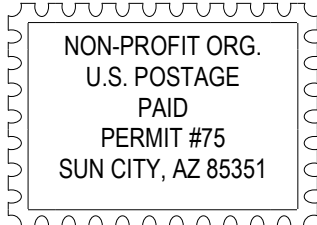




**WILLOWBROOK  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE  
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102



**CHECK WITH THE OFFICE TO SEE IF WE ARE BACK IN BUSINESS!**

**WEEKLY PRAYER & STUDY GROUPS**

Online only at this time.  
Check website or call church office for information.  
[www.willowbrookumc.org](http://www.willowbrookumc.org)

**CURRENT OFFICE HOURS**  
Mon-Fri—8:30 a.m.—NOON.

**CHECK TO SEE IF WE HAVE STARTED UP**

Sunday Worship  
[www.willowbrookumc.org](http://www.willowbrookumc.org)  
or  
Willowbrook Church on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/)



**DEADLINE FOR the April 2021  
Good News is March 8, 2021**



[www.willowbrookumc.org](http://www.willowbrookumc.org)

**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**  
**Rev. Jon Ierley—Pastor Emeritus**  
**Dr. Robb Butler—Music Director**  
**Carol Virolainen—Organist**  
**Laurie Lineberry—Director of Laity**  
**Russ Koan—Lay Leader**



**March 2021 Issue**

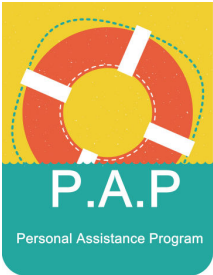
**GOOD NEWS**

**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 - 12:30 p.m. for lunch)*  
**(623) 974-5637 FAX: (623) 933-5466**  
Internet: <http://www.willowbrookumc.org>  
E-mail address: [bev@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:bev@willowbrookumc.org)

*The church office is open from 8:30 a.m. to Noon Monday-Friday. Other times 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](mailto:prayerchain@willowbrookumc.org).*

*Missing the March Calendar? Because at the time of printing we were unsure what activities, (if any) would go on, we thought it best not to include a calendar. Please check with the office or the E-News for the latest information.*



Your Personal Assistance Program is still active though socially distant. There are many ways PAP can help you.

**HOUSING:**  
Sue Royer of Senior Placement Resources has without charge helped many people find appropriate living arrangements. There was an article in a recent AAA magazine about ways she helps.

**FILING TAXES:**  
Sun City Community Assistance Network (Sun City Can) or (SCCAN)  
10195 W Coggins Drive—1 block South of Grand  
Sun City, AZ 85351  
PHONE: 623-933-7530—FAX: 623-933-0394  
EMAIL: [admin@SunCityCAN.org](mailto:admin@SunCityCAN.org)  
HOURS: M-F, 8:00 am—NOON

**FINDING VACCINES:**  
Sue Marshall provided some phone numbers to help with making an appointment for Covid-19 Vaccine. She says call one of these numbers and someone will eventually answer and assist setting up an appointment for you. Plus, a person from the Stadium said, "if you already have a number for your appointment, you can go anytime during the day of your appointment instead of waiting for the time you were given."

AZ Covid-19 Appointment Line  
602-542-1000

Arizona Department of Health Services  
480-573-0332

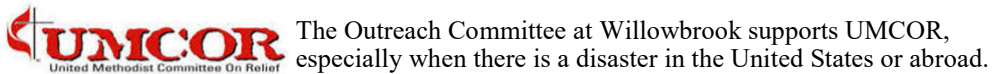
**AVOIDING SCAMS:**  
One of the current SCAMS is the Advance Fee Fraud. What happens is you are contacted by an imposter who may claim to be from a legitimate organization (like a financial institution or a fictitious government agency) offering money, products, services or something of value to you. Before you can access the cash or item you are asked to pay an upfront fee which will supposedly be refunded to you. When you pay they swiftly disappear with your money and without a trace. They may also continue to request fees after the first one.

**OTHER NEEDS?**  
Resources are available even if you don't know where to start. The PAP committee can lead you in the right direction. Contact Sandee Core, 602-826-3570, or [score10@cox.net](mailto:score10@cox.net)

**Personal Assistance Program**  
**We want to help you!**  
**You Are Not Alone.**

# What Is UMCOR?

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the global humanitarian aid and development organization of the United Methodist Church (UMC). UMCOR is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization operated under the auspices of the General Board of Global Ministries. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response in the United States and internationally. Our efforts are targeted in places where natural disasters, war, or conflict have done so much damage that communities are unable to recover on their own. In addition, UMCOR helps communities in the United States and abroad prepare for emergencies and to reduce the risk of disasters through a roster of training programs.





