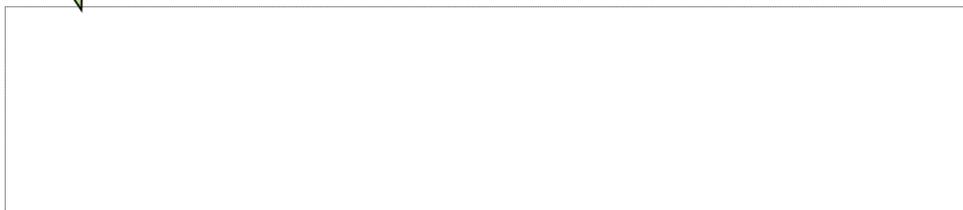




**WILLOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102**

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PERMIT #75
SUN CITY, AZ 85351



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](#)



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS
Mon-Thu—8:30am—4:00pm, Fri—8:30am—12:00pm

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



August 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 Thursday
8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. 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-Thursday, 8:30am-12:00pm 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.



**2022 Desert Southwest
Annual Conference
Delegation Report**

Picture it: Eight pairs of eyes glued to a large TV screen, eight minds alert to important issues as they were presented, eight pairs of hands ready to vote electronically as needed. It was the 2022 Annual Conference of the Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church, held June 10th and 11th. Eight clergy and lay delegates from Willowbrook gathered in our church conference room to virtually “attend” the conference as a group. They shared worship, discussions, fellowship (and of course, snacks).

The theme of this year’s conference presided over by Interim Phoenix Bishop Grant Hagiya was “Thrive.” Conference sessions were attended by in-person delegates in Mesa, Arizona and virtual delegates throughout the conference. Each day began with a joyful worship service as we celebrated how we as the church thrive through challenges with God’s help and mercy.

Continued next column

Continued from previous column

The business of the conference included important issues such as the projected sale of the Desert Southwest Conference office, (voted on and passed) and the conference 2023 budget, (voted on and passed).

Several conference committees gave reports. They presented the delegates with challenges to share with their congregations as we all serve Christ as United Methodists in today’s world.

An ordination service was held at which six people were ordained for ministry. Appointments of pastors were announced for the churches in each of the four districts in the conference. Praise God! Our beloved Willowbrook pastors will return for another year!

Every year the Annual Conference includes at least one mission project which is a collection of monetary gifts from individual congregations. This year there were two projects. It was announced that \$7,740.50 was collected for Long Journey DACA Study and \$10,511.50 for the Tonga Relief Project. These gifts represent our combined faithfulness as we seek to make it possible for all of God’s children to thrive.

If you would like more information or have questions about Annual Conference 2022, contact our Willowbrook conference delegates: Clergy members Rev. Gary Kennedy, Rev. Ruth Blum, Rev. Lois Hedden, Lay members: Laurie Lineberry, Debb Pearson, Russ Koan, Esther Lloyd and Lynn Koan.

NOTE: Lynn Koan served as the “Head of the Delegation.” Thank you, Lynn for your leadership.



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

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • Richard Ceser | Garden Ridge |
| • Helen Duke | Arbor Ridge |
| • Joanna Lynn | Guardian Care Home |
| • Lois McCrea | Doc’s Place |
| • Fern McKnight | Sagewood Assisted Living |
| • Robert Nelson | Family Matters Care |
| • Martha Stromgren | Annie’s Care Home |
| • Dorothy Zimmerman | Anna’s Assisted Living |

**DEADLINE FOR the SEPTEMBER 2022
Good News is August 4, 2022**

Willowbrook Strong



Air-Conditioning Fund

This year for we Willowbrookers who remain in Arizona during the summer the heat came out of nowhere. We jumped from a mild end of Spring to surprisingly hot temperatures in a short time. Then, what our Trustees and Finance Committees hope never happens, happened. An air-conditioning unit went out. Not just one bur both big sanctuary units went out! I have been involved in previous Trustee conversations about how we sure hoped the big units wouldn't give us trouble this summer. Well, the summer of 2022 evolved into the year of air-conditioning struggles.

