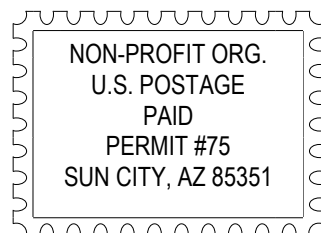




**WILLOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102**



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.

3rd Tuesdays @



3rd Tuesday@12

Tuesday, September 19th we will gather for another "3rd Tuesday@12". We look forward to another great meal prepared by "Chef" Pastor Lois.

Ruth Langford, director from H.A.R.T. Pantry will share information about their amazing ministry to homeless teens. Did you know they do much more than provide snacks for their backpacks?

Holidaze Craft Faire Holidaze Craft Faire, held the first week-end of November each year, is a time of fellowship with other Willowbrook members, outreach to visitors, a time to show off the talents of our Kris Krafter members, and of giving our profits to Mission and Outreach Committee projects.

We'd like to tell you about another positive aspect of the Craft Faire. Marsha Jones, one of our vendors, is a consultant for Usborn Books. Each year she donates a portion of her profit, in books, to the charity of our choosing. A picture shows the assortment of books that were given this year to UMOM (United Methodist Outreach Ministry).

At UMOM, adult volunteers, including Ann Martin, read to the younger children while the older children gather in groups to read. Children are also allowed to take a book home to read in the evening.



Thanks Ann for delivering the books to UMOM!

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



Thank you, Linda Borton for keeping records on volunteer hours. Looking forward to the next update. Today marks the sixth month of our volunteer work at Valley View Community Food Bank. To keep track of our amazing volunteers and their valuable hours of service, I created a spreadsheet. As of today, we have 27 dedicated volunteers who have collectively contributed 180.5 hours. This is a remarkable achievement, and I wanted to share this wonderful milestone with each and every one of you.

Willowbrook volunteers:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Linda Borton | Loren Littlefield |
| Linda Chase | Debbie Lyman |
| Bruce Cole | Ann Martin |
| Melissa Cole | Judy McGinty |
| Marilyn Dumbauld | Mike McGinty |
| Ted Dumbauld | Sherry Mellenthin |
| Ellen Glatz | Barb Pawlikowski |
| Lynda Katz | Liz Peck |
| Marty Kerns | Cindy Pfeiffer |
| John King | Nancy Stokely |
| Sherry King | Barb Taylor |
| Dave Kresl | Fran Triguero |
| Linda Kresl | Carol Widney |
| Dale Lenderts | |

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



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

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

**DEADLINE FOR the OCTOBER 2023
Good News is September 4, 2023**

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 couple of books!

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



“Take Two”

The New Testament books of first and second Thessalonians were written within weeks of each other. The obvious question is why are these two short volumes two separate epistles in the Bible? Why not just have one book named Thessalonians? Well, the answer is simple. They are indeed two separate writings. You see, the author of these books, the Apostle Paul arrived in Thessalonica and his teaching and preaching was so powerful that there was an incredible response and many people came to follow Christ. He was teaching in the synagogue. The Jewish leaders were so enraged that so many Jews were turning to Christ that they turned on Paul and forced him to leave town. Nevertheless, his ministry resulted in a very strong Christian church in Thessalonica that Timothy and others were able to grow.

After Paul left Thessalonica, he continued to encourage the new Christians there through his letters. In his first letter, he shared with them about the second coming of Christ. He said that no one knows when Christ will come again. He wrote that it will be “like a thief in the night” when no one expects it. In other words, he was saying that the young church should always be spiritually on guard, always living as people who serve God. Well, that group of new Christians interpreted that letter from Paul to say that since Christ was coming again they could sit around and do nothing and wait. As a result of that misunderstanding, Paul wrote a second letter to the church at Thessalonica stating that there are signs of his second coming and since no one knows exactly when that will be, Christians must stay active, sharing with others and living life to the fullest in Christ. He encouraged them to attend to the duties of the day.

Again, these two letters were written within weeks of one another. The word from Paul to the church in both letters was to continue to be vibrant. Continue to grow in Christ, continue to share Christ, and continue to be the light of Christ to a world in need.

