result of too much exposure to high temperatures or to excess physical exertion that raises our body temperature to 104 F (40 C) or higher.

Symptoms include:

- A throbbing headache
- Dizziness
- Muscle cramps
- Nausea
- Disorientation or confusion
- Lack of sweating

When to seek help?

If you are experiencing signs of dehydration or heat stroke, stop what you are doing. Seek a cool location. Drink water. Rest. If your symptoms persist or worsen, seek medical attention immediately.

Have fun and be safe!

Plan outdoor activities in the morning or after the sun sets

Protect your skin with a wide-brimmed hat, and loose-fitting clothing with long sleeves

Use sunscreen

Protect your eyes with UV blocking sunglasses

Take regular breaks to hydrate and cool off

Check weather conditions every day (and set weather alerts on your phone) to

make sure there's not an impending summer storm, which often brings with it lightning and flash floods.

Even during the hottest months in Arizona, there are plenty of opportunities to have fun! Explore art galleries, visit a shaded farmer's market, catch a movie, or enjoy wine tastings, concerts, cultural events and so much more.





Lisa DePalma, Director www.gilbertpreschool.com 480-892-9166





We have some exciting things happening in preschool in August! We look forward to seeing both returning and new families and starting a very blessed year together.

Parent/Tot class- Your 2-year-old can come to preschool, with the comfort of their own special adult! More information and details to come!

3's and Pre-K – Our wonderful 3's program is waiting for you! We have openings for the upcoming school year. Our Pre-K is full but we are still giving tours and have a waiting list started. Please contact Lisa DePalma today for information and a tour! <u>depalma@gilbertumc.org</u> or call 480 892-9166 ext.212

Open House/Meet the Teachers- Thursday, July 27th 5-7pm.

Enrolled 3 and 4 year olds and their families, meet your teachers and classmates! Check your summer email letter or call the preschool office to find out which day your class is coming! We'll have school t-shirts on sale at Open House!



Like us! - send us feedback and "Like" us on our Facebook page: FUMC of Gilbert Preschool.



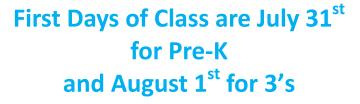
Community Rewards Program

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 **FrysCommunityRewards.com**, log in to your account, scroll down to community rewards, and type in **80635** and click save. You're all set! Your savings help us to earn money for our wonderful program. Thank you!

Back to School Time-

How can we make the transition into a school routine easier on the kids and on us? Well, start today:

- Set out clothes the night before
- Get up at the same time each morning
- Give everyone a morning hug
- Walk through the steps together to get the kids ready, gradually having them take on one responsibility at a time themselves. It's ok if their hair is combed in a funny way or their hairclips don't match their shirt!
- Sit down and eat a healthy breakfast
- Brush teeth ... Yeah! What a great start to the day!





If you have any questions about the preschool, please email preschool@gilbertumc.org or call 480-892-9166. Lisa DePalma or Ellie Koenig would love to speak with you!

August 2023 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

2023 Church Camp Pictures



Our kids had an amazing time on Mingus Mountain At church camp!!









Weds Wilds at 6:30pm in room 205 Kinder-6th graders. Register online On our website. We need this to be prepared for the children please.



Mission: water bottle collection



Janelle Chiricuzio, Director children ministry@gilbertumc.org



Jr. High Sunday School Room #200 with Ron During the 10am Service Sr High Sunday school in Sr high room #201-202 with Ms. Cindie

Next weekend, July 30th*** The Youth will be helping out with Children's Ministries "Back to School Bash" in the Activity Center during 9:30am Worship/Sunday School .



*** New Youth Group Time*** The youth have spoken, we're listening.... 'Most' Sunday's in August 11am-1pm Youth (7th-12th grade) would like to try to meet right after church on 'most' Sundays. We will trial this new time/format and

re-evaluate at the next

Youth Council meeting on Sunday Sept 10th (after church, 11am).

