

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





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

- Donna Barr
- **Richard Ceser**
- Joanna Lvnn
- Lois McCrea
- Fern McKnight

Avanti Senior Living Highland Park Asst. Living **Guardian Care Home** Doc's Place Sagewood Assisted Living

DEADLINE FOR the AUGUST 2023 Good News is July 4, 2023



NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

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PERMIT #75

SUN CITY, AZ 85351

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS Mon-Thurs-8:30am-4:00pm Friday-8:30am-Noon

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 Lineberrv—Director of Laitv Rev. Jon lerley—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





Welcome To Willowbrook!

Photos Courtesy of Laurie Lineberry





Joined: May 28, 2023

Dianne Mason Joined: May 28, 2023

Stay connected this Summer @Willowbrook UMC

If there is one thing the pandemic has taught each of us is that we need one another. We need to stay connected in one way or another. Every year part of our church family scatters to other parts of the country. Some stay in Arizona but go to the cooler North. Some go back to the state where they were born or spent most of their growing up years.

We found that people who stay here need connections. The Willowbrook church family is going to help us stay connected during these hot months. Here are a few of the **NEW** ways you can connect with one another.

Tuesdays @ 12 is a time for lunch and either a guest speaker or an activity to enjoy. This will be at noon on the third Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. Donations are Continued next column Willowbrook United Methodist Church "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" 19390 North 99th Avenue Sun City, AZ 85373-1102

GOOD NEWS

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday (closed 12 - 12:30 p.m. for lunch) 8:30 a.m. —Noon Friday

> (623) 974-5637 FAX: (623) 933-5466 Internet: http://www.willowbrookumc.org E-mail address: bev@willowbrookumc.org

SUMMER Office Hours: 8:30am-4:00pm Monday-Thursday 8:30am-noon 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.

Continued from previous column

appreciated. Signups are in Fellowship Hall on Sundays. We enjoyed our first one on June 20th.

July 18th the program will be Del Webb: an American Success Story. There will be two door prizes! Watch the Enews and newsletter for August updates.

Telethons: Do you remember the telethons of Labor Day weekend with Jerry Lewis? People would call in and donate money to MS. We're going to flip this idea.

We are calling members of the church because it is:

*National Cheer Up the Lonely Day	July 11	9:30
*National Thoughtful Day	Aug. 28	9:30
*National Encouragement Day	Sep. 12	9:30

You can sign up in Fellowship Hall to help: then show up with your cell phone on the designated day.

Lists of people to ringy dingy will be provided and so will coffee and donuts.

Jammin' in worship for the month of July:

July 16 is National Ice Cream Day so, you guessed it, Fellowship time won't have cookies and coffee. We will have ICE CREAM!

July 23 Danny, the jazz trumpeter, will be here to jazz up our hymns in worship and give us some special music. If we're Jammin' with music of course we have to change fellowship time to Jam and Biscuits.

July 30 Worship time will be a down-home HYMN SING. There will be cards in the pews 2 weeks before for you to write your requests, Place them in the offering plates and we'll be singin' the top ten and possibly more.

Can't wait to see you here! Can't wait for what happens in August!!



We're Back!

At a recent staff meeting, we reflected on how much experience our congregation has in the church. If we took the time to add up how many years all of us have attended church during our lifetimes, I'm sure the number would be mind-bogaling.

At the Annual Conference session held in Mesa, AZ on June 15-17, Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut reappointed Pastor Lois, Pastor Ruth, and myself back to Willowbrook United Methodist Church for another year of service. This led me to think about the wide-range of experience our three active clergy members bring to Willowbrook.

Pastor Lois was an active lay person in several church settings over the years prior to hearing God's call to go to Seminary. Lois entered ministry as a second-career person. She attended Perkins School of Theology in Texas. Her first church assignment was to Winslow First UMC in 1998. She was then an Associate Pastor at Central UMC in Phoenix, followed by an appointment to Pahrump Valley UMC in Nevada. She then returned to Phoenix for an assignment at Sunrise UMC, followed by a return trip to Nevada to serve at Mesquite UMC. Her last appointment before retirement was to Sun City First UMC where she served as Senior Pastor until 2020. She is now appointed in retirement to Willowbrook UMC. As a result, Lois has served 25 years under appointment to the Church.

