

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

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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 https://willowbrookumc.org



DEADLINE FOR the APRIL 2024 Good News is March 4, 2024



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

- Donna Barr
- Richard Ceser
- Dennis Lapic
- Lois McCrea
- Fern McKnight

Avanti Senior Living Highland Park Asst. Living Cami Assisted Living

Doc's Place

Sagewood Assisted Living



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 lerlev—Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Robb Butler—Music Director Carol Virolainen—Worship Musician

Nicholas Capatch—Live Stream

Russ Koan—Lay Leader Dr. Linda Reese—Staff Counselor



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: https://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.

Ashes to an Empty Tomb

Our Lenten journey began on Valentine's Day, February 14, with a service for the imposition of Ashes. This worship reminded us that the greatest gift of Love ever given was God's unconditional love. We will explore God's gift of Love in many ways during our Lenten journey toward Easter.



(See Below)

- Daily scripture reading to print out and do at home (found in your February 8th & 11th E-News
- The Lectionary Study on Mondays at 11:00AM in the church library where you will read the story of Christ leading to his death and resurrection.
- "The Chosen" video series Season 1 We are viewing together and discussing each of the 8 episodes which tell some of the possible back stories of Jesus' disciples. (Remember we will start watching Season 2 on April 15th (Following the same time schedule)
- Maundy Thursday Service will be a reader's theater worship service at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary including
- Good Friday in the Sanctuary between 1:00 and 2:30pm we will experience a self-guided worship through interactive walk-through stations. Enter in silence and reflect on the words of Christ during a personal time including hands-on-activities guided by posters shared by members of the Art & Soul Small Group.
- The weekend services will explore the Spiritual Gifts God has given each of His followers.
- Easter weekend will be a joy-filled worship experience as we celebrate the resurrection together at 5:00pm Saturday or 9:30am Sunday. Pastor Ruth



Willowbrook Readers Club!

Hooked on Books usually meets the 4th Thursday of each month in the church library at 1:30pm.

Here are some of the books we plan on reading and discussing in the New Year:

March 28—Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

April 25—Tallgrass by Sandra Dallas

May 23—All Good People Here by Ashley Flowers June 27—The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Pataki

If you enjoy reading and would like to join us, you are always welcome!!

Welcome To Willowbrook!

Photos Courtesy of Laurie Lineberry





Debbi Keslar Joined: Jan. 28, 2024

In Like a Lion, Out Like a Lamb

Whether you are a lion or a lamb, you will be welcomed to Kris Krafters as we work together to create items to donate to multiple local charities. We meet in Wilson Fellowship Hall at 9 AM on the first and third Thursdays of each month.



Recent activities included a visit from Cliff Yoder, Donor Relations Manager from Benevilla, a road trip, an assembly line and a yarn delivery from Turkey. Cliff Yoder spoke of the origin, purpose and programs of Benevilla which serves the West Valley. Benevilla provides numerous programs which serve older adults, adults with disabilities, children and the families who care for them. He also thanked the Kris Krafters for their generous donations which have enriched many lives.

A few of the Kris Krafters made a road trip to the Quilt-Craft-Sew Exhibition at the AZ State Fair Grounds. There were miles of fabric, hundreds of sewing/quilting machines many quilters and crafters. What a fun road trip!

An assembly line of cutters, sewers and stuffers was formed to make pink felt pillows for Saundra Core & PAP to deliver to breast cancer patients. Next up, we will make red heart pillows for heart patients. Special yarn for making cancer caps has arrived and it was distributed to knitters and crocheters. The first months of the new ! year have been busy ones!

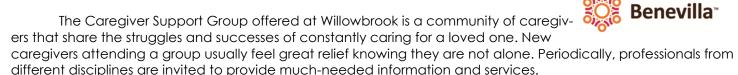
Pictured to the RIGHT: Kris Krafter Karen DeVerna & Cliff Yoder from Benevilla



ABOVE: Jill Zitt, Karen Anthony, Colleen Ellenburg, Sharon Sullivan, Gerri Joncas, Cheryl White, Kathy Allingham-Elder, Karen DeVerna, Vinnie Liscomb

RIGHT: Cathy Hoben Calhoun, Marge Rodriguez, Nancy McPhee, Kathy Allingham-Elder and Barb Sepiol. Not pictured Diane and David Perez

Caregivers Support Group



Caregivers acknowledge that the group has made them feel less alone on the journey, and are relieved to learn that anything shared in the meeting stays in the meeting. The group is for those who are dealing with general caregiving needs and for caregivers with loved ones who have various diagnoses. Willowbrook is blessed to have trained facilitators from Benevilla oversee the meetings. The group meets Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Library Lounge.