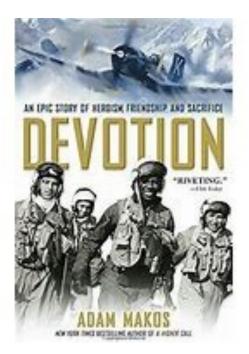
Students and Parents...

Please plan to get involved in August, and then weigh in on Sept 10th, so we can plan the rest of the fall!

SAVE THE DATE MORE UPCOMMING YOUTH EVENTS

(Activities are tentative and times TBD- keep watching Youth News for details) July 30th-Youth help w/ Children's Ministry Back to School Bash (during Sunday School) Aug 6th- Youth Group: Lunch and Slip and Slide Kick Ball Aug 12th-Youth Baking Class, 12-3pm Aug 13th (Sunday)- SSP Stockholder Brunch, 11am Aug. 16th (Wed)- Volunteer, United Food Bank, 5:30-8:30pm Aug 18th and 19th-Tucson Back to School Lock-In Aug 20th- Youth Group: Worship Planning Aug 27th-Youth Group: Lunch and Games Sept 3rd- Youth Group: Lunch and Focus Rock Gym Sept 10th-Youth Council Meeting (lunch and planning) Sept 17th- YOUTH Ignite at PV UMC, Sunday evening, time TBD Sept 24th- Youth Group: TBD Oct. 29th- Youth Group: Pumpkin Carving, afternoon time TBD Jan. 12-15th, 2024 Youth Winter Camp at Mingus Follow us on Instagram@fumcyouth

The whole leadership team and youth leaders are keeping you and your family in our prayers each week. Please reach out if you need anything youthministry@gilbertumc.org !



The Book Corner August's book is <u>All the Broken Places</u> by John Boyne Pam will be leading the review of this fiction book which was published in 2022.

> The Book Club will meet August 17th at 11:30 in Room 130.

September's book is <u>Devotion: An Epic Story of Heroism</u>, <u>Friendship and Sacrifice</u> by Adam Makos

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our next book is <u>Acts: Awaking to God In Everyday Life</u> book by Melissa Spoelstra starts Tuesday August 8th at 9:30a (9:15a to socialize)- 11:15a. Please let me know if you want the book (so we can order enough) and if you need nursery care (so I can let those that arrange that, know.) Please share

with friends/neighbors that might be interested in joining our multi denominational Christian group.

Learn to awaken to God's Spirit today and every day by studying the Book of Acts with Melissa Spoelstra. Whether it's because of distractions, busyness, or a case of the blahs, we can experience a drift toward indifference in our spiritual lives. We have a need for an ongoing spiritual awakening if we want to become more aware of God's presence and activity in our everyday lives.

In Acts: Awakening to God in Everyday Life, a six-week study of the Book of Acts by Melissa Spoelstra, you will journey with the first followers of Jesus and witness the birth and growth of the early church through spiritual awakening to the power of God's Spirit, message, freedom, grace, mission, and direction. From their experiences you will learn postures that will help you attune your own spiritual heart to experience God's presence, hear God's voice, and see God at work all around.

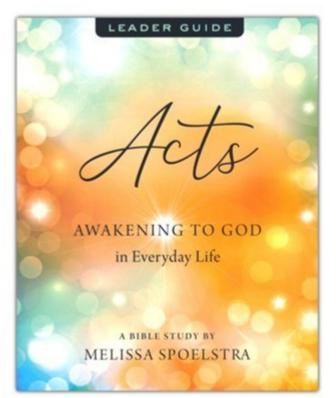
This study offers a fresh encounter with God to prepare you to:

- Face daily battles
- Be able to discern the messages of our culture
- Be ready to share God's love with others always

We start Tuesday 8/8 (9:15a for some social time) 9:30-11:15a class time. No prep for 1st week

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Contact Sonja Ruhland at Sonja.ruhland@gmail.com



