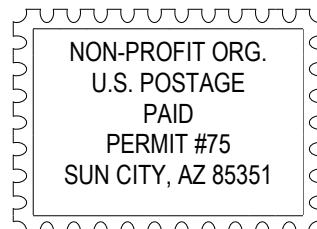




**WILLOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102



May 2024 Issue

GOOD NEWS

Willowbrook United Methodist Church
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"
19390 North 99th Avenue
Sun City, AZ 85373-1102

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday
(closed 12:00-12:30 p.m. for lunch)

(623) 974-5637 FAX: (623) 933-5466

Internet: <https://willowbrookumc.org>
E-mail address: bev@willowbrookumc.org

Office Hours: 8:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday

Outside office hours leave a message on the main phone number, 623-974-5637, and we will get back to you.
Send prayer chain requests to prayerchain@willowbrookumc.org.

Introducing...



Judy McGinty
Joined: March 23, 2024



Mike McGinty
Joined: March 23, 2024

Photos Submitted by McGinty



Jim Mellenthin
Joined: March 24, 2024



Sherry Mellenthin
Joined: March 24, 2024



Heather Meyer
Joined: March 24, 2024



Glen Muehlhausen
Joined: March 24, 2024



Frances Porter
Joined: March 24, 2024

Welcome To Willowbrook!

Photos Courtesy of Laurie Lineberry

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday Worship
5:00 p.m.—Chapel

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary AND
9:30 a.m. Sunday Live Stream
Worship available on
<https://willowbrookumc.org>



OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday—8:30am—4:00pm

**DEADLINE FOR the JUNE 2024
Good News is May 4, 2024**

Willowbrook United Methodist Church

OUR MINISTRY TOGETHER

*The ministers of this church are its members
Those who assist them are:*

- Dedicated Lay Ministry—Stephen Ministry**
Gary Kennedy—Senior Pastor
Ruth Blum—Associate Pastor
Lois Hedden—Pastor of Visitation
Laurie Lineberry—Director of Laity
Rev. Jon Ierley—Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Robb Butler—Music Director
Carol Virolainen—Worship Musician
Nicholas Capatch—Live Stream
Russ Koan—Lay Leader
Dr. Linda Reese—Staff Counselor



**Pray for the following members in a
Group Home or Care Facility:**

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| • Donna Barr | Avanti Senior Living |
| • Helen Barton | Dana's Loving Care |
| • Richard Ceser | Highland Park Asst. Living |
| • Dennis Lopic | Cami Assisted Living |
| • Lois McCrea | Doc's Place |
| • Fern McKnight | Sagewood Assisted Living |

Thanks to Art & Soul members for posters used in the Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday. Pictured: Janet Wetzel, Margaret Chinn, Rev. Ruth Blum, Wayne Bailey, Gloria Schilling, & Arlene Davidson.



Watch E-News for pictures of Margaret and Arlene with the posters they painted



Acknowledgment of a Gift

I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:12-13

The verse, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me," is a powerful reminder that God is with us and helps us. Many Christians hold on to these words to help them daily. This verse is part of a larger writing where the Apostle Paul is thanking the Philippians for their help to him in a time of distress. I have heard it said so many times after people have felt the comfort, presence, and help from God, that they "don't know how people without God manage." How do people without God manage? I don't know. What I do know is for people of faith the presence of God is amazing!

As a pastor, I have the great privilege of hearing the accounts of people of faith. They share words of gratitude and hope because of their belief in an ever-present God. They share stories of God showing up in their lives. They call these "God Winks" or "a God thing" or other words that convey the love, help and presence of God.

It has been my personal experience that the people of faith who have influenced me in my lifetime have been folks not only of peace and joy but of conviction to stand up for what is right, what is truth and have made our world a better place.

Another observation is that people of faith have also been the folks who have done fantastic humanitarian things. People of faith have built libraries, colleges, and hospitals. I don't for a minute claim that non-believers haven't also done good things. Many have. Many believers and non-believers alike have operated out of a simple philosophy of "following the golden rule" to treat others as you would want to be treated. When this happens, good things happen.

But, my story is this! Good people of faith have taught me love and have shown me through the ways they lived out their lives that faith in God is a wonderful thing. Like the Apostle Paul who took a moment to thank the Philippian believers for helping him. I want to take a moment to thank people of faith who made my world a better place. I watched you and I saw Jesus! Thank you!

