The Evangel First United Methodist Church of Gilbert May 2024



Church office will be closed

May 27th in observance of Memorial Day





Attendance March 25 to April21 total in church 1204

Virtual viewing 736

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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





Please make plans to join us next year! It was cool and we cooked and enjoyed each others fellowship and had a wonderful time. Sunday we had a service before we left the campsite! With Marty playing the autoharp, we sang the songs and read the same bible verses to worship Our Lord together!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR! COME JOIN THE FUN!

Family Campout 2024





Calling all 2024 Graduates

I am sharing the information below with all of you, in case you know of any other families with 2024 Graduates who we might need to reach out to, to include their High School Senior/College Senior, in our Grad Sunday celebration in May! If the grad wasn't active in the church and it's a proud grandparent who would like their grandchild honored, we will include their info, a photo, and send them a card. They are, of course, welcome and encouraged to attend church that Sunday as well (but we don't need all the other photos... that's really just for youth who have been active in the church over the years). I hope this is helpful if anyone reaches out to you about a 2024 Grad. Please let me know who I might be missing. Thank you for your support of our young people and helping to celebrate this milestone in their lives!

--Shayla

My current list includes:

- Kalia Carpenter (Taleen Carpenter)
- Adeline Compton (Jan Compton)
- Hailey Houseman (Alex Houseman)
- Alicia Hemmingson (Jeni Hemmingson)
- Maddy Paap (Shayla Paap)
- Sean Wyatt (Kelly Wyatt)





Sunday, May 5th, 1:30-3pm ROOM 130

RSVP to Shayla: youthministry@gilbertumc.org

Safe Sanctuary is needed for all teen and adult volunteers for VBS so if you did not take last year then you need it this year. But check with Shayla for sure so you will not miss out on the FUN!







VBS 2024 Donations Supply and Snack list:

Goldfish
Pretzels
Mini Marshmallows
Chocolate Teddy Grahams
Animal Crackers
Bugles Corn Snacks



Colored copy paper Colored Cardstock

Junk craft supplies: All your left over sequins, glitter, buttons, pompoms, confetti, craft paper & craft sticks!! We will make something beautiful with them!

Our registration is on a wait list for preschool!!! Also we are still in need of Volunteers both teens and adults please sign up at

childrensministry@gilbertumc.org or go to the website and sign up under VBS and RSVP.

Your help is needed.

Mission Update May 2024! By Joyce Steiner, Mission Chair

May has arrived and Mother's'Day looms on the horizon. Our drive to collect purses for homeless women will have wrapped up by the time you read this. In fact, we are happy to give the update that 108 purses were delivered to UMOM warehouse in Phoenix. The purses were each filled with items that will make the recipient very happy. The congregation did an amazing job of providing the purses, the contents, and also some donations towards the project. Thank you for making this happen!

Yes, May is here. The calendar tells us summer is still more than a month away. However, it clearly feels like summer has already arrived. A few Arizonans actually like the heat while most of us tolerate it by reminding ourselves about the mild winters here. For a good number of people, however, the summer heat is more than something to be tolerated. It is life-threatening. Indeed, last summer's extreme temperatures

resulted in 645 heat-related deaths in Maricopa County. Most of the people succumbing to the heat were homeless. However, many had homes, but were unable to cool them adequately. That number would have been far greater had there been no hydration stations and no people willing to donate water.

This year no doubt will be another hot summer and the need for bottled water will be great. Our church will join in the effort to minimize the number of heat-related deaths by contributing bottled water for use by the hydration station at Justa Center in Phoenix. It is a Methodist supported charity that provides day programming for homeless people over fifty. During the summer, it also serves as a hydration station for people of all ages. By contributing water to this effort, we are serving as instruments of God's love and helping to extend the Kingdom of God on earth.

Collection of the water will begin in June and go throughout the summer. In lieu of water, cash donations can be made. Here is also the option to contribute on line at the church website. Water can be dropped off in the Narthex or the Activity center.

Thanks all of you for being so willing to be instruments in God's orchestra of Love.

