



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

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WEEKLY PRAYER & STUDY GROUPS		
MON	Lectionary Study	11:00 am—Library Lounge
MON	Intercessory Prayer	2:00 pm—Library Lounge
WED	GriefShare	9:30 am—Library Lounge
WED	Disciple 4	1:00 pm—Library Lounge
WED	Write Your Story	2:00 pm—Conference Room
SAT	Disciple 1	3:00 pm—Library Lounge

CURRENT OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday—8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

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 YouTube WillowbrookUMC



**DEADLINE FOR the APRIL 2022
Good News is March 4, 2022**



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
Lois Hedden—Pastor of Visitation
Laurie Lineberry—Director of Laity
Rev. Jon Ierley—Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Robb Butler—Music Director
Carol Virolainen—Worship Musician
Loretta Nash—Sabbath Musician
Nicholas Capatch—Live Stream
Russ Koan—Lay Leader



March 2022 Issue

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

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.

Welcome New Willowbrookers!
(Photos Courtesy of Laurie Lineberry)



Sandra Bacs
Joined: January 23, 2022

Dale & Janice Caron
Joined: January 22, 2022

Margaret Chinn
Joined: January 22, 2022

Barbara Dodd
Joined: January 22, 2022

Joyce Kahland
Joined: January 23, 2022



Donna Lease
Joined: January 23, 2022

Casey Pacione
& Ellen Glatz
Joined: January 22, 2022

Carl & Jean Stalowski
Joined: January 22, 2022

Steven & Lana Williams
Joined: January 23, 2022



We are going to try and get the Fletcher Appreciation Dinner in before our winter visitors go back home. It will be the traditional rummage sale dinner. (All you can eat Ham, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans and Dessert)

The dinner will be held Friday, March 25 at 5:00pm with a cost of \$5. Tickets will be on sale following church services Saturday, March 5 through noon March 20. Also, during the week, tickets will be available in the church office..

We have kept the cost of the meal low for a reason. We ask you to bring your check book for an offering to the Outreach Committee in the name of Bud and Nancie Fletcher.

Hope to see you all on March 25th!
Jim Dodd



Four Corners Native American Ministry News

Excerpts from a December 11th Thank You Note

“First and foremost, we appreciate each and everyone of you. Thank you so much for your partnership... Your partnership helps us to save lives and make a difference. Because of you we can bless the community and beyond and because of you we too are blessed. May you have a wonderful amazing time at Christmas and a joyous New Year in the name of the living Christ.”

Blessings Always,

Rev. Tweedy Navarrete

Willowbrook members have always been strong supporters of outreach efforts. As the pandemic began, the Four Corners area and the Navajo nation were particularly hard hit by COVID-19. The Desert Southwest conference’s mission project in 2020 was, “Water for the Nation”. And Willowbrook responded by financially supporting this program.

Then in 2021, as schools started to reopen and back-to-school drives began throughout Arizona, the Four Corners area was no exception. In August, Rev. Tweedy held a Kid Fest where she distributed school supplies to 100 children. Unfortunately, over 400 children showed up for the event.

Upon hearing of the shortage, Willowbrook’s Outreach Committee purchased 50 backpacks. The committee also decided to more actively support Four Corners Native American Ministry. Because of donations received as part of our Thanksgiving offering, our church was able to forward over \$3,800 to this ministry.

None of this could have happened without you. Your Outreach Committee is grateful for your ongoing support. Thank You!

New Member Class

Our next new member classes are scheduled for March 13 & 20 at 11:00 a.m. in the Library Lounge. This two-session class covers United Methodism and the history of Willowbrook UMC. Watch for a sign-up table during coffee hour or at our Sabbath services.



Behind the Scenes Tour Wednesday, March 9 10:00am—12:00pm

St. Mary’s Food Bank was founded by John Van Hengel in 1967. Van Hengel came up with the idea of a “Food Bank,” where individuals and companies with excess food could “deposit” it, and those in need could “withdraw” it. He went on to become the founder of several other food banks across the country and even founded the national organization America’s Second Harvest (known today as Feeding America).

John van Hengel is referred to as “the father of food banking” and it all started right here in Phoenix, Arizona. Today, St. Mary’s is the second largest food bank in the United States.

Would you like to learn more? Join members of the Outreach Committee for a “Behind the Scenes Tour” of St. Mary’s on Wednesday, March 9th at the main complex on 31st Ave. Call Liz Peck if you are interested in going or look for signup sheets in Wilson Fellowship Hall after services starting February 13th.



Complete serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what’s called “The Serenity Prayer,” attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.”

—NewsletterNewsletter

Wounded Healers

“Nobody escapes being wounded,” writes Henri Nouwen. “We all are wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally or spiritually. The main question is not ‘How can we hide our wounds?’ so we don’t have to be embarrassed, but ‘How can we put our woundedness in the service of others?’ When our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers.” He continues, “Jesus is God’s wounded healer: through his wounds we are healed. Jesus’ suffering and death brought joy and life. His humiliation brought glory; his rejection brought a community of love. As followers of Jesus, we can also allow our wounds to bring healing to others.”