Pastor Ruth also entered ministry as a second-career person. After college, she worked in the school system as a Music Teacher for several years. She then attended United Theological Seminary in Ohio. In 1998, she was consecrated as a Diaconal Minister. She served at Rocky River UMC in Ohio as a Minister of Education. She was then appointed to Dove of the Desert UMC in Glendale, AZ as the Minister of Discipleship. She officially retired from Dove of the Desert and, was appointed in retirement, to serve at Aldersgate UMC in Phoenix and now at Willowbrook UMC. She has 25 years of experience under appointment to the Church.

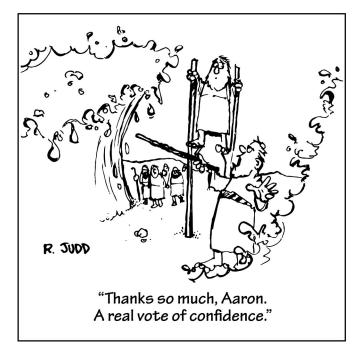
For me, my journey was different in that I began seminary right after college. I attended the School of Theology at Claremont in California and received my first church appointment in 1982 as an Associate Pastor working with youth and young adults at Paradise Valley UMC. I was then appointed as the sole Pastor to Christ Community Church in Avondale, AZ. My next appointment was to Arizona State University as the Wesley Foundation Campus Minister and Associate Pastor at Tempe First UMC. This was followed by my first appointment as a Senior Pastor to Gilbert First UMC. I then served as the Central West District Superintendent for 8 years followed by my appointment as Senior Pastor to Willowbrook. I have a total of 41 years of service under appointment to the Church.

The point of all this is that, just like we have reflected on the many years of church involvement by the laity of Willowbrook, we also have many years of service by the pastors to the church. We celebrate that the Bishop has reappointed all of us to Willowbrook so that we may all continue to serve God together. We three pastors enjoy working together and we are grateful for the opportunity to continue serving together at Willowbrook. Thank you to Bishop Rapanut and especially, to the congregation of Willowbrook.

See you in church and/or Live-Stream

Rev. Gary Kennedy





hank Your committee and conareaation have again provided a major donation including substantial quantities of foods and toiletries.



To name a few there were 108 packs of Austin Crackers; 244 breakfast bars; 55 tuna/chicken cans; 50 cans of soup, and major quantities of other items we need weekly. Thank you just doesn't seem enough for your generosity. You are and have been a blessing to HART Pantry.

I hope you are able to have a wonderful restful summer.

Thank you again for "loving on" our kiddos,

Ruth Langford, Executive Director HART Pantry



Willowbrook Friends, I want to thank you all for the cards, thoughts and prayers for Richard during the time he was in

the hospital, rehab and now home. He is gaining strength and is very determined to overcome this.

My family and I believe that faith, prayer and good thoughts played a big role in his recovery and we appreciate all of them. We still have my husband, their father and grandfather with us.

> Thank you again from all of us! Zaula Condit





Willowbrook Feeds the Hungry Non-perishable Food WATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED Next Food Drive: August 5 & 6, 2023 at Sabbath Service & Sunday in Fellowship Hall



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

Jim Dodd on May 26

To My Willowbrook Family,

There are not enough words to fully express my heartfelt thanks for the cards, comforting

words, and support you have extended to me and my family during this difficult time. A special thanks also to Rev. Gary and Rev. Ruth for their visits and support. It will always be remembered by the family of James Becker. I am truly blessed to have people like you in my life.

Sincerely, Charlotte Becker



Don & Elaine King delivered our most recent collection of aluminum tabs to the Sun City Posse for donation to the Ronald McDonald House Charities. They received a thank you letter from Shery

Goodman expressing gratitude and sharing lots of information about the process and how the tabs help.

Many individuals and organizations in the area collect and donate tabs. When the posse has a sufficient amount they deliver them to the Ronald McDonald Charities office where they are stored in a large bin awaiting pick-up by an aluminum recycling company.

The funds are used to help Ronald McDonald House provide accommodations for families while their child is in the hospital or receiving treatment. The house is a retreat for families to sleep, relax, have meals and not worry about a lodging financial burden so they can focus on their children at a difficult time.

Thank you, Willowbrook for continuing to donate tabs!