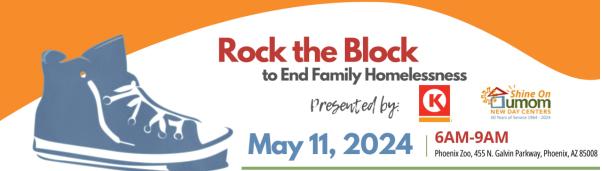




Our church continues to support the children of Gilbert Elementary School. We are collecting funds for Trapper Keepers, school supplies and snacks. This annual drive helps funds of assistance that lasts the entire school year. We will be collecting for this project June 16—July 21. School begins July 23rd!



Missions team is collecting bottled water for distribution to local Cooling Centers. As temperatures in Arizona jump into the 100+, homeless people seek Cooling Centers for hydration and care. Bottled water can be dropped of at church on any Sunday in May—July.



Vicki Hanson is organizing a First UMC of Gilbert team for the 5/11 Rock the Block to End Family Homelessness! This is an annual event held at the Phoenix Zoo, organized by UMOM. Everyone is welcome to participate. Please go to https://fundraise.umom.org/team/580503 to sign up!

Adult Ministry Studies

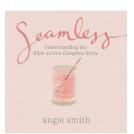
Choir Sunday School

Sundays at 9:45am in room 130, the choir meets weekly. This group facilitates their own bible study. Although primarily choir members, anyone is welcome to join them.



Seamless by Angie Smith Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story

We continue this Bible Study in May. Angie Smith's Seamless offers us a study on the people, places, and promises of the Bible. She ties them together into the greater story of Scripture. Experience the Bible as a whole as you gain clarity and confidence in your understanding of Scripture. Discover a biblical context that reshapes and



brings to life stories from the Old and New Testaments. Class is led by Pastor Adriana Hernandez on Sundays at 11am in person in room 136. May class dates are 5/5, 5/19, and 5/26. Please note there is no class planned for Mother's Day on 5/12.









Thank you for Your Support Our Youth!



"The church has left the building"... on Sunday April 7th, the youth volunteered with a local community group, the "Litter Critters", to help with Highway cleanup, picking up trash and litter, up and down a 1 mile stretch of Bush Hwy in NE Mesa. Our very environmentally focused youth also took the opportunity to pull as much invasive "stinknet" plants as possible, as well. We were all surprised how tired we were, but the weather was lovely, and always good company!

Mingus Mountain Welcome Packet







Session Options at a Glance

Most weeks, we offer concurrent sessions so, hopefully, there's a little something for everyone! Check out the session options here and read descriptions in the area below. For details about sessions, you may contact Jonathan Gowan, Asst. Director, at jonathan@dscumc.org or call the camp phone: 928-649-5949.

Sessions you see struck-though have filled or online registration has closed; if it is still before that camp session, contact Emma Gowan, Office Admin, to seek if there is room for your camper/s at egowan@dscumc.org or 928-719-6162 (call/text).

Please note: If approved by the director, campers can only be added to closed sessions until 4:30pm the Friday before said session.

Session 1: June 17-22

Jr. High Adventure: Local AZ

Session 2: June 24- 29

Session 3: July 1-3

Session 4: July 8-13

Elementary I

Elementary Camp II

Grand & Me Camp

Jr/Sr High Night Owls

Jr. High I

Jr. High Camp II

Sr. High Adventure: Beach

Refer-a-Friend Discount

Know someone who hasn't been to a Mingus camp since before 2021 or has never been at all? Use our <u>Refer-a-Friend Form</u> to recommend up to 5 new campers, making them eligible for \$25 off registration fees, and you eligible for up to \$125 off! Click on the link above for more details and to submit your referral.



Registration Info

Online registration is now OPEN!

Standard Camps:

-Early bird: Jan. 1-March 31: \$455

-Standard Rate: \$494

Specialty Camps (early bird rates unavailable):
-Grand & Me at Mingus Mountain: \$247
Jr. High Adventures: Local Arizona Fun: \$525
-Sr. High Adventure: Beach Camp: \$595



- •A non-refundable, \$50 deposit is required at the time of registration to complete and submit a registration for summer camp. Camp balances are due 2 weeks before said camper sessions.
- •Registration for each session of camp closes **7 days prior** to the start date of each camp session **at 5pm**.
- •Director discretion may apply to extend registration on a case-by-case basis.