First both of the big sanctuary units, then one of the fellowship hall units, and then, SURPRISE! one of our of-ice units went out. All the units are about the same age; 20 years old. They have done remarkably well over the years. That is until this year! Our Trustees, Finance Committee and Lay leader have been on top of the AC problems and necessary repairs have been made. At the writing of this article, we have replaced two sanctuary units, we are operating only one of two fellowship hall units and we have ordered a new office unit. What we don't know at this time is whether the second fellowship hall unit can be fixed. We will keep you posted in the E-News.

So, those of you who retreat to cooler places during the summer have missed all the excitement! We were forced to move into the Fellowship Hall for several weeks of worship. That actually wasn't all that bad. We worshipped while seated at round tables and had coffee before and after worship. We did "get acquainted" activities and got to meet new people. We had fun. Some suggested we should do more of this! We adapt very well to change.

Our finance people made adjustments and we have been able to pay for the AC expenditures as they came up, but it did mean that we had to be prepared for other budget adjustments as they come up. so, in our creativity, we have come up with an Air-Conditioner Fund. We have been collecting extra gifts from folks both in the offering plates and in the mail. We are simply calling this the Air Conditioning Fund. We will continue to collect as we continued gathering information of what everything will all cost when we are done. We will give updates as we go. Before we even started the fund, Willowbrookers were asking how they might contribute to offset costs. That's how we got started. The sanctuary units alone cost about \$65,000! This was just the starting point. Thank you for those initial gifts and for those that will still come. We will keep you posted.

God bless you,
Pastor Gary

Greening of Willowbrook

A few weeks back Pastor Lois gave us a message surrounding the meaning of the Christian year. We talked about the change in the colors displayed on the altar. We then spent the past month learning more about the Holy Spirit; how it characterizes a life changed once we have become a follower of Christ. We are not alone. The Holy Spirit was given to us to be our comforter, helper, counselor and guide.

I want to talk to you about the green time of the church year. There are two cycles of preparation focused on major events in the life of Christ: the Christmas cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and Easter cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost). After each of these seasons, we have a time of celebration. A season designated as Ordinary Time follows each cycle. This is the time we are experiencing right now.

A time of celebration. There is nothing ordinary about celebrations. The word "ordinary" does not mean "routine" or "not special." The ordinary time refers to the "ordinal numbers" (first, second, third, etc.) used to name and count the Sundays measuring time.

The purpose of this season is to support new disciples and the whole congregation in living out our gifts and callings. Our first celebration was feasting with each other at a brunch. Now it is a time to grow in our understandings and learn about the ways we can grow in our faith. It is time to see some new birth. It is time to green up Willowbrook.

The first Sunday in August, we will wear green to worship. When you go into fellowship hall, the tables will have a succulent plant for you to take home to nurture and grow. They need to be watered once-a-week. (Kind of like remembering to attend worship once-a-week!) Place it somewhere that also reminds you to feed your soul by reading scripture, praying and staying in touch with one another. How green will we be by September?

Blessings!
Pastor Ruth



(We celebrate 90 years or more)

- 4 Lucille Jacobson
- 8 Jean Johns
- 11 Glennis Fuller
- 12 Robert Nelson
- 12 Howard Smucker
- 14 Virginia Vandenberg
- 27 Olive Crowthers
- 28 William Shackelford



(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

- 1 Chap & Mary Fisher 63rd
- 1 Ron & Liz Byers 52nd
- 3 Steve & Marian Roberts 53rd
- 4 Terry & Carolyn Smith 54th
- 9 Steve & Sue Marshall 53rd
- 23 Bill & Sharon Sullivan 54th
- 25 Don & Jean McPherson 66th
- 25 Lee & Sandy Wilson 50th
- 26 Dale & Sharon Bachler 61st
- 26 Tom & Jackie Laughlin 50th
- 28 Jim & Lucille Jacobson 74th
- 29 Richard & Mary Wright 68th



