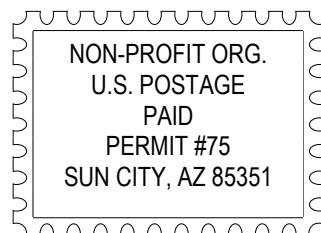




**WILLOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102**



March 2023 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

*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 To Willowbrook!

Photos Courtesy of Laurie Lineberry



Kay Decker Lockwood
Joined: Jan 29, 2023



Bob Lockwood
Joined: Jan 29, 2023



Pillows for Veterans

On March 11 & 12, Willowbrook is collecting pillows for veterans who are moving into permanent housing. The pillows do not need to be expensive, but they do need to be **NEW**. (Walmart has pillows for around \$3.50)

Place your donated items on the stage in Fellowship Hall. If you don't want to shop, we will be happy to accept your donation and do the shopping for you. If donating by check, make it payable to Willowbrook and write "pillows" in the memo section.

Let's build a mountain of pillows for Veterans!

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
willowbrookumc.org



OFFICE HOURS
Mon-Fri—8:30am—4:00pm



Bonnie Jarvis
Joined: Jan 29, 2023



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

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • Richard Ceser | Garden Ridge |
| • Joanna Lynn | Guardian Care Home |
| • Lois McCrea | Doc's Place |
| • Fern McKnight | Sagewood Assisted Living |
| • Barbara Pierce | Arizona Royal Ranch |
| • Dorothy Zimmerman | Anna's Assisted Living |

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
Dr. Linda Reese—Staff Counselor

New Member Class



Our next new member class is scheduled for March 5 & 12 at 11:00 a.m. in the Library Lounge. This two-session class covers United Methodism and the history of Willowbrook UMC. Watch for sign-up table during coffee hour or at our Sabbath services.



Last One Out . . .

Have you heard that old saying, "last one out turn out the lights" or "if you turn it on, turn it off"? That is something we all need to remember. Let's be good stewards of our limited funds for electricity.

Many times when we go through the buildings to check to make sure all the doors are closed and locked we also find lights that have been left on. Please remember the last one out needs to turn out the lights and shut the door. Thanks for your help.

**DEADLINE FOR the APRIL 2023
Good News is MARCH 4, 2023**

From My Perspective; Post-Op to a Positive Preaching Survey!

By
Rev Gary Kennedy

It was for me a once-in-a-lifetime experience, we can only hope! In these parts, the term, hip replacement is fairly commonplace. Advice, coaching and opinions were varied and I soaked them all in. By the time I went in for surgery this past December, I knew it all, but then I didn't. I found out for myself. Everyone's experiences were different. What I learned and didn't know before was that I needed a lot of rice. Not the good kind of rice that I like to eat, but a different kind of rice that was much more involved. RICE stood for Rest, Ice, Compression (socks), Elevating, and Exercise. That became my agenda every day. That was my only agenda every day. Holy cow! Rice and more rice! It helped and I learned to be patient. Not easy!

One thing that I had going for me was TV. I watched and listened to sermons. Great sermons! All from Willowbrook United Methodist Church. Those sermons were helpful and inspiring. They were just what I needed for encouragement and spiritual uplifting. The Livestream Services from Willowbrook UMC were wonderful. I watched every one of them and came away with this conclusion. "Those services are really well done and boy-o-boy, those preachers down there can preach!" Thank you, Pastors Ruth, Lois and Jon! You are truly God's voices!

I recently was given several issues of "Gallup" to read by one of our church leaders. One of the articles was entitled, "Sermon Content Is What Appeals Most to Church-goers." The article by Lydia Saad listed several things. The top two reasons that church-goers gave in a survey for attending church was:

1. Sermons or talks that teach you more about scripture.
2. Sermons or lectures that help you connect religion to your own life.

I was glad for the affirmation because our preachers do those top two things every week. At Willowbrook UMC, preaching is always biblical in content and endeavors to connect with daily life! That's the way it is supposed to be. And by the way, I didn't just watch sermons on television. No, not just sports; I love those old black and white movies. I watched a million of them! Wahoo!

See you in church or on Live-Stream

Rev. Gary Kennedy

Willowbrook Strong

SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?