Contact Emma Gowan, Office Administrator, at 928-719-6162 (call/text) or **egowan@dscumc.org** if you have any questions about registration.

alzheimer's Ω association°

800.272.3900 | alz.org°

Desert Southwest Chapter Programs & Services

A guide to support individuals, families, and friends impacted by dementia

People with Alzheimer's and related dementias and their families and friends can feel overwhelmed, but no one needs to go on this journey alone. We offer a variety of free programs, services, and resources to help cope with all aspects of the disease and its progression.

24/7 HELPLINE

Call **800.272.3900**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to speak confidentially with a Care Consultant. These professionals provide support, information about Alzheimer's and related dementias, guidance on care options, help with planning for the future, coaching for family members, strategies to address safety concerns, and referrals to local resources. Support is free of charge and offered in over 200 languages.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Support Groups provide a forum to share feelings, concerns, information, and learn new skills. The Desert Southwest Chapter offers over 50 support groups, in English and Spanish, across Arizona and southern Nevada. All of our support groups are facilitated by trained individuals and meet at various locations and times. Most groups are for family and friends supporting a loved one with dementia, but there are also groups designed specifically for individuals with early stage dementia. Call 800-272-3900 or visit: alz.org/dsw/supportgroups to find a group near you.

EDUCATION

Our educational programs increase awareness and knowledge about Alzheimer's and related dementias. Session topics include an introduction to the disease, addressing behavioral challenges, long-term planning, and much more. Almost all of our educational presentations are offered in English and Spanish. Call 800-272-3900 or visit: alz.org/dsw/education for more information.

EARLY STAGE

Early Stage programs provide a variety of education sessions and activities designed to actively engage, empower, and encourage individuals with Early Stage Alzheimer's and their care partners. Call 800-272-3900 for more information.

FIRST RESPONDERS TRAINING

The Alzheimer's Association's Approaching Alzheimer's: First Responder training is a free online course to prepare first responders to respond to common calls involving a person with dementia. For more information, call 800-272-3900 or alz.org/firstresponders

Call **800.272.3900** or visit alz.org/dsw for more information.

alzheimer's ?

MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

VOLUNTEER WITH THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION







Millions of Americans are impacted by Alzheimer's disease, and you can help by becoming an Alzheimer's Association volunteer. Our ability to reach and support those affected depends on people like you who are dedicated to the fight against this disease.

As an Association volunteer, you can use your unique talents to make a meaningful impact in your community while connecting with others who share your passion. Find the role that's the best fit for you!

Are you interested in:



Connecting with people in your area?



Teaching caregivers about Alzheimer's?

Scan to learn more about volunteering for the Alzheimer's Association.



Organizing fun social activities for people living with Alzheimer's?



Helping community members find programs and services?



Creating a safe environment where people can share their feelings and experiences?

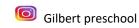


SCAN ME

Getting started is easy! Learn more today. Call 1.800.272.3900 or visit alz.org/volunteer











We still have a few openings in both our 3's and Pre-K programs for the 2024-2025 school year. We feel very blessed and excited for the new and returning families that will be with us next year. We would love to offer tours to any interested families. Please spread the word if you know of anyone looking for a preschool.

What have we been up to? April:

Our preschoolers had a busy month. We celebrated Easter and had a special chapel in the garden. We learned all about insects. Each class had real caterpillars come to the classroom for some up close investigating and watching the stages of metamorphosis before releasing the butterflies into our garden. We also had fun planting sunflower seeds in the preschool garden. We ended the month with an ice cream party!







May:

During the month of May we will learn about the letter Mm. We will learn about Moses in the bible and celebrate our amazing moms with a special "Muffins with Mom" breakfast. The children will be making special ocean animal t-shirts and learning songs for our "Under the Sea" program at the end of the school year. The children love performing and we are excited they will have the opportunity to show off their hard work. We will end the school year with the letter Oo for Ocean and learn all about the interesting ocean creatures God made. The last day of school the children will enjoy cooling off from the warm weather with a fun water day.

Spring Project Fun

Grab a paper plate and add a few different colors of paint. Let the kids use plastic forks to stamp different color tulips.





Community Rewards Program

Shop at Fry's

It's a great time to register your Fry's grocery card online so that the church preschool receives money back! The process is done online in just a few simple steps. Our account number is 80635. Throughout the years, we've bought playground toys, purchased a portable stage, and lots of other great items with the Fry's money. Thank you!



If you have any questions about the preschool, please contact Lisa DePalma or Ellie Koenig at preschool@gilbertumc.org or 480-892-9166.