# GOOD NEWS!

by Pastor Gary Kennedy

**G**ood News! This newsletter is appropriately named. Any news from the church is good news because the church is about Good News. We live the Good News as proclaimed by Jesus. We, as followers of Jesus share the Good News of life in Christ. The church is the place of Good News because Jesus Christ is our Lord and the scriptures promise that the Lord is always with us in times of joy or struggle. The Good News is simply that, the Lord is with us!

Here's my thinking on the Good News for today on the subject of worshipping together. Please keep in mind that the newsletter deadline for this issue comes early (Feb. 8) and there will still probably be updates in our E-News. We are still working out details and options through our Worship Committee, Staff Meetings, etc. Here is what I can tell you today. We will have outdoor Easter worship services in the courtyard of the church this year. We will have two worship services, one at 9:30 and one at 11:00 am with a limit of 50 persons at each service. We will practice social distancing and wear masks. Reservations must be made for these services by calling the church office starting March 15 (no e-mail reservations) and reserving a seat at either of the services. We will still have our video Easter service on E-News also for those of you who don't feel comfortable attending a live service and for those who live too far away. We have been together in Spirit throughout this pandemic and we will continue to be. I ask you to keep watch through E-News or by calling the church for updates on other services. You will hear more about a Palm Sunday standing service, a Maundy Thursday prayer station event and of course updates on when we will be back in the Sanctuary. We will be using the Thursday morning E-News and the Sunday E-News and the Andrew Ministry as our primary means of updated communication. The Good News will be our main printed source of Good News about the church. This is a start. Praise God! Please be patient with us as our staff and committees are working hard.

Please be in prayer for your church. Ask God to show you what your part needs to be in this ministry of ours. Pray that we might discern God's focus for us and how we reach out to other people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. So, I will either see you in church soon or continue to be seen and heard by you in your homes on your computers or televisions. May God bless us all!

Pastor Gary Kennedy

**Willowbrook Strong**

## MARCH Birthdays

(We celebrate 90 years or more)

- 1 Joyce Chotena Neary
- 5 Robert Siebert
- 5 Betty Jones
- 7 Mary Ruth Linde
- 8 David Monk
- 12 Jo Kozacek
- 14 Mary Banks
- 17 Irma Vance
- 19 Joanna Lynn
- 21 Irene Dusenberry
- 23 George Hoffman
- 23 Phyllis MacTough
- 28 Mary Moore

## MARCH Anniversaries

(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

- 10 George & Jan Caruso 60th
- 16 Fred & Bonnie Anderson 65th
- 21 Jacque & Jerry Allen 63rd
- 25 Ron & Norma Hamilton 66th



[www.WillowbrookUMC.org](http://www.WillowbrookUMC.org)

## LECTIONARY - YEAR B

MARCH	LECTIONARY YEAR B (2021)
March 7 Lent 3	Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Cor 1:18-25, John 2:13-22
March 14 Lent 4	Num 21:4-9, Ps 107:1-3, 17-22, Eph 2:1-10, John 3:14-21
March 21 Lent 5	Jer 31:31-34, Ps 51:1-12, Heb 5:5-10, John 12:20-33
March 28 Palm Sunday	Mark 11:1-11, Ps 118:1-2, 19-29, Isa 50:4-9, Ps 31:9-16, Phil 2:5-11, Mark 14:1-15:47
March 29 Holy Monday	Isa 42:1-9, Ps 36:5-11, Heb 9:11-15, John 12:1-11
March 30 Holy Tuesday	Isa 49:1-7, Ps 71:1-14 1 Cor 1:18-31, John 12:20-36
March 31 Holy Wed.	Isa 50:4-9a, Ps 70, Heb 12:1-3, John 13:21-32

## March Calendar

(Items listed come from the main church calendar.)