Bring your own Bible, your favorite translation, to the Monday morning Lectionary Bible study in the Library Lounge. Everyone is welcome; each time is unique, so come when you can. We will read and discuss the lections for the upcoming Sunday. We study for one hour, so we will be done at noon. No special Bible knowledge necessary to come, talk and learn



The weekly readings for **AUGUST** are:

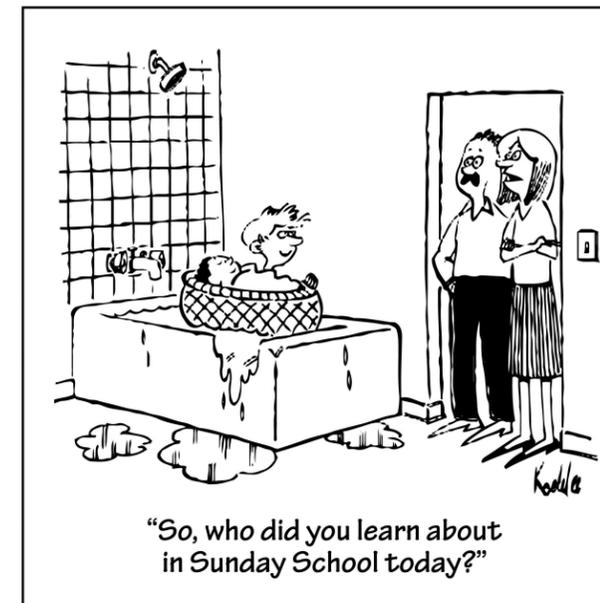
CLASS DATE	DATE USED
August 1 st	August 7 th
Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Psalms 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
August 8 th	August 14 th
Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
August 15 th	August 21 st
Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalms 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
August 22 nd	August 28 th
Jeremiah 2:4-13	Psalms 81:1, 10-16
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14
August 29 th	September 4 th
Jeremiah 18:1-11	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-21	Luke 14:25-33



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



AUGUST
New Song UMC, Surprise
Prescott UMC
Prescott Valley UMC



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

- Eleanor Heckendorn on June 8 in Eagle ID
- Jan Coddington on July 15
- Barbara West on July 18



Left:
Liz Peck

Right
Esther Lloyd

Justa Center

A call went out mid-May that Justa Center was planning to open a pilot resource center in downtown Glendale. The challenge: Within two weeks, transform a former reptile store into a day-shelter for homeless seniors.

Several volunteers from west valley Methodist churches responded. New bathrooms, new walls, a lot of paint, and good old elbow grease gave the old store a new lease on life. The center opened on June 6th. A shout out goes to Esther Lloyd and Liz Peck who helped with the painting and cleaning.



Willowbrook Feeds the Hungry Non-perishable Food and WATER Next Food Drive:

August 6 at Sabbath Service
August 7 in Fellowship Hall

Hooked on Books!



Join others who are reading the same books. Then Hooked on Books is for you! We are always looking for new people.

We meet in the church library at 1:30pm on the fourth Thursday of the month (except November).

Here are the books we are discussing this summer:

- August 25: *The Rock, the Road and the Rabbi* by Kathie Lee Gifford
- September 22: *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge
- December 22: *The Noel Letters* by Richard Paul Evans

October and November—TBD

Movie: *Singing In The Rain*
 August 12—6:00pm
 Root Beer Floats and Cookies
Sign-Up & Pay \$5
 July 30/31 & August 6/7

Movie: *Little Giant*
 August 26—6:00pm
 Drinks & Snacks
 \$3 at Door

COMING SEPTEMBER!
 A Hootenanny with
 Monday Morning Band
 Plus a Potluck



Did you know our church library has 14 different Bible versions, including 3 Four-in-One versions, 1 large print and 4 giant print? There are also several Bible dictionaries, concordances and commentaries.