This word to the church of that day continues to be a word for the church today. Our world continues to need the kind of love that God shows. The church can help with that! Our world continues to need the kind of hope that God gives. The church can help with that! Our world continues to need the peace that God offers. The church can help with that! We, the Church, can help! What a privilege! What a calling! Willowbrook, FULL SPEED AHEAD!!!

Together in Christ

Rev. Gary Kennedy

Willowbrook Strong

Puzzle!

Use the clues to discover the names of some Old Testament prophets. Then unscramble the circled letters to describe what prophets are.

I was called to preach to the people of Nineveh but ran from God instead. (My book is #32 in the Bible.)

---○---

I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. (My book is #37.)

---○---

Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. (My book is #28.)

---○---

My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises comfort. (It is #23.)

---○---

I had dreams and visions. (My book is #27.)

---○---

Because of my predictions, I was often in danger and angered officials. (My book is #24.)

---○---

I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. (My book is #30.)

---○---

My book contains descriptions of strange visions. (It is #26.)

---○---

PROPHETS ARE _____

Answers: Jonah, Haggai, Hosea, Isaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Amos, Ezekiel, Messengers



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

My Willowbrook Family

Your kindness made a difference and your thoughtfulness touched my heart. Thank You! For all the cards sent with love, prayer & hope. I can't express how much each & everyone means to me. So blessed & thankful!

Dolores Pagan

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

(We celebrate 90 years or more)

- 8 Jack Winemiller
- 10 Ruth Pappas turns 105!
- 14 Marge Chinn
- 18 Lois McCrea turns 103!
- 29 Joan Glendon
- 30 Donna Barr

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

- 4 Stan & Penny Stevens 63rd
- 5 Roger & Joyce Keslar 59th
- 24 Robert & Dianne Mason 55th



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

- Pat Shontz on July 29th
- Former member Marvin Shever on July 29th
- Patricia Ross' brother, Kermit Blaisdell on July 29th in Vermont
- Phyllis J MacTough— actual date unknown



We Need You!

First Wednesday, Sept. 6th

Can you help at Valley View Food Bank? We help on the First Wednesday of every month.

Will you join us this time?

Sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact Linda Borton to volunteer.



Willowbrook's Fast-Paced Summer!

Summer has come and gone; by the time you read this, I hope it has cooled down! The extreme heat didn't slow Willowbrook Church! We had numerous opportunities to enjoy the new air conditioners, refrigerators and freezer.

It's said in Sun City if you aren't busy, it's your own fault. That's true of us this summer! We called every member, including winter residents, in July on Nat'l Cheer Up and August on Nat'l Encouragement Days.

Food added to our enjoyment with ice cream floats the 1st day of summer, monthly lunches, a potluck, jam and biscuits, ice cream sundaes (Nat'l Ice Cream Day), and donuts (telethons/coloring)!!

Our pastors' sermons taught us we are to praise and worship the Lord through attending services, studying His Word, praising Him with song, and sharing our gifts to strengthen His family. So we added a new fundamental faith class (Faith Fundies), a summer impromptu choir complete with special music (Summer Singers), a week-end of our 12 favorite hymn songs (Hymn Sing), a baby baptism, a little jazz (Jam'N Biscuits Sunday), a special collection of undies (Undie Sunday) and a donation of excess ice cream and jam for folks in need.

The telethons, monthly lunches with informational speakers or games and a morning of coloring (National Coloring Day) were well-attended and quite enjoyable!

And, yes, these events were in addition to the familiar activities offered throughout the summer! We were all busy and blessed!

The pastors and church council thank you for your part in keeping **WILLOWBROOK STRONG!**

Debb Pearson, Church Council Chair



A Note from the Church Foundation:

Consider naming Willowbrook as a beneficiary in your will or trust. The gift could be a set dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, the remainder after other gifts are made, or a gift of that part of the estate left if designated heirs have passed.

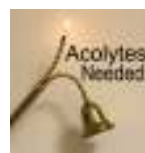
"Blessed is he who plants trees under whose shade he will never sit." This is an Indian proverb reminding us of the need to sustain and keep Willowbrook Strong. You can help by joining others who have given to the Willowbrook Foundation, including placing the church in their estate plan. For more information: Contact the Church Office and they will put you in touch with a Foundation member.

