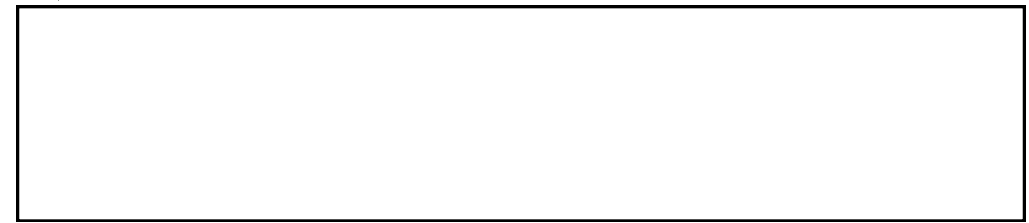




**WILLOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
19390 NORTH 99TH AVENUE
SUN CITY AZ 85373-1102**

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
In person and Live Stream
SATURDAY WORSHIP
In Person only



August 2025 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 am—4:00 pm Monday thru Thursday
Friday 8:30 am—1:30 pm
(closed 12:00-12:30 pm for lunch)

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

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday—8:30 am—4:00 pm
Friday—8:30 am—1:30 pm

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.



August 31st is another 5th Sunday! That means it is time for the HART Pantry food drive. HART Pantry provides personal hygiene and food items to homeless teens to help them focus on school. We want to show these kids that Willowbrook United Methodist Church cares. Bring the following items on Saturday, August 30, or Sunday, August 31.

Instant lunch cups, pop-top canned pasta, protein bars. Austin/Lance-cracker packs, Ramen noodle packs, individual cereal cups/boxes, fruit/pudding cups, 10 oz. peanut butter. Remember: current "best by" dates. Thank you for your support!

There is also always a bin in Fellowship Hall marked "HART Pantry" to drop off travel-size toiletries. Remember, the teens carry everything in their backpacks, so travel sizes are best.



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 SEPTEMBER 2025 ISSUE
is AUGUST 4th**



It's Time!

Third Annual
Undie Sunday
August 9 & 10

All sizes—NEW
Children's underwear
Women's Underwear
Men's boxers or briefs

National Thoughtful Day



Barb Paton, founder of *Thoughtful Pinch*, created *National Thoughtful Day* in 2020 to inspire people to be more caring.

Her simple goal reminded everyone that small acts of kindness can change lives. This day shines a light on how the smallest gesture can make a big difference.

It started with her desire to help people feel seen and appreciated. Believing thoughtful actions could build stronger connections between friends, family, and communities, she launched the idea to encourage others to pause and act with care.

We will celebrate this day on August 28 at 9:30 am by calling all our members to remind them they are important, and we keep them in our thoughts and prayers. If you are willing to bring your cell phone and help with the calls, please sign up in Fellowship Hall on August 17.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday—8:30 am—4:00 pm
Friday—8:30 am—1:30 pm



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

- Donna Barr Avanti Senior Living
- Richard Ceser Highland Park Asst. Living
- Jane Hager The Inn @ Freedom Plaza
- Lois McCrea Carefree 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
 - Rev. Matt Ashley—Senior Pastor
 - Rev. Ruth Blum—Associate Pastor
 - Rev. Lois Hedden—Pastor of Visitation
 - Laurie Lineberry—Director of Laity
 - Rev. Jon Ierley—Pastor Emeritus
 - Dr. Robb Butler—Music Director
 - Carol Manley—Worship Musician
 - Nicholas Capatch—Live Stream
 - Debb Pearson—Lay Leader
 - Russ Koan—Lay Leader Emeritus

Midwestern University is providing a speaker for our September *First Tuesday at Noon*. They will share information about the various community programs the University offers.

Lunch will be a *Pasta Phling!* (various pastas, various sauces)

Be sure to sign up on August 16/17 or 23/24. Remember, while there is never a charge, donations are appreciated.





Who Is My Neighbor?

In Luke 10:29 an expert in the Law asks Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” The implication in the story is that the man wants to know whom he is obligated to be helpful to in faithful response to God. In response, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan, expanding our circle of neighbors from people who are like us to everyone we encounter.

John Wesley, the Anglican priest who began the Methodist Movement way back in the 1700’s, famously affirmed that “the whole world is my parish.” Methodist began as an evangelical movement that met the spiritual and material needs of people throughout the world. Today the United Methodist Church is in ministry throughout the world as we seek to fulfill John Wesley’s vision for the Church.

Who are Willowbrook’s neighbors? Who are we called to serve?

Mission Insight is an incredibly useful demographic tool for knowing more about the people who reside around our church. Mission Insight has some helpful things to share about the people who live in a 2.5 mile radius around the church, an area that includes parts of Sun City, Sun City West, and Peoria:

- ◆ Our neighbors tend to be highly educated.
- ◆ Almost ¾ of our neighbors are or were in white collar careers.
- ◆ Over 83% of our neighbors are white.
- ◆ There is less poverty in our area than overall across the state of Arizona, with a median household income of \$78,013 in 2023.
- ◆ Moderate population growth is expected to continue.
- ◆ School aged children are a rapidly growing demographic in our immediate vicinity.
- ◆ Two-parent households are slightly more common than across the state.
- ◆ The average age of our neighbors is steadily decreasing, from an average age of 56 in 2000 to an expected average age of 49 in 2033.
- ◆ The number of people aged 65 and up is holding steady at around 25,000 people while every other (younger) age range is growing in number.
- ◆ Despite these trends, people in their golden years continue to make up by far the greatest percentage of our neighbors.