How might viewing Jesus as a wounded healer affect your relationship with him? What roles have wounds and healing played in your own faith life? How can you minister to other people from a place of brokenness?



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

- Dave Arkwright on January 28
- Doris Olson on June 24, 2020



Willowbrook Feeds the Hungry

Next Food Drive:
March 5 at Sabbath Service
March 6 in Fellowship Hall



Hooked on Books!

Join us in the Library Lounge at 1:30 pm usually on the 4th Thursday. Sometimes our discussion can get pretty lively. We would love to see some new people here. Please wear a mask if you are more comfortable.

Books we are discussing:

March 24—	<i>The Day the World Came to Town</i>	by Jim DeFede	Shared by Jane Johnson
April 28—	<i>The Rose Code</i>	by Kate Quinn	Shared by Jill Zitt
May 26—	<i>Destiny of the Republic</i>	by Candice Millard	Shared by Sue Marshall



GriefShare is a nationally known support group for people grieving loss through death. Using a video featuring experts on grief, along with a workbook and group discussion we help each other sort through those erratic emotions and peaks and valleys.

Each session is “self-contained” so you can attend any time you want and you do not have to attend in sequence. No matter when you begin, you will find encouragement. You do not have to be a member of, or attend, the church to be a part of the *GriefShare* program.

The repeating *GriefShare* schedule at Willowbrook is:

March 2	The Journey of Grief: Part One
March 9	The Journey of Grief: Part Two
March 16	Grief and Your Relationships
March 23	Why?
March 30	Guilt and Anger
April 6	Complicating Factors
April 13	Stuck
April 20	Lessons of Grief: Part One
April 27	Lessons of Grief: Part Two
May 4	Heaven
May 11	What do I Live for Now?

GriefShare meets each Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Library Lounge.



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

MARCH

Dove of the Desert UMC, Glendale
Maryville Bridge UMC, Phoenix
Faith UMC, Phoenix



Excerpts from an UMCOR notice dated December 22, 2021



“UMCOR appreciates the tremendous outpouring of support for those impacted by the December 2021 tornadoes. As with any disaster, it is important not to travel to an affected area without an invitation from Conference Disaster Relief Coordinators. Currently, disaster supplies are at capacity. Leaders will communicate when additional help is needed throughout the long recovery process ahead.

In the interim, we invite you to show your support through UMCOR’s U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery. Please continue to pray for the communities, survivors, and pastors in these areas.

Solidarity grants to provide immediate funding are being released and UMCOR will work with impacted areas to journey from the chaos of response on through long-term recovery. Please continue to hold victims, survivors and relief workers in your prayers.”

* * *

This has been a particularly tough year for the United States as our country experienced one disaster after another: hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes. Many of you have independently contributed to UMCOR while others contributed to UMCOR through our church. This year, our Willowbrook family has donated over \$9,100 to UMCOR’s US Disaster Relief Fund.

As Methodists, we believe in the importance of giving our time and talents and helping those in need. It is hard to measure just how many lives have been touched by your support and generosity. On behalf of the Outreach Committee, THANK YOU!



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

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • Richard Ceser | Garden Ridge |
| • Helen Duke | Arbor Ridge |
| • Dot Habkirk | Brookdale Union Hills |
| • Joanna Lynn | Guardian Care Home |
| • Fern McKnight | Sagewood Assisted Living |
| • Judy Neiman | EnClave@Chandler |
| • Robert Nelson | Family Matters Care |
| • Martha Stromgren | Annie’s Care Home |
| • Dorothy Zimmerman | Anna’s Assisted Living |



Promise of Flowers UMW Retreat

Come enjoy a spiritual, fun, exciting day filled with singing, crafts, and beautiful scenery for reflection and prayer. And we will learn the significance of how flowers are portrayed in scripture!

When: March 19, 2022
Where: The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant, 41402 N 87th Avenue, Peoria, AZ
Times: 9:00am–4:00pm
Theme: Promise of Flowers
Facilitator: Rev. Ruth Blum

Cost: \$40.00 per person (includes continental breakfast and lunch) Check payable to Willowbrook UMW.

Cut-off date is Friday, March 7, 2022

Carpool from church parking lot leaves at 8:00 am. For more information contact Nancy Prevost

All church women are welcome.

Upcoming: April 18—Salad Luncheon



Writing Your Life Story

Join this class to meet people, have fun and write your special story. Generations to come will appreciate reading family history along with that history text book.



Come to Willowbrook United Methodist Church Conference Room Wednesday afternoons 2:00-4:00 p.m.

For more information contact Marge Starkey.



Can You Say Crochet?

Some people say that learning to crochet is easier than learning how to knit. Twirling yarn around a hook and pulling through a loop results in a chain of loops. That chain (and many more repetitions) can lead to the creation of caps, sweaters, lap robes and prayer shawls.

