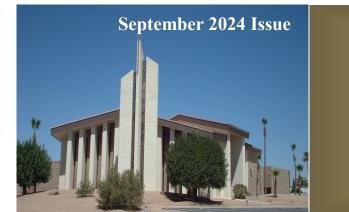


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Office Hours: 8:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday Outside office hours leave a message on the main phone number, 623-974-5637, and we will get back to you. Send prayer chain requests to prayerchain@willowbrookumc.org.









Lvnn Biel Joined: July 27, 2024 Joined: July 28, 2024



On Tuesday, June 25th, St. Mary's Foodbank held a grand opening for a new concept, their **NEIGHBORHOOD**

CHOICE FOOD PANTRY. Previously, all clients received a prepacked shopping cart full of food. However, many people couldn't use all the food given to them due to allergies or dietary restrictions. Because of this, food was needlessly going to waste.

The Neighborhood Choice Pantry provides food for approximately 100 clients each day. The pantry is set receiving, that they have a personal interaction with a up in a large room that feels like a mini grocery volunteer, and that they feel like they are in a grocery store. As clients arrive, they are paired with a personstore rather than a foodbank. al shopper (a volunteer) who helps them with their food choices. When finished, the client has about 80 Willowbrook volunteers will be heading down to St. pounds of food which is worth about \$200.

This new pantry concept has been positively received by St. Mary's clients. They appreciate the fact that they have more control over the food they are

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday Worship 5:00 p.m.-Chapel

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



DEADLINE FOR the October 2024 Good News is September 4, 2024



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

- Donna Barr
- Helen Barton
- **Richard Ceser**
- Dennis Lapic
- Lois McCrea
- Avanti Senior Living Dana's Loving Care Highland Park Asst. Living Cami Assisted Living Doc's Place

September

OFFICE HOURS Monday—Friday—8:30am—4:00pm

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 lerley—Pastor Emeritus Dr. Robb Butler—Music Director Carol Manley—Worship Musician Nicholas Capatch—Live Stream Russ Koan—Lay Leader Dr. Linda Reese—Staff Counselor

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

Roger Davis Joined: July 28, 2024



James Dunsmore Joined: July 28, 2024



Greg Zarnoch Joined: July 28, 2024



Mary's on Thursday, September 26th from 9:45 – 12:15. If you would like to join us, contact Liz Peck or look for sign -up sheets in Fellowship Hall.



Share Faith Simply and Honestly

"Young children can ask the most amazing questions about God and Heaven! And when they do, we shouldn't ignore them or act like their questions aren't important—because they are."

"When children ask you about God, do your best to answer simply and honestly in terms they can understand. Of course, they don't need deep and complicated answers, but just because they can't understand everything about God doesn't mean they can't understand something about Him. I don't understand electricity, but that doesn't mean I can't turn on a light switch."

- Wisdom - Dayspring Publishing

So, if your grandchild comes to you and asks you about God and Heaven, keep the above statement in mind. Their questions about God or why you go to church are important. If your teenage grandchild comes to you with questions about why you go to church, treat their inquiry with the same respect. Be honest and don't feel like you need to give them the answer they want. Share your heart! Tell them about God, your faith and why you go to church.

Now if your adult neighbor comes to you and asks why you go to church, why not approach the conversation with the same straight honesty. Tell them, be honest, simple and answer with straightforward truth. They may not agree with your thinking and may push back at your answer, or they may be asking with the same sincerity as your grandchild. Many adults today just don't understand Christianity as you do. In fact, maybe, the majority of adults you encounter outside of church may not have your insight to issues of faith, God and church. Don't be afraid to share. Don't be afraid to invite them to church for worship or fellowship.

Many adults who used to go to church, don't go anymore. Some may have been turned off by a pastor who had a strong or opposing political agenda. Some may have not felt welcomed, or some may have never understood God's purpose in their lives. Some may have bought into outside negative opinions about the church being out of step or behind the times.