Outreach is again blessing children with gifts at Wesley Center & through Angel Tree. (total 60 children)



The Elves will work hard together (October & November) with Willowbrook congregation and friends to purchase gifts and wrap. See you in October with more info! Thank you so much.

The Light of Christ



Acolytes have been part of the church in one form or another from the earliest times. The word in Greek means helper or assistant. By the Middle Ages, acolytes were actually a clerical order!

At Willowbrook, as is typical in the United Methodist Church, the light of Christ is brought into the worship service as a symbol of Jesus coming into the presence of the worshipping community. At the end of church service, the light is carried out, into the world, as a sign that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere.

If you are interested in serving as the light bearer of Christ in our worship services, please join Thelma Muse and Laurie Lineberry for a brief training session on Sunday September 10th right after service, in the sanctuary.

This is also a required refresher course for all existing acolytes! See you there.



KRIS KRAFTERS

The Kris Krafters have been busy all summer making items for local charities and for the Holidaze Craft Faire which will be held November 3rd & 4th. Over 50 pillow cases have been delivered to Ryan's Cases for Smiles to be distributed to children with cancer. Several baby items, including toddler sweater & hat sets with coordinating quilts, were taken to the Benevilla Family Resource Center.

Norma Hamilton donated Ron's neckties for a purse project. Carol & Rhett Sears also donated ties. Thank you! Other donations of yarn, fabric, trims, craft books and other items have been received. Thank you!

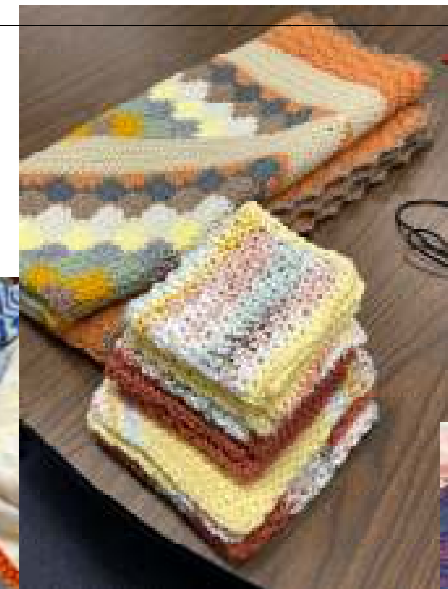
Visitors are always welcome to join the Kris Krafters each first and third Thursday in Wilson Fellowship Hall from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Coffee, cookies, conversation with lots of knitting, crocheting and sewing occurs in a peaceful, non-judgmental environment.

There are beginners, seasoned crafters and every level in between meeting together to create lovely items for local charities as well as the annual Holidaze Craft Faire. Come see if the Kris Krafters would be a good fit for you!

The photos show several items for the Holidaze Craft Faire, two of the "tie" purses, and a table filled with items for local charities.



Jill Zitt thanks Norma. Who would have thought old ties would make such beautiful evening bags!





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.



The weekly readings for **SEPTEMBER** are:

CLASS DATE	DATE USED
August 28 Exodus 3:1-15 Romans 12:9-12	September 3 Ps 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b Matthew 16:21-28
September 4 [NO CLASS] Exodus 12:1-14 Romans 13:8-14	September 10 Psalms 149 or 148 Matthew 18:15-20
September 11 Exodus 14:19-31 Romans 14:1-12	September 17 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 Matthew 18:21-35
September 18 Exodus 16:2-15 Philippians 1:21-30	September 24 Ps. 105:1-6, 37-45/Ps 78 Matthew 20:1-16
September 25 Exodus 17:1-7 Philippians 2:1-13	October 1 Ps. 78:1-4, 12-16 Matthew 21:23-32



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.

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.

September 6	The Journey of Grief: Part 1
September 13	The Journey of Grief: Part 2
September 20	Grief & Your Relationships
September 27	Why?
October 4	Guilt and Anger
October 11	Complicating Factors
October 18	Stuck
October 25	Lessons of Grief: Part One
November 1	Lessons of Grief, Part Two
November 8	Surviving the Holidays
November 15	Heaven
November 22	What Do I Live for Now?
November 29	Is This Normal?