Crocheted "Fidget sleeves" are being made and decorated to be donated to those with Alzheimer's living in memory care, group homes or private homes. The sleeves provide a distraction without medication that can calm behavior and increase concentration. Come join the Kris Krafters as they crochet these and many other colorful items. If you would like to see the Kris Krafters in action, stop by Wilson Fellowship Hall from 9—11 am on Thursday, March 3 and March 17. If you are lucky there may even be some emerald green cookies on March 17!



Everyone is welcome! Displayed on the bulletin board are many examples of the work the Kris Krafters are doing. *Donations of medium-weight yarn are always welcome for these and future projects.



The church council is composed of the chairs of each church committee or a committee representative in the absence of the Chair, who vote on actionable items. Everyone from the church is encouraged to attend and join in discussion.

Points of interest from the January 2022 meeting are:

- ◆ Willowbrook added thirteen new members in January.
- ◆ Pastor Gary is excited about the leadership at the church. We can now send six delegates to annual conference in addition to the pastors.
- ◆ Lay servant classes are being offered on zoom and anyone is eligible to take them.
- ◆ The 2022 budget was presented for a vote and passed.

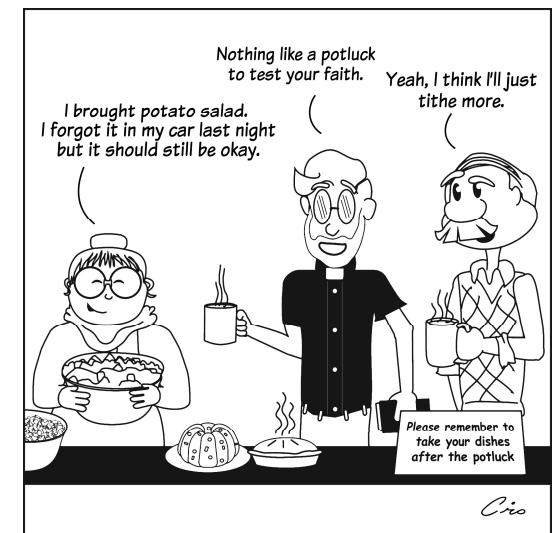


Hands-on reflection

While preparing props for a church photo shoot, I had to make a crown of thorns. In the woods, I found a long, wild, prickly plant that seemed promising. Just cutting a bit to bring home proved difficult, making me quickly question my decision to do this project sans gloves.

Once home, I worked the vines so they'd be flexible and not break when curved into a circle. That required finding multiple spots to grasp. Again, numerous finger pricks ensued. It wasn't until I formed the vines into a crown, however, that thorns started sinking into my skin and taking hold. Each shock of pain was an accident, but my focus remained intentional: I purposely tackled this endeavor bare-handed to glimpse what Jesus suffered on my behalf. The torn skin on my fingers was nothing compared to the gashes on my Savior's head. Working with thorns for a few minutes reminded me to be humbly grateful for what Jesus sacrificed to win my eternal salvation.

—Julie Lee
NewsletterNewsletter



Purchase the altar flowers for \$45 to honor the life or memory of a loved one.



In the Flower Book in the narthex write your name, your loved one's name, the occasion and the date you would like to have the altar flowers presented.

Bring or mail your check for \$45 marked "flowers" to the office or place in the offering plate.

March

February 2022						
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					

April 2022						
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

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 9:00 am Staff-Parish—CR 1:00 pm SEEP—CR 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	2 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple 4—LL 2:00 pm Writing Your Story—CR 3:00 pm Ash Wed. Service—CH 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	3 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregivers—LL 12:00 pm Worship Committee—CR	4 2:00 pm Youthful Seniors Board—CR	5 3:00 pm Disciple I—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
6 COMMUNION 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	7 10:00 am UMW Team Mtg—WFH 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	8 9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	9 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple 4—LL 2:00 pm Writing Your Story—CR 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	10 9:00 am Trustees—CR	11 5:00 pm Youthful Srs Event—WFH	12 3:00 pm Disciple I—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
13 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	14 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle—LL 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	15 9:30 am Evangel/Membership—CR 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	16 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 11:15 am Kitchen Committee—CR 1:00 pm Disciple 4—LL 2:00 pm Writing Your Story—CR 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	17 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregivers—LL 2:30 pm Outreach Committee—CR	18	19 NEW MEMBERS 9:00 am UMW Retreat—Lake Pleasant 3:00 pm Disciple I—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
20 NEW MEMBERS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 4:00 pm Indian Wells FG—WFH	21 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 3:30 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH	22 9:00 am Church Council—WFH 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	23 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple 4—LL 2:00 pm Writing Your Story—CR 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	24 1:30 pm Book Club—LL	25 12:00 pm Agape FG—LL 5:00 pm Fletcher Appreciation Dinner—WFH	26 1:00 pm Winsome Widows—LL 3:00 pm Disciple I—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
27 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	28 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	29 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	30 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple 4—LL 2:00 pm Writing Your Story—CR 7:00 pm Choir—Sanc	31		