Directions:
Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete John 20:29, NIV.

"B _ c _ _ s _ _ y _ _ h _ v _ s _ _ n m _ ,
 _
 y _ _ h _ v _ b _ l _ _ v _ d ;
 _
 b l _ s s _ d _ r _ _ t h _ s _ _ w h _ _ h _ v _ _ n _ t
 _
 s _ _ n _ n d y _ t h _ v _ b _ l _ _ v _ d ."
 _

JOHN 20:29, NIV

Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV

MARCH Birthdays

(We celebrate 90 years or more)

- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Joyce Chotena Neary |
| 5 | Betty Jones |
| 5 | Viola Seibel |
| 5 | Robert Siebert |
| 7 | Mary Ruth Linde |
| 8 | David Monk |
| 15 | Norma Hamilton |
| 15 | Mary Rearick |
| 17 | Irma Vance |
| 18 | Ward Foe |
| 19 | Joanna Lynn |
| 23 | George Hoffman |
| 23 | Phyllis MacTough |

MARCH Anniversaries

(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|------|
| 6 | Bruce & Melissa Cole | 52nd |
| 10 | George & Jan Caruso | 61st |

IN LOVING Memory

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

- Joyce Kahland's husband, Bob on January 28
- Former member, Bob Bricker, November, 2022
- Former Willowbrook Office Mgr, Kathy Lachman on February 2 in KS
- Barbara Pierce on February 11



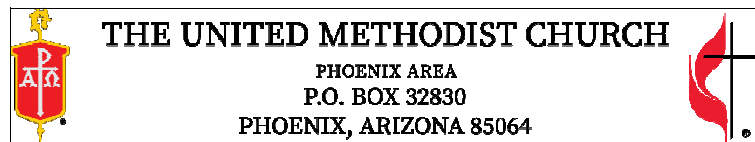
Willowbrook Church & Pastor Gary,

Willowbrook Church and members, thank you to all those who helped make our day special. Chap's memorial service was very nice, and we had many nice comments about how nice the service was. Pastor Gary did a great job. Chap would have enjoyed it.

God Bless You,
Mary Fisher & family

Altar FLOWERS \$45

*Find Flower Book in Narthex.
*Write your name, loved one's name, occasion, date you want flowers.
*Bring or mail check payable to church with FLOWERS on memo line. Or drop in offering plate.



Invitation to Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut's Service of Installation

The Episcopacy Committee of the Desert Southwest Conference invites you to the Service of Installation of Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut on Saturday, March 11th at 10:00 am (pacific)/11:00 am (mountain) at St. Matthew United Methodist Church (2540 West Baseline Road, Mesa, AZ 85202) with a reception following the service.

The service will be available via live stream and Zoom with closed captioning services for those who prefer to join using those methods.

In order to have an accurate count for translation services, the food at the reception, and childcare, we kindly request that you RSVP your participation **NO LATER THAN March 1st**, by copying and pasting this web address into your browser: <https://dscumc.org/2023-bishop-installation-service-registration/>

Bishops are the spiritual leaders in the church who provide ministry of servant leadership, general oversight and supervision within The United Methodist Church. They are to lead with a vital and renewing spirit; an enquiring mind and commitment to teaching; with vision and commitment to transform the Church and the world; with a passion for the unity of the church; and with a ministry of administration (¶403 of the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline).

Bishop Carlo was elected and consecrated in November 2022 at the Western Jurisdictional Conference that took place in Salt Lake City, UT. This installation service is a celebration of Bishop Carlo's assignment to the Desert Southwest Conference as our resident bishop.


To learn more about the role and office of the bishop and to hear Bishop Carlo's call story and intro video, please visit <https://dscumc.org/bishop-carlo/>.



WELCOME!

Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut dropped into our Sunday worship service on a recent casual whirlwind tour of West District Churches. Here he is speaking to the congregation about all of us working together as a team to spread God's love to the world.

WELCOME, Bishop Carlo!