Members of the Outreach **Committee delivered four** VERY large bags of items to Wesley Community Center's Golden Gate campus in May. Maria Saldana, Youth Services Program Director,

was delighted to receive the donations which will be used as prizes and incentives for the children enrolled in the center's summer program.

The baas contained books, puzzles, sidewalk chalk, pinwheels, PlayDoh, learning games and snacks for breaks. Just imagine the smiles these treats will bring

to the children! Thank you Willowbrookers for your continued support of many Outreach projects.



In May seven Willowbrook members delivered and served a meal of sloppy joes, macaroni salad, chips, tangerines, brownies, and soda to the visitors at Justa Center. July 22 is the next Saturday we will provide a meal which we do quarterly.

In addition we will provide 60 bagged lunches one Saturday a month during July, August, and September. Thanks go out to all the volunteers who will be preparing and delivering these lunches.

Justa Center is dedicated to helping homeless veterans and seniors. If you want to help defray the cost of these meals, simply write Justa on the memo line of your check or on your donation envelope.



Excerpt from heartfelt thank you from Jesse Ramirez, Founder/President of Valley View Community Food Bank:

Because of your GOODNESS... we are able to help seniors, families, children, and homeless people who are desperately hungry... our mission is to serve those in need with compassion and respect while providing the resources for wholesome nutritious food... Your on-going efforts are appreciated so much!!!

He also expressed appreciation for the volunteers who help on a regular basis and the way we came through when he asked for grocery bags and egg cartons. [Pictures below]



Helpers Pictured: Ellen Glatz, Fran Triguero, Carol Widney, Food Bank Lead Coordinator Lois Stewart, Melissa & Bruce Cole, Loren Littlefield, Dave & Linda Kresl, & Liz Peck





Sample: Egg Cartons & **Bags Galore!**



Benevilla Donation

Benevilla Family Resource Center hosted a Mother's Day Shower for expectant moms. The blankets, quilts, receiving blankets, burp cloths, caps, sweaters and dresses are areatly appreciated. In fact just after the photo was taken, a young mom came in the office and heard what the Kris Krafters do to help others. She left with a colorful baby cap and blanket and sent her warmest "Thank You!" for the aifts for her little one. This is just one example of appreciation for the Kris Krafters many donations to various nonprofits. We are just as appreciative for all the yarn, fabric and other supplies as well as the generous monetary donations to the Kris Krafters! Thank You!

Feel free to join the Kris Krafters as we sew pillow cases for "Rvan's Case for Smiles" campaian which provides pillow cases for children with cancer. We are also preparing for the Holidaze Craft Faire, November 3 & 4. Wilson Fellowship Hall is the meeting place on the first and third Thursdays at 9 AM. Hope to see you there!







The church council is composed of the chairs of each committee or a committee representative in the ab-

sence 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 May 23, 2023 meeting are:

- There are new activities being planned for this summer to help us stay connected with each other.
- Donations from the special Easter collection totaled \$6430.00. The money was equally divided between the Salvation Army and St. Mary's Food Bank.
- Proceeds from the November Holidaze Craft Faire were \$5155.00.
- Annual conference will be June 15-17. Next years General Conference will be April 23-May 3rd, 2024.
- The refrigerators and freezer in the kitchen have been replaced.



For many years, Willowbrook, not only financially contributed to the Mighty Methodist Coalition home builds, we also provided volunteers to help build those homes. In the past few years, between the pandemic and the aging of our congregation, we found it was harder and harder to muster up a team to help with the building of the coalition home.

So, this year we shifted gears—yes, we still financially supported the home build—but we "volunteered" in a different way. We might not have the strength to hang wallboard or shovel granite, but we sure can still cook.

On Saturday, May 13th, Liz Peck, Linda Borton and Loren Littlefield, members of the Outreach Committee, brought breakfast to those volunteer builders working on

this year's coalition home. Hot coffee, juice, muffins, donuts, yogurt, and fruit filled out the menu. We had great fun representing Willowbrook and the volunteers certainly appreciated the refreshments.





The Revised Common Lectionary is a three-year cycle of reading through the Bible based on the synoptic (similar) gospels of Matthew, Mark and

Luke. The years are titled A (Matthew), B (Mark) and C (Luke). The Christian liturgical year begins the first Sunday of Advent and ends on Christ the King Sunday. If you read all the lections for all three years, you will read 85% of the Bible. Come and join us on Monday mornings at 11:00 am to read the upcoming Sunday's lectionary and to talk about it. We finish at noon.