- 4 Worship Committee ZOOM meeting
- 6 NO P.O.W.W.O.W.
- 6 Food Collection Day (Drop off)
- 9 Staff-Parish ZOOM meeting
- 11 Trustees ZOOM meeting
- 17 Outreach ZOOM meeting
- 23 Church Council ZOOM meeting
- 25 Finance ZOOM meeting
- 28 Palm Sunday



To my Willowbrook family,

Thank you for the many cards and well wishes I have received since my retirement. We've missed saying goodbye due the pandemic but know that we will continue to be part of the Willowbrook church family. Sue and I are getting our vaccine shots and hope to be able to join you in worship soon. We are busy cleaning and packing for our move to a new home in Litchfield Park sometime in April. We will be close to our great-grandson and look forward to watching him grow up. Surely 2021 will be a better year and we will be stronger for having persevered in faith.

Blessings,  
*Steve Marshall*



March is a "lucky" month for the Kris Krafters. We feel lucky to continue to work at home and to share our gifts with those in need.

We are lucky that so many crafters have donated needed supplies. The Kris Krafters Closet has baskets of worsted weight yarn in a rainbow of colors to knit and crochet. Kris Krafters have made baby blankets and caps, lap robes, and prayer shawls. We are lucky to have large containers of cotton fabric arranged by color, pattern, or season to make personalized masks, pillowcases, and kitchen items. Flannel is used to sew numerous "cat cozies" that the Arizona Humane Society appreciates for the cats and kitties awaiting adoption. Those lucky cats!



We will all feel lucky when quarantine restrictions are lifted and we can meet again in person.

Meanwhile, if you would like help with supplies for projects or want to donate your finished work, please contact Kris Krafra leaders:

- Karen DeVerna at 623-376-2578
- Jane Hager at 623-977-6222
- Cathy Hoben Calhoun at 602-702-8375.



## MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels can provide up to **two meals per day, seven days a week @ \$8.50 per day**. With each delivery, individuals receive a lunch and, often, a meal for dinner. Frozen meals can also be delivered for a weekend meal. Meals on Wheels is a win-win scenario for local taxpayers and seniors in need of assistance. Those **aged 60 years and older** are eligible to receive Meals on Wheels. Those younger than 60 but home-bound and unable to provide nutritious meals for themselves also qualify for the program. Caregivers and spouses of recipients are also eligible.

Sun City Meals on Wheels was founded in **1972** by two women who served about 10 clients. After establishing a delivery system, it was decided the organization would be an independent entity with no connections to either government or the National Meals on Wheels organization, so that we could establish our own procedures and guidelines. Our first home, Boswell Hospital

Willowbrook Outreach Committee funds Meals on Wheels Sun City/Youngtown through special offerings, outreach budget, and individual donations.

Meals on Wheels contact: 623-974-9430 for additional information

## 2021 Offering Envelopes



When you mail a check for your pledge, please include one of your numbered envelopes. It aids in the posting process. Pick up your 2021 offering envelopes in the church library (across the hall from the office) Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to Noon.

Numbers have changed!  
Remember to use NEW envelopes NOW.



## CLOTHES FOR VALLEY VIEW THRIFT STORES!

Valley View Community Food Bank needs donations of “gently used clothes, furniture and household goods.” Since Willowbrook did not have a rummage sale this year, give your donations to VVCFB. Their number is 623-455-2911. Money from their thrift stores along with donations helps cover pantry costs.

## ANDREW PHONE MINISTRY

Do you know someone without a computer who would like to receive a recorded message of encouragement from the pastor each Sunday morning on their phone? Simply have them call the church office to ask that their name be added to the list. 623-974-5637



## Parking Lot Under Construction

Milling machine chews up old asphalt in Willowbrook’s front parking lot. The old asphalt is being removed. The base will be re-stabilized. A new overlay of asphalt will be installed.



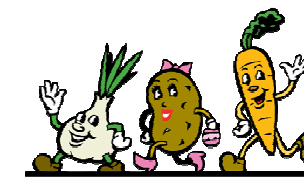
## Paying it back — and forward

During the pandemic, acts of kindness seemed especially meaningful. Last spring, as Covid-19 hit Native American communities particularly hard, an interesting transatlantic outreach occurred. Donations from Ireland began appearing in a relief fund for Navajo and Hopi families, leading administrators to suspect the account had been hacked. Then they realized a cross-generational payback was underway.

In 1847, Choctaw Tribe members sent \$170 overseas to Ireland to help with Potato Famine relief. That generosity was never forgotten, and by May 2020, people in Ireland had contributed more than \$4 million toward pandemic assistance for relatives of people who’d helped their ancestors. Many donors included an Irish proverb meaning “In each other’s shadows the people live.”