Address/Email/Phone Changes

WOODWARD, Helen

17233 N Boswell Blvd #25 Sun City AZ 85373-2091 The Palms

JOINED 1/28/2024 KESLAR, Debbi

10101 W Palmeras #361 Sun City AZ 85373-2059 303-579-3673 email: debbikeslar@q.com

MUSE, Thelma

9257 W Gary Road Peoria AZ 85345-5526 Cell Only: 623-418-8634

JARVIS, Bonnie

10854 W Hatcher Road Sun City AZ 85351-4615

HOLLER, Marty

13373 N Plaza del Rio Blvd #1122 Peoria AZ 85381-4873 Cell Only: 714-728-7063



Think about someone you want to honor or memorialize with a / lily so we can have a wonderful representation of lilies this East-

er. Purchase the lily and either keep it or take it to a loved one after the Easter Service.

Watch for further information soon.

Dear Willowbrook,

Thank you so much for allowing Ginny to sell Girl Scout cookies on January

27th. She was very nervous as the date got closer to her reality. Your kindness drew her out to speak about cookies! Your generosity helped her quickly add/subtract figures! You'll be excited to know that 159 boxes were donated to Justa Center and 87 boxes were taken home—246 total boxes sold to support Troop 2159!

Ginny, her troop and airl parents want to thank you for supporting the growth and enrichment of 11 kindergartners and first graders.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Ierley & Ginny

PS—Ginny was too nervous to write a note. PPS—Ginny is top seller in her troop!



(We celebrate 90 years or more)

- Joyce Chotena Neary
- **Bob Cooper**
- Betty Jones
- Viola Seibel
- Mary Ruth Linde
- David Monk 8
- 15 Mary Ann Rearick
- 15 Norma Hamilton
- George Hoffman 23



(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

6 Bruce & Melissa Cole 53rd 10 George & Jan Caruso 62nd



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

- Anne King on January 23
- Joanna Lynn on February 5
- Duva Roth on February 4 (approximate)
- Ginny McClain on February 14



Willowbrook Handbells

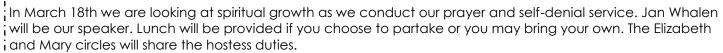
Meet every Tuesday 1:30 pm—Music Room Info: Carolyn Smith



Worlier In Faith The United Women in Faith have had some interesting programs this year and are looking forward to more United Programs. are looking forward to more. Linda Reese, staff counselor, (right) gave us ideas for improving our mental health in the new year. We enjoyed delicious soups and pie. January was also the pledge service for the year. If you were

not at the January meeting or did not have the opportunity to pledge, please feel free to do so at any time in the year. Let's try and top the number of pledges we had last year!

i In February Pastor Ruth Blum shared her literary travel to Finding Three Pines. Our mission proiject for February was collecting spices for Valley View Community Food Bank. THANK YOU!



On March 15 we are going to Wesley Community Center/Golden Gate at 1625 North 39th Avenue from 1:00-3:00 pm. We will be interacting with children who are there for spring break. We will do some hands-on activities like rock painting, cookie decorating, and other spring crafts. If you would like to help and have an idea for things to do, contact Marilyn Ledbetter or let your circle chairperson or Sue Marshall know. Carpooling can be arranged from the church. Wesley Community Center/Golden Gate is the only United Women of Faith outreach i i program in Arizona.

April brings showers of blessings in the form of a potluck luncheon where we invite some of the other United Women of Faith groups to join us for our lunch and program. Look for more information in next month's Good i News or the monthly Women's E-newsletter or the weekly church E-News.



The Revised Common Lectionary—a threeyear cycle reading through the Bible based on the synoptic gospels of (A) Mat-

thew, (B) Mark and (C) Luke. If you read the lections for all three years, you will read 85% of the Bible. Join us Monday mornings at 11:00 am to read the following Sunday's lectionary and talk about it and end at noon.

st The weekly readings for **MARCH** are:

CLASS DATE

February 26

Exodus 20:1-17 🖈 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

March 4

★ Numbers 21:4-9 Ephesians 2:1-10

March 11

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:5-10

March 18

Isaiah 50:4-9 Philippians 2:5-11

March 25

Acts 10:34-43

★ 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

DATE USED

March 3

Psalm 19 John 2:13-22

March 10

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22 John 3:14-21

March 17 Psalms 51:1-12 John 12:20-33

March 24

Psalms 31:9-16 Mark 14:1-15:47

March 31 EASTER

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

*

3rd Tuesday @12

Mark your calendar for March 19th at noon for another informative 3rd Tuesday@12. A lunch will be served followed by a speaker from the Willowbrook Foundation, who will ex-



plain how the foundation operates. There is no charge for the lunch; however donations are always appreciated. Sign up March 9/10 or 16/17 so we know how much food to prepare.

GRIEFASHARE

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of

grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

At Willowbrook GriefShare meets each Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Library Lounge. You don't have to be a member, or attend the church, to be a part of the GriefShare program.

> March 6 Your Grief Journey March 13 Loneliness & Sadness

March 20 Self-Care

March 27 Fearful & Overwhelmed Rt: Judy Arkwright, Joseph & Valerie Nicksich Below: Dave &



Souper Bowl Win & More!