Perhaps they never experienced a "Willowbrook!" Perhaps they never understood the wisdom of scripture, the comradery of fellowship, and seen a church that works hard to make our world a better place through community service and outreach.

"For the first time in the eight decades that Gallup has tracked American religious membership, more adults in the United States do not attend church than attend church. This is not a gradual shift; it is a jolting one." -The Great Dechurching

Over the years, I have heard many visitors to our church say things like, "I finally found my church home!" or "Wow, this feels like how a church should feel like!" or "I feel the Spirit here, I'll be back!" Trust yourself to share your faith. Be honest, sincere and speak with love. God will join you in the conversation! So many folks out there need to be introduced or reintroduced to a wonderful church experience!

See you in church directly or indirectly through livestream!

Rev. Gary Kennedy





The Significance of Patriot Day

Three months after the 2001 terrorist attacks, Congress approved a joint resolution designating September 11 as Patriot Day. Every year, we pause to remember the lives lost and changed on that autumn mornina.

The resolution requests that each year the president issue a proclamation calling on the American people and state and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities. Those include remembrance services, candlelight vigils, moments of silence and flying the U.S. flag at half-staff.

In his 2023 proclamation President Biden said. "Together, may we continue to demonstrate that the rights and freedoms that those terrorists sought to destroy on September 11, 2001, remain unwavering — strengthened by generations of Americans who have dared all and risked all to defend, protect and preserve our democracy."

Willowbrook choir and other Willowbrookers: Thank you for the many cards and notes I received



to help celebrate my 90th birthday. They were very much appreciated! Looking forward to returning in October. Peace be with you all.

> Ted Dumbauld (choir participant)





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

- Bill & Shirley Pitzer's daughter, Peggy George on July 22nd
- Richard Meyer's sister, Marilyn on July 31st in CO
- Tom Butcher, Former West District Superintendent, on July 27th in TX
- Phyl Cipolla's grandson, Philip Shainmark on Aug 4th
- Ron Blessin's brother, Bob
- Joyce Chotena Neary's daughter, Laurie Chotena on August 5th in Australia.



Thank you very much for the many expressions of sympathy on the death of Mike's brother. And thank you so much for prayers for our family and their health problems. It's a blessing having multiple church "families."

Betty & Mike Shepherd

New Beginnings

Fall is always a time of new beginnings, reconnecting and enjoying cooler weather. The United Women in Faith are gearing up for a busy season. Our September meeting will be at noon on September 16th in Wilson Fellowship Hall. A program presented by

¹ Virginia FitzPatrick will be about the Methodist connection of the Wyandotte tribe of Ohio and her personal connection to their story. Lunch is provided and donations will be accepted. All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

If you are unable to attend the September meeting, remember there are four circles you can attend during the month. Mary and Elizabeth circles meet on the second Monday of the month. Rachel Circle meets on the second Tuesday and Dorcas Circle on the second Wednesday. There are many opportunities to connect and learn with other women. The United Women in Faith have a purpose of focusing on the well being of women, children and youth through their missions.

On October 21st we will meet at noon in Wilson Fellowship Hall. Our service project will be to collect canned foods to assemble food kits for 7-can soup for Valley View Food Bank. Please check with your circle leader for more information.

The Annual United Women in Faith Celebration is October 26th at St Marks in Tucson. The theme is Food, Faith and Fellowship. Our guest speaker is Rev. Jamie Booth. There will be activities, worship, and an annual business meeting. Registration information is in the "Southwest Winds."

Although it's a bit early for Christmas, it is not too early to work on the Christmas tea which will be on December 6. If you are interested in hosting or co-hosting a table, contact Marty Holler. It takes a lot of women to put on the Christmas tea which is the main fundraiser to support our Mission projects. _.....





Maria Luz Saldana, Wesley Community & Health Centers @ Golden Gate Youth Director, and Erica with Golden Gate hold an After School banner which was designed by the children participating in the Golden Gate after school programs.

LEFTT: Sue Marshall, Vice President; Marilyn Ledbetter, President; Maria Luz Saldana, Wesley Community & Health Centers @ Golden Gate Youth Director, & Linda Borton showing the school supplies we delivered.