 \bigstar The weekly readings for **JULY** are:

🛧 CLASS DATE

June 26 Gen 22:1-14 🖈 Romans 6:12-23

📌 July 3 🛠 Gen 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 🕁 Romans 7:15-25a

🕁 July 10 🛧 Gen 25:19-34 • Romans 8:1-11

🕁 July 17 Gen 28:10-19a Romans 8:12-25

July 24 Gen 29:15-28 Romans 8:26-39

DATE USED July 2 Psalms 13 Matt 10:40-42

Julv 9 Psalms 45:10-17 or 72 Matt 11:16-19, 25-30

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Julv 16 Ps 119:105-112 or 25 Matt 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 Ps 139:1-12, 23-24 Matt 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30 Ps 105:1-11, 45b Matt 13:31-33, 44-52



Caregivers Support Group

EVERY THURSDAY 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 careaivers for support. It is a safe place to share, learn and support others who are experiencing the challenges of being a caregiver.

Facilitated by Benevilla—623-584-4999

GriefShare is a nationally known sup-GRIEF SHARE port 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.

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

There are 13 sessions in the cycle. You don't have to attend in sequence. No matter when you begin, you will find encouragement. You don't have to be a member, or attend the church, to be a part of the GriefShare program.

July	5
July	12
July	19
July	26
August	2
August	9

Guilt and Anger

- Complicating Factors
- Stuck

Lessons of Grief: Part One

- Lessons of Grief: Part Two
- Heaven

Salvation Army Opportunities

17420 N. Avenue of the Arts Surprise, AZ 85378

- Monday & Thursday 7:30-9:00-Senior Breakfast (Donations accepted)
- 1st Sunday Collection @Willowbrook-non-perishable food & Water

- Before school Willowbrook Outreach provides backpacks/school supplies
- Among many Christmas Programs, Willowbrook often supplies Bell Ringers (usually at WalMart for 1.5 hours)

To volunteer or for information Contact the Outreach Team or call the Salvation Army at 623-977-1084



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

Check out the next few books!

*July 27	<u>Horse</u>	by Geraldine Brooks
*Aug 24	<u>The Good Le</u>	<u>ft Undone</u>
		by Adriana Trigiani
*5 00	Alice Democral	· Dootlo by Devobal loveo

*Sep 28 Miss Benson's Beetle by Rachel Joyce Mitford Affair *Oct 26 by Marie Benedict

Summer Lunches and More . . .

The United Women in Faith are enjoying fellowship this summer as they attend lunch together. Whether you are a member or not, please join us in this time together. If you are a member, invite someone to come with you. The July lunch is July 17 at noon at Brothers Restaurant, 8466 W Peoria, Ave, Ste 1, Peoria. Our July Mission Project is collecting school supplies. Bring supplies to the July lunch. Some suggestions: spiral notebooks, regular & colored pencils, pens, erasers, safety scissors, glue sticks, and other supplies.

The August 21st Junch is at noon at Good China, 9180 W Union Hills Dr, Peoria, AZ 85382. Sign up on August 6th or 13th.

Looking ahead to our fall mission project in October; we are writing Christmas cards to people at Eloy Detention Center. We can only send the front of Christmas cards so we need the fronts of cards, envelopes and stickers to decorate the envelopes. This may be the only remembrance they will have at Christmas.

SAVE THE DATE:

The Conference Annual Celebration for United Women in Faith is October 28 from 9-4 p.m. at Dayspring United Methodist Church in Tempe. There has not been an in-person meeting since 2019 so it will be a joy to see old friends and make new ones. This year, Sue Marshall, our Willowbrook VP, is in charge of the celebration in Tempe. She is planning activities that allow for creative fellowship and spiritual growth. Look to the Southwest Winds for some of the activities. Sneak preview shows a mission project of birthday bags for food banks; a reading share group, a prayer walk and eco-friendly gift wrap. SAVE THE DATE: OCT. 28th!

And SURPRISE! Pastor Steve will be doing an art sermon for the closing communion service. Watch for registration availability through the Southwest Winds or the Desert Southwest Conference site.