The concept of paying it forward dates back to a 1784 letter by Benjamin Franklin. It also echoes Jesus’ Golden Rule: “Do to others as you would have them do to you” (Luke 6:31). How might you live out this practice today?

NewsletterNewsletter



## Volunteer for P.O.W.W.O.W.

Willowbrook WILL NOT host a POWWOW in March. The parking lot will not be open to large trucks yet.

We still need volunteers to help with our next POWWOW. We have two volunteer shifts. The early shift is from 7:00-9:00am and the second from 9:00-11:15am. To volunteer, please contact Liz Peck at [e.peck@zona.net](mailto:e.peck@zona.net).



On the first full weekend of each month we collect cash for Valley View Community Food Bank and food for Salvation Army.

Our next food drive will be Saturday,  
March 6, 2021  
from 8 to 10 in Fellowship Hall.

Many thanks to Ron Leonard who continues to be the point person in collection of food.

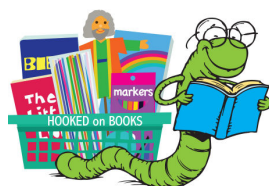


## WILLOWBROOK E-NEWS & SUNDAY SERMON

Have you been receiving weekly updates from the church during the pandemic? Have you been receiving the online worship service?

If you would like to receive them in your email, send me an email with your request. Provide your email address, phone number and name.

Betty Shepherd [betty@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:betty@willowbrookumc.org)



## Hooked on Books

Willowbrook Book Club meets on Zoom! We usually meet on the fourth Thursday at 1:30pm! If you are interested in being a part of HOOKED ON BOOKS, contact Nancy Prevost at [Nancybp7@gmail.com](mailto:Nancybp7@gmail.com) and she will send you a Zoom invitation before the next meeting on March 25.

Below is the book we are discussing!

March 25—*The Book of Two Ways* by Jodi Picoult



Each month we join other churches in prayer for churches of the West District in the Desert Southwest Conference.

## MARCH

City Square UMF, Phoenix  
Community Church of Buckeye  
Dove of the Desert UMC, Glendale



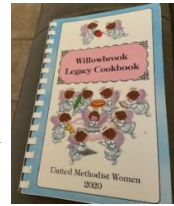
The United Methodist Women will meet via zoom March 15 at 12 noon. Enjoy your lunch while you zoom at that time. Nancy Prevost will send you an invitation if you are interested. If you are not able to zoom or join at that time, we will email the program to you. If you do not have access to the internet, we are happy to print and mail it to you. Just let Nancy Prevost know.

Our program will be *Bold Steps in Defiance of Injustice* which focuses on learning how a multitude of women acted to provide for the thriving of children and to understand how our actions today can provide for the thriving of mothers and children through advocacy for access to health care and paid family leave.

Since it is difficult to focus on a specific mission during this time, we are asking that you contact your state legislators, and national ones when there is an issue you would like to address. If you do not know your representative, you can go to [azleg.gov](http://azleg.gov) to find out and also send an email. As United Methodist Women we focus on issues that affect women and children, youth and seniors.

**COOKBOOKS ARE BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:**

We will have cookbooks for sale in the parking lot in March. We will aim for Wednesday, March 3 if they arrive by that time. If you would like one, please contact Sue Marshall at [smarshall92@cox.net](mailto:smarshall92@cox.net) or 623-546-6400. We can leave your book in the church office for you as well. The cost is \$10 a book. We have received lots of compliments about the recipes thanks to all who shared recipes and memories. Most are hearty, easy recipes. If you have participated in the Wednesday food delivery, some of those recipes are in the book. One which was used was a recipe by Peggy Vice for Chicken and Rice. It was chosen by the kitchen crew and then a few days later Peggy passed away so it was a way of honoring her as well.



**UMW READING PROGRAM:**

This is a good time to become active in the UMW reading program. We have added many new books to the church library. The church library is available when the church office is open. To participate in the reading program, one only has to read 5 books from any of the topics on the list. Information is available in the library.

**DONATE BIBLES TO UMOM:**

Willowbrook UMW will collect new or gently used Bibles including children's Bibles and older copies of Upper Room for the below request from the Conference:

UMOM needs our help. as they are running low on Bibles. In fact, the requests for Bibles are higher than the current supply. If you can, please donate a supply of new or gently used Bibles, including children's Bibles, for UMOM's clients. If you have old copies of Upper Room, consider donating them as well. Donations of Bibles and Upper Room may be sent to Patricia Magyar, UMOM New Day Centers.