Willowbrook Feeds the Hungry
Non-perishable Food
WATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED
Next Food Drive:
 March 4 & 5, 2023
 at Sabbath Service & in Fellowship Hall



March 10th—5:00pm
 Wilson Fellowship Hall

St. Patrick's Irish Trivia

Sign-up Feb 25/26 or March 4/5



Save the Date
BISHOP'S INSTALLATION SERVICE
 MARCH 10, 2023 | 11:00 AM (MST)
 ST. MATTHEW UMC
 2540 W. BASELINE RD, MESA, AZ 85202



Tour St. Mary's Food Bank



Mark your calendars for Monday, **March 27th**. That's when the Outreach Committee will be hosting a tour of St. Mary's Food Bank. We will be going to their location in the West Valley—13050 W. Elm Street. This is a great way to see and learn about the food bank and how they support not only those in the West Valley but Arizonians throughout the state.

We will meet at the church at **9:00** and carpool/caravan to the food bank. Signup sheets will be available after Saturday and Sunday services beginning **March 18/19** or you can contact Liz Peck.

H.A.R.T. Pantry



Did you know almost every week 700 items are removed from Hart Pantry shelves to feed homeless teens so they will stay in school?

Current Priority Needs:

- Canned Tomato & Chicken Noodle soups (easy open)
 - Pudding cups
 - Tuna/Chicken salad packets
 - Crackers (small packs)
 - Canned chicken (easy open)
- ITEMS WITH CURRENT BEST BUY DATES



Did you know...

if you have a traditional IRA and if you have to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) out of that IRA each year, you can direct that all or part of your RMD goes to the church. This means that the funds go directly from your financial institution to the church and do not count as taxable income—so you don't owe any taxes on the funds! The process is usually simple and quick to set up and provides a great tax-free way to donate to the church. If you are interested in finding out more about this tax-smart strategy, contact your IRA Administrator.



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 24th meeting:

Pastor Gary was back for his first meeting after having hip replacement surgery in December. He thanked us for the many cards, notes and cookies he received while he was recuperating. He said his substitutes led in style while he was gone, and it is a joy to be back.

A member of each church committee or group gave a short statement about its goal for 2023. Volunteers are still needed for many of the groups or committees. The ministry fair is intended to let people know of the many opportunities there are to serve at Willowbrook.

Willowbrook Readers Club!



Hooked on Books is for you if you like to discuss books you are reading! We welcome new people! We meet in the church library at 1:30pm on the fourth Thursday of the month (Third Thursday in November).

Check out the book for March!

- * Mar 23 *The Madness of Crowds* by Louise Penny




At a recent event here at Willowbrook, Harold & Janet Glick took advantage of the lively music to enjoy a dance together.

March

February 2023						
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 2023						
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 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple IV—LL 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	2 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR	3 2:00 pm Youth Srs. Board—LL	4 3:00 pm Disciple I—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
5 COMMUNION 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	6 9:30 am UWF Team Meeting—MR 10:00 am Kurth Memorial—CH 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	7 9:00 am Staff-Parish—CR 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	8 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Dorcas Circle—LL 2:00 pm Writing Class—The Palms 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	9 9:00 am Trustees—CR 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	10 5:00 pm Youthful Srs. Event—WFH	11 1:00 pm Winsome Widows—Cheddar's 3:00 pm Disciple I—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	14 9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	15 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 10:00 am Foundation—CR 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple IV—LL 3:30 pm Outreach—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	16 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	17 St. PATRICK'S DAY	18 8:45 am-3:30 pm UWF Day Apart—Lake Pleasant Recreation Center 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
19 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Hearing God Study—LL	20 SPRING BEGINS 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 3:15 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH	21 9:30 am Membership Evangelism Education—CR 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	22 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple IV—LL 2:00 pm Writing Class—The Palms 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	23 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL	24	25 NEW MEMBERS 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
26 NEW MEMBERS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Hearing God Study—LL	27 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 9:00 am St. Mary's Tour 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	28 9:30 am Church Council—CH 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR	29 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Disciple IV—LL 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	30 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	31	
					<div data-bbox="2253 1679 2946 1917" data-label="Text"> <p>Each month we join other churches in prayer for churches of the West District in the Desert Southwest Conference.</p>  <p>MARCH Dove of the Desert UMC, Glendale Maryvale UMC, Phoenix Faith UMC, Phoenix</p> </div>	