The church library is currently being reorganized and updated with the hope of having a Library Open House in the fall. If there is anything you'd like to see included in the library, or if you have anything you'd like to donate to the library, please contact Diane Perez.



Benevilla[™] Caregivers Support Group

1st & 3rd Thursday of the month
 9:30-10:30am
 Willowbrook Library Lounge
 Hybrid in-person and on ZOOM

This group is for caregivers of loved ones with various diagnoses who want to connect with other caregivers for support. It is a safe place to share, learn and support others who are experiencing the challenges of being a caregiver.

Registration is not required. Facilitator Stephanie Lamb of Benevilla leads the group. Call Benevilla 623-584-4999 or check E-News for ZOOM link.



KRIS KRAFTERS

Getting Ready for Craft Faire!

Do you remember a song titled *Those Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer*? The Kris Krafters certainly are not letting the days of Summer turn into "lazy" days.

The machines are humming as the Kris Krafters make kitchen and bath items for the November Holiday Craft Faire. Some favorites are microwave bowl holders in several sizes, scrubbies, towel-toppers and dishcloths.

Additionally there are many unique handmade gifts and holiday decorations. If you have a crafty idea, please share it! Our tables will be loaded with gifts for everyone.



Left: The Kris Krafters and Karen DeVerna were happy to welcome a visit from former Kris Krafteer Co-Chairperson Murt Meierhenry and her daughter Leigh Fuhrman.

Below: The Navajo Nation received another trunk load of baby items from the Kris Krafters. Karen DeVerna shows a bright and cheerful baby hat and blanket, and a number of hand knit or crocheted items donated by the Kris Krafters.



United Women in Faith

Let's Have Lunch!

United Women of Faith is open to ALL women in the church and even our visitors.

Continuing our tradition, the United Women of Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) will meet for lunch during the summer months:

- August 15 at noon—Join Dorcas Circle at *Brother's Family Restaurant*, 8466 W. Peoria Ave. #1, Peoria AZ 85345.



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" with date to the office or place in the offering plate.



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 nor do you 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 Thirteen-week repeating *GriefShare* schedule at Willowbrook is:

Aug 3	Heaven
Aug 10	What Do I Live for Now?
Aug 17	Is This Normal?
Aug 24	Challenges of Grief
Aug 31	The Journey of Grief: Part One
Sep 7	The Journey of Grief: Part Two
Sep 14	Grief and Your Relationships
Sep 21	Why?
Sep 28	Guilt and Anger
Oct 5	Complicating Factors
Oct 12	Stuck
Oct 19	Lessons of Grief: Part One
Oct 26	Lessons of Grief: Part Two
Nov 2	Heaven
Nov 9	What Do I Live for Now?

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

August

July 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
31						

September 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 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	2	3 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Craft Faire Committee—CR	4 9:00 am Worship Committee—CR 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	5 2:00 pm Youthful Srs. Board—CR	6 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
7 COMMUNION 9:30 am Worship—Sanc Sign-up for YS Movie	8 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	9	10 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH	11 9:00 am Trustees—CR	12 6:00 pm Youthful Seniors Movie & Root Beer Floats—WFH Sign up & Pay by Aug 7	13 9:00 am Winsome Widows—Biscuits Café, 13852 W Bell Rd, Surprise 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
14 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	15 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 12:00 pm UWF Luncheon—Brother's Family Restaurant, Peoria 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 3:30 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH	16 1:30 pm M.E.E. ¹ Committee—CR	17 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH	18 9:00 am Finance—CR 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	19 10:00 am Lay Servant Training—LL	20 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
21 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	22 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	23	24 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH	25 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL	26 6:00 pm Youthful Seniors Movie & Snacks. Pay at door—WFH	27 11:30 am Winsome Widows—Tailgaters, 10146 W Lake Pleasant Pkwy, Peoria 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
28 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	29 10:00 am UWF September Team Meeting—WFH 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	30	31 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH			

¹M.E.E. is Membership, Evangelism & Education