Willowbrook United Women in Faith is open to ALL women in the church and even our visitors. Bring a friend to enjoy time together.





of the universe. The Kris Krafters are busy creating quilts, fidget sleeves, cancer caps, color-

KRIS KRAFTERS September First is considered the Day of Creation marking the day God began the creation ful travel bags, holiday wreaths, lap robes and many other projects both to donate to local charities and in preparation for the Holidaze Craft Faire.

We have received several donations of fabric, craft books, guilt & embroidery patterns and crafting materials which we truly appreciate. It's so much fun to discover something that can be used in a current or future project. Thank you!

The Kris Krafters meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month, the 5th and 19th in September. Soon we will welcome back our Willowbrook family who left the summer heat of the valley for cooler areas of the country. Join us as we work toward a common goal of helping others. Everyone is always welcome.



LEFT: Table full of donated quilts, cancer caps, mats, scarves and lap robes. Just one meeting's donations.

Emmaus Reunion Group

Now is the time to connect with others who have experienced the Walk to Emmaus or Cursillo in their Christian journey. One of the primary strengths of Emmaus/ Cursillo is follow-up. Join the Willowbrook Emmaus Reunion Group on September 10th at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room.

Upcoming Walks at Christ Community UMC in Avondale.

> Men: Women:

October 10-13 October 17-20

If you are interested in experiencing the Walk to Emmaus, talk to either Pastor Ruth or Pastor Lois.



Wildlife World Zoo!

Thanks for all your contributions to the August collection for the zoo. We are again collecting newspapers and cardboard toilet tissue/paper towel tubes the weekend of September 7/8. Last month we missed some of the donations because they were put in the Valley View collection bins. Be careful and read the labels on containers.

Hopeful Glimpses of Autumn

RIGHT: Close-up of one of a bag made using an embroidered dresser scarf.





Willowbrook is hosting our annual Holidaze Craft Faire Friday and Saturday, November 1st & 2nd. Many vendors are preparing their wares. The committee has been working many months organizing a delightful vendor sale for us all.

Now, the committee needs YOUR help to make this event a total success. October 5/6 and 13/14 we will have sign-up tables to get YOUR help. Men & Women are welcome!

We'll have schedules available for set-up before the sale and for take-down after the sale. There will also be schedules for help in the kitchen, the Patio Café and Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe. Please stop by and pick the best date, location and time that you can help.

Bakers and Candy Makers, we also need your help! We need product to sell in Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe. We have discovered in past years we have some very talented men and women here at Willowbrook. Start your preparation NOW to make your best sweets to sell. We need breads, cookies, cakes, candy (fudge, peanut brittle or your favorite). Dig out your favorite old family recipe or your favorite food which represents your family's country of origin. Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe is one of most popular booths, so make plenty!



GRIEF SHARE A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this

13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

At Willowbrook GriefShare meets each Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Library Lounge. You don't have to be a member, or attend the church, to be a part of the GriefShare program.

September	4	Your Grief Journey
September	11	Loneliness & Sadness
September	18	Self-Care
September	25	Fearful & Overwhelmed
•		



The Revised Common Lectionary—a threeyear cycle reading through the Bible based on the synoptic gospels of (A) Matthew, (B)

Mark and (C) Luke. If you read the lections for all three years, you will read 85% of the Bible. Join us Monday mornings at 11:00 am to read the following Sunday's lectionary and talk about it and end at noon.