May 2024 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

Preschool



series description: God shows us daily how much He loves us in how He speaks to us through the Bible and listens to us when we pray. God's never-ending love for us is so amazing that we should be moved to talk about God to others and live for God in all we say and do.

CORE INSIGHT: Transformation

WEEK ONE: King Josiah (2 Chronicles 34)
WEEK TWO: Hannah* (1 Samuel 1-2)
WEEK THREE: Jeremiah (Jeremiah 31:3,

29:11)

WEEK FOUR: Shadrach, Meshach, and

Abednego (Daniel 3:10-28)

BOTTOM LINE: God loves me.

MEMORY VERSE: "I will always love you."

Jeremiah 31:3, CEV

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.

Grades1-6



SERIES DESCRIPTION God makes plans and follows through with them—including the plan to send Jesus to rescue us! We can show commitment too. We can work on growing our relationship with Jesus by practicing our faith.

CORE INSIGHTS: Faith, Connection

WEEK ONE: God's Word Is a Light

(Psalm 119:105)

Bottom Line: Practice hearing from

God.

WEEK TWO: The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4)

Bottom Line: Practice praying to God.

WEEK THREE: Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah (Matthew 16:13-20) Bottom Line: Practice talking

about God.

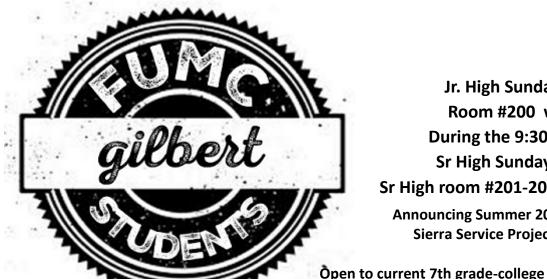
WEEK FOUR: The Widow's Offering (Mark 12:41-

44) Bottom Line: Practice living for God

MEMORY VERSE: "Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living come." 1 Timothy 4:8, NIrV

Mission:





Jr. High Sunday School Room #200 with Ron **During the 9:30am Service** Sr High Sunday school in Sr High room #201-202 with Ms. Cindie

Announcing Summer 2024 Sierra Service Project

SSP in Chiloquin, OR June 29th-July 6 (approximate dates) We will need \$50 deposit to secure your spot. Please make payment On-line and specify Youth Ministry and write: Mission Trip Deposit for (Youth Name) in the notes section.

> ***Fundraising efforts will begin soon*** Sign Up Here if you're interested in joining us!!!

Thank You for helping to make the Easter Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser a Success!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Easter Pancake Breakfast fundraiser a success! Special thanks to all the parents who helped, we couldn't do this without you! Our generous congregation donated over \$1800 towards the Youth Mission Trip to SSP this summer! We're well on our way towards reaching our fundraising goal, and I'm hopeful with Stock Sales later this month, all who are interested in attending SSP this summer, will be able to attend. Thank you again!

SAVE THE DATE MORE UPCOMMING YOUTH EVENTS

(Activities are tentative and times TBD- keep watching Youth News for details)

May 5- Youth Group 11am-1pm

May 5- Safe Sanctuaries 1:30-3pm- If you didn't attend last year

May 11- TBD Youth Baking Day?

May 12- Mother's Day, No Youth Group...TBD Bake Sale???

May 19- GRAD Sunday! JH Welcome Breakfast 7am (this is a Surprise for Incoming 7th graders)

May 26th- Memorial Day Weekend, No Youth Group

June 2nd- Youth Group- Helping with VBS Prep

June 3-7, VBS- Youth Volunteers Needed

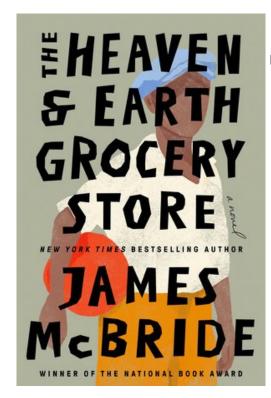
June 8th- Youth Baking Day

June 9th- Pastor Rick's Going Away Party, 11-12:30



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

May's book is <u>The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store</u> by James McBride

Judy will review of this
Historical-fiction book which was
published in 2023.

The Book Club will meet April 18th at 11:30 in Room 130.