See you in church,

Rev. Gary Kennedy

Willowbrook Strong



A House United

"IF A HOUSE
is divided
AGAINST ITSELF,
THAT HOUSE
cannot
stand."
MARK 3:25, NIV

When President Lincoln declared in 1858, "A house divided against itself cannot stand," he was echoing Jesus. Scribes thought Jesus was casting out demons by Satan's power, so Jesus responded, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand" (Mark 3:23-25, NIV). There are countless modern examples: Civil wars. Families torn apart. Business partners going separate ways. Even churches splitting.

Jesus used the "house divided" image to point out the nonsense of the scribes' words. It takes someone *other than* the "strongman" vs. 27, or demon, occupying a space to cast that demon out. Evil can't drive out evil. Sin isn't stronger than sin. Hate doesn't solve hate. Violence doesn't end violence. Two wrongs don't make a right.

Jesus came to "bind" evil with goodness, conquer hate with love and teach us the same. Throughout the gospels, Jesus treats *all* people with love—even those who oppose him—so that, in the end, we all will be a house *united* by God's goodness.

—ChurchArtPro



(We celebrate 90 years or more)

8 Barbara Snook
26 Richard Ceser



(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

2 Fred & Jeanne Poole 60th
21 Gary & Judith Rich 57th
24 Mel & Rose Sorensen 67th
25 Bob & Milie Johnson 67th



Our condolences to family and friends on the death of the following Willowbrook members and/or family & friends:

- Ann Martin's sister, Betsy in March
- Willowbrook friend, Kris Cummings' husband, Richard on March 24
- Virg Lass' sister on March 27
- Carl Stalowski's Mother in NJ passed away at the age of 103 during Holy Week (March)
- Bev Ampersé's husband, Bill on April 7
- Former member, Bob Munter on April 14



Dear Bev & Betty,

Thank you so much for your work getting the word out about lilies and putting together the list of people who purchased lilies. And the work getting information in the bulletin.

And thank you for all the help with my deposits and getting my envelopes.

Your efforts do not go unnoticed and are really appreciated.

Patricia Ross



Dear Willowbrook,

I cannot thank you enough for all the well wishes, thoughts, and prayers you have sent my way over the past few weeks. They mean everything to me!

I am finally back home and on the mend, and cannot wait to see my dear family and friends at Willowbrook again. You are the Best!


Love and God Bless,
Linda Bonnell

May 2024


CH—Chapel
 CR—Conference Room
 CT—Courtyard
 LL—Library Lounge
 MR—Music Room
 PR—Prayer Room
 Sanc—Sanctuary
 WFH—Wilson Fellowship Hall

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Craft Faire Committee—LL 2:00 pm The Chosen 2—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	2 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR	3 2:00 pm Youthful Seniors Board—LL 3:00 pm Disciple II—LL	4 FOOD BANK 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
5 COMMUNION—FOOD BANK 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	6 10:00 am UWFaith Team—MR 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	7 9:00 am Staff Parish—CR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	8 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen 2—CR 4:00 pm Dorcas Circle—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	9 9:00 am Trustees—CR 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 12:00 pm Food Tasting for Tea—WFH	10	11 2:30 pm Disciple II—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
12 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	13 9:30 am Mary Circle—WFH 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle—LL 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	14 9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 11:00 am Walk to Emmaus—CR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	15 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 9:30 am Foundation—CR 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen 2—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	16 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 2:30 pm Outreach—CR	17 5:00 pm Youthful Seniors Tacos & a Movie—WFH 2:00 pm Disciple II—LL	18 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
19 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	20 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 3:30 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—LL 5:00 pm UWFaith Evening—WFH	21 9:30 am M.E. E.—CR 12:00 pm 3rd Tuesday @12—WFH 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	22 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen 2—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	23 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL	24	25 NEW MEMBERS 11:00 am Winsome Widows—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
26 NEW MEMBERS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	27 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed for Holiday	28 9:30 am Church Council—Chapel 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	29 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen 2—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	30 9:30 am Caregivers Support Group—LL	31	

Pray for West District Churches
MAY



First UMC, Yuma
 Fort Yuma UMC
 Gila Mountain UMC, Yuma



Feed the Hungry
Non-perishable Food
WATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED

Next Food Drive:
June 1 & 2, 2024