 \star The weekly readings for SEPTEMBER are:

		~ <u>.</u>
CLASS DATE	DATE USED	
🕺 August 26	September 1	X
Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Ps 45:1-2, 6-9 OR Ps 72	\bigstar
🛧 James 1:17-27	Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	\bigstar
		$\widehat{\bigstar}$
September 2 (No Class)	September 8	~ <u>`</u> _`
Y Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23	Psalm 125 OR 124	*
🛧 James 2:1-17	Mark 7:24-37	\bigstar
🛠 September 9	September 15	\bigstar
Proverbs 1:20-33	Psalm 19	\bigstar
✓ James 3:1-12	Mark 8:27-38	$\widehat{\bigstar}$
		1 A 1
🛪 September 16	September 22	*
🛧 Proverbs 31:10-31		
	Psalm 1	\bigstar
✓ James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Psaim 1 Mark 9:30-37	\mathbf{x}
🙀 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Mark 9:30-37	~ ~
→ James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a ★ September 23		
 → James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a → September 23 → Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 	Mark 9:30-37 September 29	
 ✓ James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a ✓ September 23 ✓ Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 ✓ James 5:13-20 	Mark 9:30-37 September 29 Psalm 124 Mark 9:38-50	****
 → James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a ☆ September 23 ☆ Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 ☆ James 5:13-20 ☆ September 30 	Mark 9:30-37 September 29 Psalm 124 Mark 9:38-50 October 6	
 ✓ James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a ✓ September 23 ✓ Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 ✓ James 5:13-20 ✓ September 30 ✓ Job 1:1; 2:1-10 	Mark 9:30-37 September 29 Psalm 124 Mark 9:38-50 October 6 Psalm 26 or 25	****
 → James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a ☆ September 23 ☆ Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 ☆ James 5:13-20 ☆ September 30 	Mark 9:30-37 September 29 Psalm 124 Mark 9:38-50 October 6	

3rd Tuesday @12

3rd Tuesday @ 12 on September 17th

Join in our 3rd Tuesday, on September 17th at noon, Barro's Pizza with salad and sherbet will be served.



Following lunch, our speaker will be Patricia Magyar, from UMOM (United Methodist Outreach Ministries), to explain what UMOM does.

Please sign up September 7/8 or 14/15 so we can order enough pizza. You may also sign up at that time to help with the event.

There is no charge for the lunch, but donations are always welcome.

As a follow-up, the Outreach Team is offering a UMOM tour on October 4th at 10:00am. Tour sianup information will be published both in the E-News and in the Sunday bulletin, or at the 3rd Tuesday luncheon.



Caregivers Support Group

This group meets every Thursday—9:30-10:30am in the Library. It is a safe place to share concerns, exchange ideas and support others also facing the challenges of a caregiver of loved ones.

The group is fFacilitated by trained representatives from Benevilla. 623-585-4999





WE LOVE OUR WILLOWBROOK VOLUNTEERS

On July 21st, following the Sunday service, Liz Peck, Vianna Fieser, Betty Jones, Marilyn Ledbetter, Debb Pearson, Grace Marin-Woolsey, Thelma Muse and Karen Brooks all met in the kitchen to prepare and pack brown bag to-go meals for the Justa Center. Each brown bag meal consisted of a ham & cheese sandwich, a peanut butter & jelly sandwich, mayo & mustard, a packet of cheddar cheese sandwich crackers, and a brownie.

We prepared 80 brown bag meals! Anyone entering the kitchen when all this was going on might have found it a bit chaotic, (okay, it was MORE than a bit chaotic) but it was a LOT of fun! Because we had so many volunteers, the meals were made and packed in less than

two hours.

The following day, Liz Peck delivered the meals to the Justa Center. A grateful helper at Justa Center is unloading the car. Thanks to everyone who helped make this outreach event such a great success.



Winsome Widows enjoyed lunch, followed by an afternoon of Mexican Train and Rack-O. A social group for widows, Winsome Widows aims to embrace life, meet new people, and have fun. We meet on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. If you have any questions or need more information, contact Arlene Davidson.

L/R: Deb Pearson, Elaine Platt, Carol Widney, Sue Richmond, Jan Van Vugt, Arlene Davidson, Marilyn Ledbetter, Janet Sjoberg and Judy Arkwright.



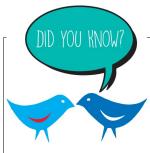


5th Sunday for HART (Help At Risk Teens)

September 2024 gives us another weekend to support HART Pantry with our 5th Sunday Collection.

Saturday September 28th and Sunday September 29th we will have drop off boxes available. Suggested food items include Ramen Noodles soups, Jif-to-Go, Pop | Tarts, 10 oz Peanut Butter, Protein bars/3 grams or more | protein, Austin/Lance-type crackers, single serving pudding and fruit cups, individual cereal cups, pop-top canned pasta and tuna or chicken snack packs.

Remember, there is always a bin in Fellowship Hall | marked "HART Pantry" to drop off travel size toiletries such as deodorant, shampoo, and toothpaste. Keep in mind the At-Risk Teens served by HART carry everything in their backpacks, so smaller is better!

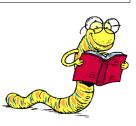


The Willowbrook Foundation was incorporated in March 1983. The Foundation Board consists of eleven directors, four of whom hold specific positions within the church.

These positions are the Senior Pastor, the President of the Board of Trustees, the Chairperson of the Finance Committee, and the Lay Leader. The Foundation's goal is to increase its investment level so that the generated income can provide an annual contribution to support Willowbrook Church activities.

Willowbrook Readers Club

Hooked on Books usually meet on the 4th Thursday of each month in the church library at 1:30 p.m. If you



love to read, come join us for great fellowship and discussion! New members are always welcome!

Here are our books for the next few months: September 26: *The Wager* by David Grann October 24: *The Women* by Kristin Hannah November 22: Friday Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers by Jesse Sutanto.

{With Thanksgiving being on the 4th Thursday, we are meeting Friday, November 22 instead.

December: We will each read a Christmas-themed book and we will share about it at our Christmas luncheon! (Date and location to be determined)

August 2024						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
				1	2	3
	5					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 COMMUNION; FOOD BANK; WEAR COLLEGE COLORS 9:00 am Summer Singers—MR 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	2 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY Church Office Closed	3 9:00 am Staff-Parish—CR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	4 9:00 am Valley View Volunteers— 10771 W Peoria Avenue, Sun City 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	5 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR	6 2:00 pm
8 COLLECT NEWSPAPERS	9	10	11 PATRIOT DAY	12	13
9:00 am Summer Singers—MR 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	9:30 am Mary Circle—WFH 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle—LL 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 11:30 am Emmaus Reunion Group—CR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 4:00 pm Dorcas Circle—WFH 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	9:00 am Trustees—CR 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL	5:00 pm
15 CHOIR RETURNS	16	17	18	19	20
9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 12:00 pm UWF Lunch Meeting—WFH 3:30 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH	9:30 am Membership/Education/ Evangelism—CR 12:00 pm 3rd Tuesday Lunch—WFH 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 9:30 am Foundation—CR 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH 1:30 pm Craft Faire Mtg—LL 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 2:30 pm Outreach—CR	
22	23	24	25	26	27
9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Three Simple Rules Bible Study—LL	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm 3rd Tuesday Planning—CR 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	9:30 am Church Council—CH 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 9:45-12:15 St. Mary's Volunteers— 13050 W Elm Street, Surprise 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 12:00 pm Tea Committee—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL	
29 HART PANTRY—NEW MEM-	30				
BERS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Three Simple Rules Bible Study—LL	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL				
			Pray for	r West District Church SEPTEMBER	es
			Prayers	Trinity UMC, Phoenix Trinity UMC, Yuma Sedona UMC	

October 2024 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 I	CH—Chapel CR—Conference Room CT—Courtyard LL—Library Lounge MR—Music Room PR—Prayer Room Sanc—Sanctuary WFH—Wilson Fellowship Hall
n Youthful Seniors Board—WFH	Sat 7 COLLECT NEWSPAPERS 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
n Youthful Seniors Event—WFH	14 1:00 pm Winsome Widows—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
	21 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
	28 HART PANTRY – NEW MEM- BERS 5:00 pm Sabbath Service – CH
Feeding the Community	Feed the Hungry Non-perishable Food WATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED Next Food Drive: October 5 & 6, 2024