June's book will be
Walk the Blue Line by J.Patterson and
M. Eversman

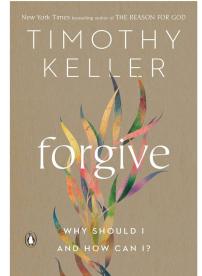
Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Join us for this weekly study <u>Forgive</u> by Timothy Keller including discussion and self study. Starting June11th at 9:15am social time 9:30a-11:15a study time. If nursery care is needed please contact Sonja Ruhland.

Pastor and New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller outlines the reasons why forgiveness has to be a central part of everyone's lives.

"To err is human, to forgive divine," has long been aspirational. But our complicated modern world has questioned the benefits of forgiveness. Timothy Keller passionately defends the central role forgiveness has to play in our lives, and shows readers how and why forgiveness is the only way forward in an imperfect world.

Forgiving anyone in a meaningful way is one of the hardest things a person can do. If you do not forgive, resentment and vengeance consume you. It is impossible to move past transgression without forgiveness, but few people have the resources and the tools to forgive others fully and move on with their lives. Forgiveness is an essential skill, a moral imperative, and a religious belief that cuts right to the core of



what it means to be human. In Forgive, Timothy Keller shows readers why it is so important and how to do it, explaining in detail the steps you need to take in order to move on without sacrificing either justice or your humanity.

Contact Sonja Ruhland at Sonja.ruhland@gmail.com

Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events

 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 May 2nd in room 130 at 9:30 am



 Grief Share meets on Zoom every Saturday from 8:30 to 10 am, new session starts May 4th. Please sign up with Kay at Kay.pealstrom@gmail.com.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study will continue study <u>Revelations</u> by Margaret Feinberg every Tuesday morning at 9:15 last session May 7 and year end potluck May 14th. The summer book is outlined on page 18.



 Book Club May 16th at 11:30 am in Room 130. April's book is <u>The Heaven</u> and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride.



- Calling for all 2024 Graduates We will be celebrating their hard work on May 19th so
 please get your photo, what school graduated from by May 1 to Shayla at
- youth@gilbertumc.org. Graduation Sunday May 19th.
- Register Now for VBS preschool class has a wait list, being held at FUMC of Gilbert June 3

 9:00am-Noon daily to guarantee your child's place we usually run out of space.

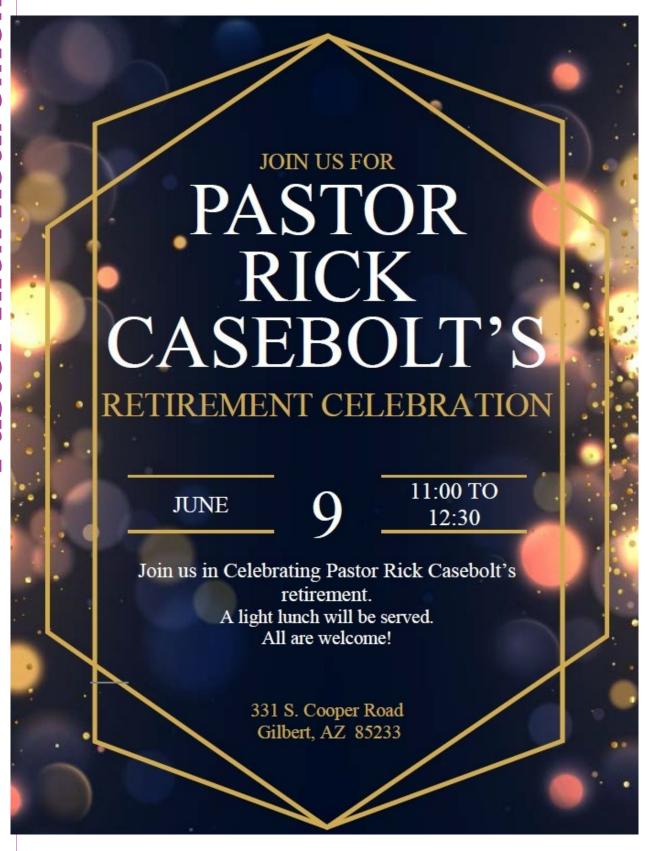
 Contact Janelle at Childrensministry@gilbertumc.org if you are thinking of volunteering during this fun week in June.
- Church office will be closed May 27th for Memorial Day. Proudly fly your flag to remember those who served and died to keep us free!
- Save the Date we will celebrate the retirement of Pastor Rick on June 9th further information will be forth coming in the ENews

Third Grade Bible Presentation 2024

This Year we had 7 children participated in the class and received their Bibles on April 14thin front of the whole Church! Well Done!!!