On Super Bowl weekend, Willowbrook issued a "Souper Bowl" challenge to the traditional monthly food collection for Salvation Army Northwest Valley Food Bank. We provided two collection points identified with the Super Bowl opponent names. We were invited to "stuff the ballot boxes" with non-perishable food to predict the winners of the Super Bowl. The REAL winner of the "Souper Bowl" was the Food Bank! The final count of food items was 468-49ers to 706-Chiefs! Major Mark Merrett sent a heartfelt thank you for the donation of 767 lbs of food replenishing their

nearly empty pantry allowing them to serve families in need. He stated, "Although you never see these families, you are their answer to prayers."

The life-changing work we do at **UMOM** would not be possible without partners like you! Every single item and dollar donated helps lift up families experiencing homelessness in our community. We thank the members of Willowbrook for their generosity. We are using these funds to help renovate and build larger rooms for families!

Thank you for serving with PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE. It's not easy being a parent behind bars, many incarcerated moms and dads want to be close to their kids but feel limited by the consequences of their decisions. This Christmas—because of you—they have overcome this barriers and created meaningful connections with their children.



The church council is composed of **NWICH** the chairs of each committee or a **COUNCIL** 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 23, 2024 meeting

- Pastor Gary thanked all those involved in working on finance and recent stewardship drive. Stewardship moments will continue during church services. He reported the Men's Bible study fellowship group is going well.
- Youthful Seniors (in conjunction with the Stewardship and Foundation committees) will have a church fundraiser dinner with entertainment on March 8th. Tickets are \$20.
- The Outreach Committee will be spreading giftgiving throughout the year so it doesn't all come at the end of the year near Christmas. It will be coordinated with other church groups.
- United Women in Faith made \$3,027 at the Christmas Tea. Instead of a retreat this year, they will have a special "work day".
- An Emmaus reunion group is being formed at Willowbrook. Three women from Willowbrook will be going on an Emmaus Walk at the End of February.



5th Sunday for HART!

March 2024 provides another weekend to support HART Pantry with our 5th Sunday Collection. Saturday & Sunday March 30—31 we will have drop off boxes available. Food Items needed include Ramen Noodles, Jif-to-Go, Pop Tarts, 10 oz Peanut Butter, cheese & peanut butter cracker packs, single serving pudding and/or fruit cups, individual cereal cups, and canned pasta with pop-top lids (ravioli, SpaghettiOs, etc.)

Remember there is always a bin in Fellowship Hall marked "HART Pantry" to drop off travel size toiletries such as deodorant, shampoo, and toothpaste. Keep in mind that the At-Risk Teens served by HART carry all their belongings in backpacks, so travel sizes are always best!

March 2024

February 2024
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

April 2024

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

W T F S

3 4 5 6

10 11 12 13

17 18 19 20

24 25 26 27

PR—Prayer Room
Sanc—Sanctuary
WFH—Wilson Fellowship Hall

CH—Chapel

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Non-peris WATER IS AL Next Fo	ne Hungry shable Food WAYS NEEDED ood Drive: 2 & 3, 2024				1 2:00 pm Youthful Seniors Board—LL	2 FOOD BANK 2:30 pm Disciple II—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
3 COMMUNION—FOOD BANK 9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL 3:00 pm Desert Brass Concert—Sanc	10:00 am UW Faith Team—MR 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—CR 3:00 pm The Chosen—CR	9:00 am Staff Parish—CR 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	7 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 1:00 pm Winsome Widows— Campbell's, 9098 W Pinnacle Peak Rd 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR	8 5:00 pm Youthful Seniors Event—WFH	9 10:30 am Lynn Memorial—CH 1:00 pm Winsome Widows— Campbell's, 9098 W Pinnacle Peak 2:30 pm Disciple II—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
9:30 am Worship—Sanc 11:00 am New Member Class—LL	9:30 am Mary Circle—WFH 9:30 am Elizabeth Circle—LL 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—CR 3:00 pm The Chosen—CR	9:30 am Rachel Circle—LL 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen—CR 4:00 pm Dorcas Circle—WFH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	9:00 am Trustees—CR 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL	15 1:00 pm UW Faith to Wesley Center	16 2:30 pm Disciple II—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 12:00 pmUW Faith Lunch —WFH 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—CR 3:00 pm The Chosen—CR 3:30 pm Stephen Leaders—CR 4:00 pm Stephen Ministers—WFH	19 SPRING 9:30 am M.E. E.—CR 12:00 pm 3rd Tuesday @12—WFH 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 9:30 am Foundation—CR 12:00 pm Kitchen Committee—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 2:30 pm Outreach—CR	22	23 NEW MEMBERS 2:30 pm Disciple II—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
24 PALM SUNDAY/NEW MEMBERS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc	25 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—CR 2:00 pm 3rd Tuesday Planning—WFH 3:00 pm The Chosen—CR	9:30 am Church Council—CH 1:30 pm Joyful Bells—MR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL	9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 2:00 pm The Chosen—CR 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—Sanc	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 9:30 am Caregiver Support Group—LL 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL 3:00 pm Maundy Thursday—Sanc	29 GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY 1:00 pm Stations of the Cross—Sanc	30 2:30 pm Disciple II—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH
31 EASTER SUNDAY 5th SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE FOR HART 9:30 am Worship—Sanc			Villowbrook (Strong		