SUMMER CONNECTION OPPORTUNITIES: MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Summer Singers @ 9:00am through September 10 Sunday Faith Fundies @ 11:00am through July 23 Tuesdays @ 12—Third Tuesday of July & August

JULY 4	Youthful Seniors Indoor Picnic
JULY 8	Winsome Widows
JULY 11	National Cheer Up The Lonely Day
JULY 14	Youthful Seniors Luau & Movie
JULY 16	National Ice Cream Day Social
JULY 17	Women's Lunch @Brother's
JULY 22	Winsome Widows
JULY 23	Jazz, Jam & Biscuits Social
JULY 27	Book Club
JULY 28	Youthful Seniors Potluck & Movie
JULY 30	Hymn Sing
JULY 29/30	5th Sunday for HART
AUG 2	National Coloring Day
AUG 5/6	Undie Sunday
AUG 11	Youthful Seniors Memories Event
AUG 21	Women's Lunch @ Good China
AUG 24	Book Club
AUG 26	Winsome Widows
AUG 28	National Thoughtful Day
SEP 8	Youthful Seniors Grandparents Day
SEP 12	National Encouragement Day

Watch for details in this or the next Good News or in E-News or bulletins each week.





Reminder: July has FIVE Sundays. Time to show Willowbrook support for at risk teens by donating food items to HART Pantry. Collection boxes will be available following the Saturday and Sunday services, July 29-30.

UPDATED REQUESTS: 10 oz. jars of peanut butter Protein bars Fruit Cups

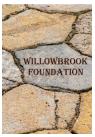
Instant Lunch Cups Ramen Noodle Packs Pudding Cups



Please Help Sort Food!

NOTE: Time Change

Willowbrookers will again be volunteering to sort food at St. Mary's on Wednesday, July 19th from 9:45 till Noon. The food bank is located at 13050 E Elm Street, Surprise. Look for sign-up sheet in Wilson Fellowship Hall or contact Liz Peck.



A Word From The Willowbrook UMC Foundation?

Think about the part you want to play in Willowbrook's future. You can support this WILLOWBROOK ministry in many ways. Naming the church as a beneficiary in your estate plan or the making of an endowment gift can assure your continued participation in the life and mission of our church far into the future. Keep Willowbrook Strong!!

July

June 2023						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	12 19 26	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Each month we join other church churches of the West District in th Conference. JUL Mission Bell UM Mountain View UM New Church	e Desert Southwest Y C, Glendale 1C, Cottonwood			* Register for the UWF Summer Lunch either July 2nd, 9th or 16th	
2 COMMUNION FOOD BANK COLLECTION 9:00 am Summer Singers—MR 9:30 am Worship—Sanc Disciple 1 Graduation	3 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFICE CLOSED 4:00 pm Indoor Potluck Picnic—WFH	5 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH	6 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 am Summer Singers—MR 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am "Faith Fundies"—LL	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 1:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	National Cheer Up the Lonely Day	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH	9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	5:00 pm 1
16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00 am Summer Singers—MR 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am "Faith Fundies"—LL 11:00 am National Ice Cream Day Social	 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 11:45 am UWF Summer lunch*— Brother's, 8466 W Peoria Ave 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 3:15 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH 	12 pm Tuesdays @12—WFH	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 10:00 am Foundation—CR	9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	
23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00 am Summer Singers—MR 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am "Faith Fundies"—LL 11:00 am Jazz, Jam & Biscuits Social	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL		9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH	9:00 am Finance—LL 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL	5:00 pm `
30	31				
9:00 am Summer Singers—MR Down Home Hymn Sing 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL				
	* Register for the UWF Summer Lunch either July 2nd or 9th				

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 C 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 L 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 M 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 F 27 28 29 30 31 S S	H—Chapel R—Conference Room T—Courtyard L—Library Lounge AR—Music Room PR—Prayer Room Fanc—Sanctuary VFH—Wilson Fellowship Hall
	Sat
	1 FOOD BANK COLLECTION 3:00 pm Disciple 1—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
	8 11:00 am Winsome Widows— Campbell's 9098 W Pinnacle Peak Rd, Peoria 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
n Youthful Seniors Event—WFH	15 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
	22 10:30 am Justa Center Meal Prep— Kitchen 9:00 am Winsome Widows—Kiss the Cook, 4915 W Glendale Ave, Glendale 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
n Youthful Seniors Event—WFH	29 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH