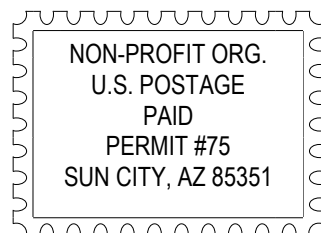




**WILLOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102**



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

Monday-Friday—8:30am—4:00pm

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
Nicholas Capatch—Live Stream
Russ Koan—Lay Leader
Dr. Linda Reese—Staff Counselor

**DEADLINE FOR the NOVEMBER 2023
Good News is October 4, 2023**



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

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| • Donna Barr | Avanti Senior Living |
| • Richard Ceser | Highland Park Asst. Living |
| • Dennis Lopic | Cami Assisted Living |
| • Joanna Lynn | Guardian Care Home |
| • Lois McCrea | Doc's Place |
| • Fern McKnight | Sagewood Assisted Living |



October 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 12:00-12:30 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.



Merry Christmas!



The holiday season is fast approaching, and your Outreach Committee wants to give you a heads up on the numerous opportunities for giving that will be coming up. We have supported many different organizations in the past, and we hope to be able to continue to do so this year. Here is our "Wish List for Giving" we hope the congregation will support:

1. Thanksgiving Frozen Turkey drive for Valley View Community Food Bank on November 19th.
2. Angel Tree #1—Part of the Prison Fellowship—Providing gifts for children with incarcerated parents. The organization is requesting gifts in the amount of \$20.
3. HART Pantry—serving at-risk and homeless teens. They are requesting gift cards to give to these students at Christmas. More details on this will come.
4. Justa Center—serving homeless Seniors—Flannel or other long sleeve shirts drive.
5. UMOM—Halle Center—serving single adult women in need—Throw blanket and pajama drive.
6. Angel Tree #2—Wesley Community Center—gifts for children served by the center. The organization is requesting gifts in the amount of \$40. (Consider teaming up with one or more friends for this one)

More details are coming on all these opportunities. Here's hoping one or more of them speak to you and will fit into your gift-giving plans this Christmas.



We Need You!
First Wednesday, October 4th
 We help on the First Wednesday of every month. Join us! Sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact Linda Borton to volunteer.

The **Personal Assistance Program (P.A.P.)** of Willowbrook United Methodist Church is notifying our members and those of the community to be aware of recent scams and/or frauds that are being sent to your e-mails and/or mobile phones.

Please do not respond to any E-mails or Texts from any Willowbrook Pastors or members of our Willowbrook Church asking for "a favor". These are SCAMS asking for money or gift cards. These scams will start with one of our pastor's or member's name, then ask for "a favor" and may ask if you order from Amazon or any other companies. **When a message asks for gift cards, money or your credit card information it is definitely a SCAM. Do not respond. Delete the message.**

BEFORE responding, refer to your directory and CALL the person, before taking any action. If you have been a victim or are aware of a consumer fraud, please contact:

The Arizona Attorney General's Office who enforces the ARIZONA CONSUMER FRAUD ACT **A.R.S. 44-1521 et seq.** and other state and federal consumer protection laws. They investigate complaints involving deceptive or unfair practices which occur in connection with the sale or advertisement of goods or services.

Send fraud complaints to: Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Information and Complaints, 2005 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

If you feel you have been the victim of or are aware of consumer fraud, file a consumer complaint using one of the following methods:

- Call for further information: **(602) 542-5025**
- Submit an online complaint <https://www.azag.gov>
- Email completed form to consumerinfo@azag.gov or fax it to **(602) 542-5025**
- Print & Mail or deliver a completed form to the address above.



With Joyful Hearts!

"Life is an Attitude. Have a Good One."
-Eric L. Lundgaard

When we think of the words that describe our life, we don't often begin with "joy" as a descriptive word. We might think of words like busy, worried, overwhelmed, fearful or lonely. Why not joy? God's gift to us of Love includes words like Grace, Mercy, Forgiveness, and Hope. When understood and received this should bring a smile to our face and peace to our countenance. Knowing Jesus in our heart and being a part of a Christ-lead church is Joyful! In it we all have our part and our purpose. In it we belong!

During the month of October, we at Willowbrook United Methodist Church will focus on "Joy" as we spend the month reflecting on Stewardship.

1 Peter 4:9-11 says, "Practice hospitality ungrudgingly to one another. As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..."

"With Joyful Hearts" will be our theme for the month as we examine and recommit to God our lives and gifts of time, talents, resources, prayer and witness. We will celebrate the life of the church and the joy of Christian living each week in worship, through Bible study and reflection. Our month will culminate with a Celebration Sunday on October 29, where we will present to God our recommitment of time, talents, prayers, gifts and lives!

In the past, we have had Stewardship campaigns as part of a budget process. This year we recognize that we need more! In these troubled times, we need to strengthen our commitment to undergird our church because we need to strengthen our lives and encourage others in faith and in the fullness of Christian living. As we grow in faith, we strengthen ourselves, our families and our mission to our community and beyond. The cartoon below speaks to our purpose! Joyfully we must all "Just Say Yes" to God's call!



Together in Christ!

Rev. Gary Kennedy

Willowbrook Strong

GRIEF SHARE Surviving the Holidays
November 8th—9:30am

Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading these holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated?

Our Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn:

- How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to discover hope for your future

You Are Invited!

Annual Salad Luncheon
Friday, October 13th—11:30am
Lakeview UMC—Smoot Hall
Corner of 103rd Avenue & Thunderbird Road

Program: Chase Bank representative about fraud and scams

Bring a salad to feed 8 people and arrive early to get a seat.

Call Lakeview 623-974-5821 to sign up
Barb Littlejohn, Secretary

MANY THANKS!

I want to thank the church (Rev. Kennedy) and members for the cards and calls for my 97th birthday. It was much appreciated and made me feel I am still a part of the church.

Olive Crowthers

OCTOBER Birthdays

(We celebrate 90 years or more)

1	Wanda Lenz
8	Billie Phillips
8	Mary Ordog
16	Lynn Miller
22	Nancy McVey
24	Sara Kuykendall
25	Fern McKnight turns 103!

OCTOBER Anniversaries

(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

14	Joyce & Robert Kahland	56th
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IN LOVING MEMORY

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

- Ruth Pappas on August 28th
- Marilyn Burmeister's Sister-in-law, Karen Preissig on September 2

Willowbrook Handbells

Beginning October 24th
Meet every Tuesday
1:30 pm—Music Room
Info: Carolyn Smith



Thank You For 23 Years of Music, Loretta Nash!

At 14 years of age Loretta Nash started playing organ at church. She earned a Sacred Music Degree and a Music Education Degree from Kansas City Conservatory of Music and was made a Diaconate Minister of Music in the Kansas East Conference of the Methodist Church in 1971. She spent four summers doing graduate study in organ and choral studies at Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ.



For eleven years she was on the staff at First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, OK. She was the first person in Oklahoma to become a Certified Director of Music in the Presbyterian Church. While at First Presbyterian she was Oklahoma chairman of the English Handbell Ringers, presenting workshops and conducting bell festivals. While there she also taught four children's choirs, three handbell choirs, and served as associate organist as well as directing a children's summer music camp.

In 1986 she became Minister of Music at Central Presbyterian Church, Mobile, AL. She moved to Arizona and became Minister of Music at Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church and retired in 1999. Retirement "didn't take!" In 2000 Loretta became the organist for Willowbrook UMC and retired from that position in 2007. She did, however stay on as the Sabbath Musician and played for memorials.

Loretta was Dean of the American Guild of Organists in Kansas City, Tulsa, Mobile, and Phoenix and also served as District Convener. She conducted the Sun Cities Women's Chorus for 19 years.

On September 1, 2023, after having given 72 years to church music, Loretta Nash retired and will be seeking other activities.

Thank you, Loretta for sharing your talent with Willowbrook for 23 years. You have been a gift. May God bless and keep you.



A Note from the Church Foundation:

Your gifts to Willowbrook are a testimony to your faith and the confidence you have in the Church. Both lifetime gifts and gifts through your will express your feelings in a meaningful way.

Keep Willowbrook Strong!



Benevilla™ Caregivers Support Group

EVERY THURSDAY

9:30-10:30am

Willowbrook Library Lounge

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.

Facilitated by Benevilla—623-584-4999
Call with questions or for more information.

Where Did All The Undies (& Socks) Go?

Thank you to everyone who donated items on "Undie Sunday". The donated items were given to the Outreach Committee for distribution. We were overjoyed with the tremendous volume of underwear and socks that we received.

On Monday, August 28, Linda Borton and Liz Peck delivered adult socks to the Surprise location of Salvation Army. [Left]

On Friday of that week, Jo Brookshire and Liz Peck delivered underwear to Wesley's Golden Gate campus and to the Justa Center. [Right]

The Salvation Army, Golden Gate, and Justa Center representatives asked us to pass on a big THANK YOU to Willowbrook for our continued support.



Joy In The Word Of God

Oh! how great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.

—The Table Talk of Martin Luther

Our Offering

L.G.D. WERTZ

Accept today the gifts we bring
To honor You, O King of kings,
And as they come from earthly store,
May they reach out to do still more.
In showing love, your gift divine,
Make us aware that we are thine.

So as we share from bounties' store,
May life be more that passing lore,
You are the Lord of all of life
'mid joys supreme and changing strife.
With thanks to You, our gifts we bring,
With love, and joy, and thanks we sing.
Amen.

H.A.R.T. Pantry (Helping At Risk Teens)

October 28-29



REMEMBER: On the 5th Sunday of the month we have a collection bin for items for HART Pantry.

Below is their October wish list:

- Jif-to-Go
- Austin/Lance-type crackers
- Pop Tarts
- Pudding or Fruit Cups



Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice!

Fall in in the air and Christmas is right around the corner. The Kris Krafters are preparing items that would make lovely gifts and great stocking stuffers. These items will be available at the Holiday Craft Faire, November 3rd & 4th. "Last Chance Sunday" is November 5th after the morning worship service. The following day, Monday, November 6th all of the remaining items will be delivered to Benevilla Family Resource Center, Luke Developmental Center, Habitat for Humanity and other local charities. For the best selection, be sure to visit our tables on November 3rd.

During October, Kris Krafters will meet Thursday, October 5th and 19th at 9:00am in Wilson Fellowship Hall. There might even be some pumpkin spice muffins or cookies available. Join us!



Date Change
November 12th



**Registration & Ticket Sales
October 29th & November 5th**



Thanks for 23 Years!

A special thank you is extended to Marilyn Burmeister for giving the church 23 years of service as the Flower Steward. She has decided to step down from that position and concentrate on the Youthful Seniors. Marilyn was also active in First United Methodist Church of Gilbert when Rev. Gary Kennedy served there as Senior Pastor several years ago.

Here at Willowbrook Marilyn made sure we had beautiful flowers on display in the sanctuary and the narthex every week plus she meticulously and creatively decorated tables each month and sometimes weekly in the fellowship hall around a theme (either a holiday or a special event in the lives of the members of the church.)

Marilyn, thank you for 23 years of beautiful flowers for worship and other memorable occasions.



October 2023

September 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

November 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 COMMUNION FOOD BANK COLLECTION 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Joy in the Journey—LL	2 10:00 am UWF Team—WFH 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	3 9:00 am Staff Parish—CR	4 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	5 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR	6 2:00 pm Youthful Seniors Board—LL	7 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
8 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Joy in the Journey—LL	9 COLUMBUS DAY 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle—LL 9:30 am Mary Circle—WFH 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	10 9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	11 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Dorcas Circle—LL 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	12 9:00 am Trustees—CR 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL	13 11:30 am Lakeview UWF Salad Luncheon—Lakeview UMC 5:00 pm Youthful Seniors Event Country Western Hoe Down Show & Line Dancing with the Class Act Team—WFH	14 1:00 pm Winsome Widows—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
15 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Joy in the Journey—LL	16 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 12:00 pm UWF Unit Meeting—WFH 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 3:45 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH	17 9:30 am M.E.E.—CR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	18 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 9:30 am Foundation—CR 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	19 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 2:30 pm Outreach—WFH	20	21 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
22 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Joy in the Journey—LL	23 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	24 9:30 am Church Council—CH 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	25 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—CH	26 9:00 am Finance—CR 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL	27	28 STEWARDSHIP CELEBRATION 10:30 am Tingley Memorial—Sanc 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
29 STEWARDSHIP CELEBRATION 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Register for Homecoming	30 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL	31 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL				

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

OCTOBER
 Shepherd of the Hills UMC, Sun City West
 Shepherd of the Valley UMC, Phoenix
 Spirit of Hope UMC, Peoria



Feed the Hungry
Non-perishable Food
WATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED

Next Food Drive:
November 4 & 5, 2023