*UMW from previous column*

All women are invited to participate in any program. Feel free to contact Sue Marshall, President or any Mission team member.

We hope to have a new directory printed and available in April. It is currently available online from Linda Borton.

*Justa Center* **Justa Note . . .**

Thank you for your continued support of Justa Center either with monetary or physical donations. **Bring NEW donations to the center at 1001 W Jefferson Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007 twice a month between 8-11 AM. If you plan on delivering directly, please call 602-254-6524.**

The next collection drives are as follows:  
**For safety reasons, all NEW items.**

**March 6 & 20**  
MARCH Needs Follow:  
Men's 3-in-1 Body Wash, Razors & Shave Cream, Toilet Bowl Cleaner with Bleach, Pocket-sized Notebooks or pocket planners, pens, Sweat Pants (Lg to 4x), Individually-wrapped forks, bottled water, coats or jackets (mostly men but some women), warm socks for men and women, and tarps to sleep on or heavy plastic rain coats.



**Saturday, March 6, 2021**  
In Wilson Hall from 8:00-10:00 a.m.  
Non-perishable food & water or cash



Many of our congregation have lost loved ones this year and have asked about our GriefShare program.

While it is still not safe for our weekly GriefShare meetings we want you to know there are still resources available to help you through your grief.

Go to: [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org) and sign up for FREE daily email devotions. These daily emails can be very comforting and supportive during this difficult time. While you are in the website, it is possible you will find other resources that will help you navigate through this process.



**MIDWEEK MEALS**

Midweek meals resume in March. Every Wednesday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. still using drive-by delivery.

March 3	Beef Barley Soup
March 10	Chicken Stuffing Bake
March 17	Chicken Vegetable Noodle
March 24	Pasta e Fagioli Soup
March 31	TBD

**Bible Quiz**

As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they'd had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

A. carrots and potatoes  
B. onions and garlic  
C. fish and leeks  
D. melons and cucumbers

Answer: A (See Numbers 11:4-6)



[www.willowbrookumc.org](http://www.willowbrookumc.org)



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

- Helen Duke Arbor Ridge
- Richard Ceser Garden Ridge
- Dorothy Zimmerman Anna's Assisted Living
- Martha Stromgren Annie's Care Home
- Doris Olson Beatitudes
- Dot Habkirk Brookdale Union Hills
- Judy Neiman EnClave@Chandler
- Robert Nelson Family Matters Care
- Mary Banks Freedom Plaza, The Inn
- Fern McKnight Sagewood Assisted Living
- Hazel Probio Sun City West Assisted Living
- Larry Hudson Woodmark



Rev Gary [revgary@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:revgary@willowbrookumc.org)  
Pastor Ruth [ruthblum49@gmail.com](mailto:ruthblum49@gmail.com)  
Laurie [Llineberry@dscumc.org](mailto:Llineberry@dscumc.org)  
Bev [bev@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:bev@willowbrookumc.org)  
Betty [betty@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:betty@willowbrookumc.org)  
Robb [robb2mus@gmail.com](mailto:robb2mus@gmail.com)  
Carol [carol.virolainen@gmail.com](mailto:carol.virolainen@gmail.com)  
Cynthia [bev@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:bev@willowbrookumc.org)

**STAFF EMAILS**

**SEND PRAYER REQUESTS TO:**

[prayerchain@willowbrookumc.org](mailto:prayerchain@willowbrookumc.org)



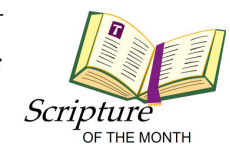
Our condolences to family and friends on the death of the following Willowbrook members &/or family & friends:

- Dennis Arend on January 16
- Charlene Vafiadi on January 19
- Harold Glick's brother, Donald, in Braybill IN on February 4
- Former Willowbrook secretary, Olive Norris in August 2020



If you have been part of the Willowbrook family for many years you might remember Olive Norris. She worked in the church office from November 1994 to May 2007. We received word that Olive passed away in August of 2020. Those who knew Olive will remember her as a kind gentle person who loved the people of Willowbrook.

*So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said "It is finished!" and bowing his head, he gave up His Spirit.*



*John 19:30 NKJV*