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Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:

- July 30th 9:30-10:30 am in Activity Center Back to School Bash!
- First Day of Pre-School is July 31th!
- Chat and Chew meets every Wednesday at
- 12:00 in Room 136 Bring your own lunch and join us for Fellowship
- Christian Women's Fellowship will meet August 3rd in room 130 at 9:30 am.
- Grief share meets on Zoom every Saturday from 8:30 to 10 am.
- Celebration of Life for past member Robert "Bob" Case will be held in Sanctuary on August 5th at 3:00 pm
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study will start a new study Acts Awaking to God in Everyday Life. By Melissa Poelstra on August 8th at 9:15.
- SSP Dessert Luncheon will be held August 13th at 10:30 am in Activity Center.
- Book Club Meets August 17th at 11:30 am in Room 130 August's book is
- All the Broken Places by John Boyne
- Blood Drive on August 27th in Activity Center time for sign up 7:00-11:00. See page 9 for more information. Give Blood to Save a Life!
- Wednesday Night First Potluck of the Fall Season will be August 30th at5:30-6:30 pm in Activity Center.
- SAVE THE DATE for our big TRUNK n TREAT in the parking lot of the Church on Tuesday October 31st. Be there or be Square!







GRIEF





Renovation of the Activity Center Thank you to Therese Pineda and all the trustees and volunteers!



The repairs and updating of our campus continue with the kitchen and bathrooms on the calendar. But we wanted to show you where and how your tithes and service are being put to work!







First United Methodist Church of Gilbert offers several ways to contribute to the church. If you look at our website (<u>https://gilbertumc.org/</u>) and scroll to the bottom, you will see a green button that says Giving and if you enter that, you have the option to contribute electronically. This will allow you to set up payments on a schedule.

Ways to Give

We also have an option to send envelopes to those request them. These envelopes cost us to send and we are finding that many of them are not being used. In an effort to cut down on these costs, if you are receiving these envelopes but not using them, please let us know so we can stop sending them. Occasionally, our finance secretary looks at our records to stop these envelopes from being mailed if a contribution using these envelopes has not been mailed in the past year. If this happens and you wish to have them mailed again, please notify our office at 480-982-9166, and we will be happy to get them mailed out to you with the next quarter

Finance



Congregational Care Support Groups *For more information*

about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Adriana

at

pastoradriana@gilbertumc.org



Grief Share Support Group

For those grieving the loss of someone close to them. This support group is led by Kay Pealstrom. She can be contacted at: k.pealstrom@gmail.com

Kay is the resource for registration, information on obtaining materials and sharing the zoom information for the session. The support group meets on Saturday mornings from 8am-10am.

Homebound Communion: If you have a friend or family member that can not make it to church on Sundays to worship in person, please let Pastor Adriana or the office know if he/she would like to be added to the Homebound Communion list. The Congregational Care team members extend the communion table. Communion is blessed and served the first Sunday of each month. The CCM team takes the com-



munion to the personal homes or a hospital/assisted living setting to share the same communion with those who can not make it to church.



Praying Ministry

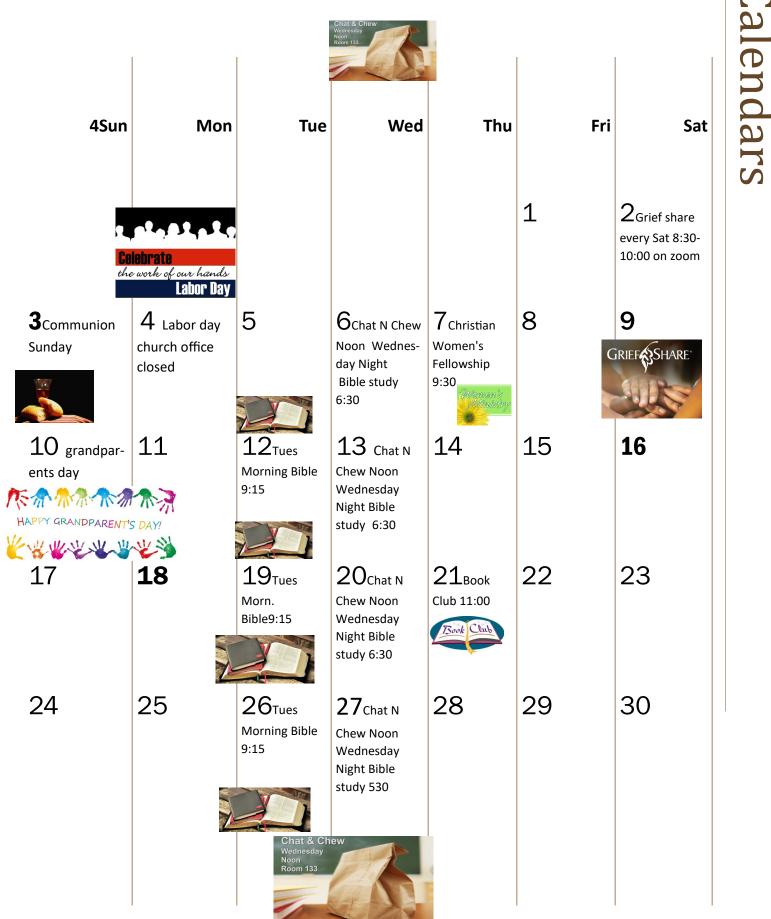
First Gilbert has a team that supports the prayer needs of our congregation. If you are would like to share a prayer request, you can either email us at prayers@gilbertumc.org or call the church office at 480-892-9166. If you have a request that is only for the pastor, please indicate that need. The prayer team members will be lifting up your concerns and praises in a loving and confidential manner.

August Calendar of Events 2023



	I					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:15	2 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	3 Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30	4	5Grief share Every Saturday 8:00-10:00 on zoom
6commun- ion Sunday	7	8 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:15	9Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible	10	11	12 GRIEF
13	14	15 _{Tues} - day morning Bible study 9:15	16 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	17 Book Club 11:00	18	19
20	21	22 _{Tuesday} morning Bible study 9:15	23 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30	24	25	26
27	28	29 _{Tues} Morning Bible 9:15	30 Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Potluck at 5:30 in Ac- tivity Center Bible study	31		
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September Calendar of Events 2023



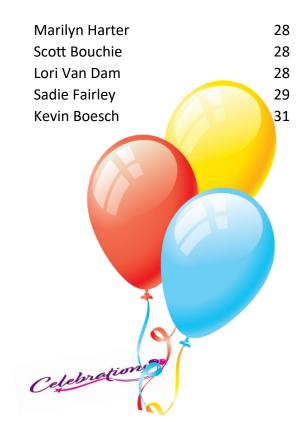
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August Birthdays



Gayla Sutton	1
Linda Cranford	4
Anita Broughton	5
Keela Clark	5
Christopher Mendoza	5
Laura McLeod	7
Dirk Smith	7
Evan Houseman	8
Lori Wiemers	8
Eli Chiricuzio	9
Natalia Lillie	9
Judy Bristow	12
Abigail Rhoden	12
Diane Crann	13
Tom McKinley	14
Alan Ball	15
Jim Hall	15
Tim Killen	15
Lorraine Cenatiempo	16
Jennifer Burks	18
Michael Orr	21
Brittainy Norris	22
Randy Van Der Pol	22
Mpez Gloria Kapend	24
Jim Reeves	24
Midori Hall	26





August Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years Married
03	Jim and Gloria Eggen	27
04	MarryEllen and Bob Chuk	50
05	Sharon and Ron Dalton	25
06	Garin and Rob Campbell	29
06	Julie and Richard Curran	46
12	Barbara and Lynn Carroll	56
15	Vicki and Kim Harding	52
26	Kathy and Mike Tremain	19