Will Cantwell
Calvin Daugherty
Kwame Gardour
Lily Karavakis
Matthew Koenig
Smith Sandven
Myla Smith







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: kay.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 8:30am-10am. New class starts May 4,2024.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you have a gift for crocheting prayer shawls, we could use your help! In particular, we are in need of shawls for babies, children and men. Your design, your talents, and your time is greatly appreciated for this ministry.

Completed shawls can be dropped off at the church office. There are tags that can be placed on the shawl so the recipient knows who created and prayed over the shawl for them.

Caring for Others

Here at First UMC Gilbert, we have a vibrant team that prays, visits, and supports those who need support and care. Many of us are taking care of others within our family or neighborhood. Thank you for all you do! We are called to love our neighbor. That love comes in different forms. If you are in a season of taking care of a loved one, this is a friendly reminder that you are loved and that this season is one that God is taking care of you.

We can not serve others when our own body and spirit feels tired and out of energy. Please find time to practice self-care. In the Bible there are some prime examples. Jesus found times of solitude time to pray and replenish. "Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7. Praying for you to find time for a peaceful walk, listen to music, or a cup of tea with a friend. Please reach out if you need additional support!



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

May Calendar of Events 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Chat N Chew Noon Wed Night Study 6:30	Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30 Women's	3	4Grief share Saturday mornings at 8:30-10:00am on Zoom
5 communion Sunday 11am Bible Study	6	7 Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:15	8 Chat N Chew Noon Wed Night Bible 6:30	9	10	11 GRIEF SHARE
12 11am Bible Study Happy Mother's Day!	13	14Tuesday morning Bible study 9:15	15 Chat N Chew Noon Wed Nght study6:30	16Book Club 11:00	17	18
19 11am Bible Study	20	21 Tuesday morning Bible study 9:15 OFF	22Chat N Chew Noon Wed Night Study 6:30	23	24	25
26 11am Bible Study	27 Churc h office closed for Memorial Day	28 Tuesday Morning Bible 9:15 OFF	29 t N Chew Noon Wed Night Bible study 6:30	30	31	





June Calendar of Events 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					-	1 Grief share Saturday mornings at 8:30-10:00am
2 Communion	3 _{VBS 9-}	4 _{Tues Morning}	5 Chat N Chew	6 _{VBS 9} –	7 _{VBS 9} – Noon	8
Sunday 11am Bible Study	Noon June 3-7th	Bible 9:15 OFF VBS 9– Noon	Noon VBS 9– Noon	Noon		GRIEF SHARE
9 11am Bible	10	11 Tues Morn.	12 _{Chat N}	13 _{Annual}	14 _{Annual}	15 _{Annual}
Study Pastor Re- tirement Celebra- tion in Activity		Bible 9:15	Chew Noon Bible Study 6:30	Conference	Conference	Conference ends June 16th
16	17	18 Tues	19 _{Chat N}	20 _{11AM}	21	22
11am Bible Study Father's Day		Morning Bible 9:15	Chew Noon Bible Study 6:30	Book Club		
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY	24	25 Tuesday Morning Bible	26 Chat N Chew NOON Bible Study 6:30	Zook Chab	28	29
23		Study 9:15				

May Birthdays



Joyce Steiner	2
Joyce Brown	3
Michael Clark	3
A.J. Harris	3
Angela Mittner	4
Marty Province	4
Brian Fischer	5
Joyce Metcalf	5
Stan Gill	9
Jason Rempel	9
Bill Warren	10
Richard Cantwell	11
Bruce Bettis	12
Ricky Zeilstra	12
Gunter Scharff	14
Garry Disch	16
Kathy Tremain	16
Chris Thompson	21
Pam Turner	22
Linda Hartmann	25
Jim Wilkins	25
Signory Mutach	27
Janet Bose	29
Signory Mutach	27





May Anniversaries

Date	Sweet Couple	Years
		Married
11	Paige and Richard Cantwell	50
12	Jennifer and Nick Karavakis	12
14	Jimmie and Jacob Galvin	8
10	Nancy and Alan Ball	3/1