Welcome September!

September tries its best to help us forget summer and it was a summer for the record books! Now the United Women in Faith are back in the swing of things.



All women are welcome to our September 18 meeting at 12 noon. There will be a guest presentation by Darlene Keller, former docent at Phoenix Art Museum. She will show images of the Biblical story of Noah, using master works from Russian, French, German and British artists.

We have made a change in our lunch plans. We are offering lunch for a small donation or you can still bring your own. Please sign up on Sundays, September 3rd and 10th so we have an idea how many lunches to prepare.

What's coming this Fall?

The Conference Annual Celebration with the theme **Exciting-Inspiring-Uniting** will be held at Dayspring UMC in Tempe on October 28th. Our morning worship speaker is to be determined. Rev. Steve Marshall will conclude the day with an art sermon and communion. You can register through the newsletter that you receive in email or call me for more information.

At the October 16th meeting we again offer the opportunity for a prepared lunch if you choose. This meeting focus is mission projects:

- One project will be Thanksgiving blessing bags that will have items like stuffing mix, green beans, cream of mushroom soup, gravy and dessert items like pudding mixes and boxed pie crust. We will sort into bags, add a note and take to Valley View Community Food bank.
- We will also be writing cards for those at the Eloy Detention who are just waiting on their hearings. We need only fronts of Christmas cards and plain envelopes.

November 20th is the World Thank Offering so continue to collect your change for your blessings. We also share together in our Thanksgiving potluck.

December 1st is our Carols of Christmas Tea with guest artist, Mary Hollan.

Remember there are circle meetings on the second Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the month.

I offer this as an invitation for all the women of Willowbrook and friends to join us for any and all of these events.
Sue Marshall

Mark Your Calendar
October 22



Youthful SENIORS

Appreciate The Gifts You've Been Given!

Movie: The Ultimate Gift

Menu: Sub Sandwiches Cost: \$10

Sign-up: 8/27 & 9/3



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.

September 2023

August 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	31		

October 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	31				

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
<p>Each month we join other churches in prayer for churches of the West District in the Desert Southwest Conference.</p>  <p>SEPTEMBER Trinity UMC, Phoenix Trinity UMC, Yuma Sedona UMC</p>						
<p>3 COMMUNION FOOD BANK COLLECTION</p> <p>9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p>4 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>5 9:00 am Staff Parish—CR</p>	<p>6 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc</p>	<p>7 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR</p>	<p>8 5:00 pm Youthful Seniors Event—WFH</p>	<p>2 FOOD BANK COLLECTION 4:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal—Sanc 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>10 GRANDPARENTS DAY</p> <p>9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am Acolyte Training—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL</p>	<p>11 PATRIOT DAY 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle—LL 9:30 am Mary Circle—WFH 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 1:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL</p>	<p>12 9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 11:00 am Homecoming Meeting—CR</p>	<p>13 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 1:00 pm Dorcus Circle—LL 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc</p>	<p>14 9:00 am Trustees—CR 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>9 1:00 pm Winsome Widows—LL 4:00 pm Marshall Wedding—Sanc 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>17 CHOIR RETURNS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL</p>	<p>18 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</p>	<p>19 9:30 am M.E.E.—CR 12:00 pm 3rd Tuesday@12—WFH 2:00 pm Men’s Bible Study—LL</p>	<p>20 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 10:00 am Foundation—CR 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH 1:30 pm Craft Faire Committee—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc</p>	<p>21 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 3:30 pm Outreach—WFH</p>	<p>22 2:00 pm Nominations—CR</p>	<p>23 NEW MEMBERS 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>24 NEW MEMBERS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p>25 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL</p>	<p>26 9:30 am Church Council—CH 2:00 pm Men’s Bible Study—LL</p>	<p>27 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc</p>	<p>28 9:30 am Care Giver Support—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
						<p>Feed the Hungry Non-perishable Food WATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED</p> <p>Next Food Drive: September 2 & 3, 2023</p>