This data helps us understand why our church is most likely to continue attracting older people. What ministries do we need in order to continue serving people in their golden years?

But the story of the Good Samaritan reminds us that we are called to be good neighbors even to people who are not like us. We may not have a booming youth ministry or Sunday School anytime soon, but how can Willowbrook bless the families with children and teenagers in our area? How are we called to love them without expecting anything in return? If you have a heart for families with children and youth in our neighborhood, would you please let me know? I’d love to hear from you.

See you in church in-person or through livestream!

Rev. Matt Ashley

Willowbrook Strong

UPDATES



HAGER, Jane
13725 N 93rd Avenue #321
Peoria AZ 85381-4892
Freedom Plaza—The Inn

STARKEY, Marge
4445 S Grand Canyon Drive #248
Las Vegas NV 89147-7179

Gratitude Bracelets

Giving thanks for the little things in life can provide a heart overflowing with gratitude. Use this bracelet and prayer to increase the joy in your life. Pray with each pearl.

*Lord,
I felt your strength when. . .
I saw your hope when. . .
I shared your love with. . .
I followed your guidance. . .
Amen.*



The prayer Pastor Ruth wrote to go with the bracelets, and the focus the bracelets can give on gratitude are intended to help us grow closer to God in this life’s journey. Available in four sizes for youth, men and women and in many designs and colors, the bracelets will be available again during fellowship time August 10. The proceeds go to the Willowbrook 50th Anniversary Fund.

EMMAUS REUNION GROUP



Everyone who has completed the Walk to Emmaus has the opportunity to attend Willowbrook’s Emmaus Reunion Group! The group meets the second Tuesday of the month at 11:30 am. Consider joining us in the conference room on August 12!
Christ is counting on you!



(We celebrate 90 years or more)

3	Bob Johnson	
8	Jean Johns	
11	Glennis Fuller	
14	Virginia Vandenberg	100!
17	Donna Cuning	
20	Dolores Wright	
23	Nancie Fletcher	
27	Olive Crowthers	



(We Celebrate 50 years or more)

1	Ron & Liz Byers	55th
3	Steve & Marian Roberts	56th
4	Terry & Carolyn Smith	57th
9	Stephen & Susan Marshall	56th
18	Charles & Toby Musgrave	52nd
25	Lee & Sandy Wilson	53rd
26	Tom & Jackie Laughlin	53rd
29	Dave & Vanette Pope	66th

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

- Willowbrook Friend, Fran Boeck on June 24th
- Jan Van Vugt’s brother Robert Schlueter in SD on June 11th
- Mike McGinty’s father on July 7th



HOOKED ON BOOKS

Do you enjoy reading? Would you like to discuss what you are reading with others? Come join us at “Hooked on Books.” We meet in the church library on the fourth Thursday of each month at 1:30.

Upcoming books:

August 28th — *Lula Deans Little Library of Banned Books* by Kristen Miller
September 25th — *Girl With the Louding Voice* by Abi Dare

July 2025




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		

August 2025

September 2025

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
<p>3 FOOD BANK—COMMUNION 9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p>4 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL</p>	<p>5 12:00 pm First Tuesday at Noon—WFH 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL 2:30 pm Mission U Viewing—WFH</p>	<p>6 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH 3:30 pm Mission U Viewing—WFH</p>	<p>7 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 2:00 pm Worship Committee—CR 3:30 pm Mission U Viewing—WFH</p>	<p>1 5:00 pm Youthful Seniors Board—WFH</p> <p>8 5:00 pm Youthful Seniors Event—WFH</p>	<p>2 FOOD BANK 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>10 2ND SUNDAY FOR ZOO UNDIE SUNDAY GRATITUDE BRACELETS 9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p>11 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL 2:00 pm First Tuesday Planning—CR</p>	<p>12 11:30 am Emmaus Reunion Gathering—CR 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL</p>	<p>13 9:00 am Nominations—CR 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>9 TOWELS FOR ZOO UNDIE SUNDAY GRATITUDE BRACELETS 9:00 am Winsome Widows—George's Cafe 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>17 9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p>18 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL</p>	<p>19 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL</p>	<p>20 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH</p>	<p>21 9:00 am Kris Krafters—WFH 1:30 pm 50th Anniversary Team—LL 2:30 pm Outreach—CR</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>16 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>24 9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p>25 11:00 am Lectionary Study—LL 2:00 pm Intercessory Prayer—LL</p>	<p>26 2:00 pm Men's Fellowship—LL</p>	<p>27 9:00 am Nominations—CR 9:30 am GriefShare—LL 9:30 am Art & Soul—WFH</p>	<p>28 9:00 am Finance—CR 9:30 am Reverse Telethon—WHF 1:30 pm Hooked on Books—LL</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>23 1:00 pm Winsome Widows—LL 5:00 pm Sabbath Service—CH</p>
<p>31 9:30 am Worship—Sanc</p>	<p> Please pray daily with me. <i>FATHER in Heaven, we give you the glory and honor for all that you're doing in our lives every day, even in the times we can't see it or understand your ways. Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen</i></p>		<p> AUGUST—Pray for First UMC, Sun City First UMC, Yuma Fresh Expressions Quad Cities</p>		<p> Feed the Hungry Non-perishable Food ATER IS ALWAYS NEEDED Next Food Drive: September 6/7, 2025</p>	