



# Boulder City United Methodist Church

LAY SERVANT NEWS

WINTER 2019

The Mission & Outreach Committee organized a trip to Salt Lake City last November for the purpose of taking hygiene relief kits to the UMCOR Depot there and also to assemble more kits with the supplies they had available for the kits.



UMCOR’s Vision and Mission are as follows:  
Vision: As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, UMCOR strengthens and transforms people and communities.

Mission: Compelled by Christ to be a voice of conscience on behalf of the people called Methodist, UMCOR works globally to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing.

UMCOR’s work can be categorized into three major areas:

- 1) Humanitarian Relief / Disaster Response
- 2) Sustainable Development
- 3) Global Health (in collaboration with Global Ministries)

### UMCOR’s MANDATE (From the Book of Discipline 2016)

#### ¶ 1330.1. General Provisions—

**Purpose**—The United Methodist Committee on Relief (“UMCOR”) exists to assist United Methodists and churches to become involved globally in direct ministry to persons in need through programs of relief, rehabilitation, and service, including issues of displaced persons, hunger and poverty, disaster response, and disaster risk reduction; and to assist organizations, institutions, and programs related to annual conferences and other units of The United Methodist Church in their involvement in direct service to such persons in need.

Here are the thoughts of the volunteers who went:

**Jeff Romine** - I was blessed to be able to travel with a team of five to the UMCOR Depot in Salt Lake City, UT this past November. I was impressed with how organized the facility was. We worked at the depot verifying school kits that had been assembled and sent in by other churches from around the country. These kits were boxed up and put on pallets to be stored. They will eventually be sent out to victims of emergencies in the United States and possibly other countries following natural disasters. While there, we also had the opportunity to tour the LDS facility and volunteer in their thrift store tagging clothes that they sell for those in need. This trip was a tremendous opportunity for me to see how the Methodist Church reaches out to those in need. I thoroughly enjoyed this mission trip and hope to be able to do this again in the future.

**Pat Benke** – I really enjoyed seeing the UMCOR Depot warehouse and finding out first-hand what they do. I also enjoyed our personal tour of Welfare Square and wandering around the Mormon mother church area, which was a short walk from the Episcopal Hospitality Center

### Sermon Schedule

- 1/6: Flip the Switch  
Isaiah 60:1-6
- 1/13: Sooth a Savage  
Psalm 40:1-11
- 1/20: Lighten Up  
Isaiah 9:1-4
- 1/27: Make My Day  
Micah 6:1-8
- 2/3: Altars, Altars Every where  
Psalm 84:1-4  
Psalm 112:1-9
- 2/10: Walk This Way  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
Psalm 119:1-8
- 2/17: Guest Preacher, Jeff Romine
- 2/24: Leave Room For Dessert  
Leviticus 19:1-2
- 3/3: Get Up and Don’t Be Afraid  
Matthew 17:1-9
- 3/10: Look For the Resistor  
Matthew 4:1-11
- 3/17: Look For the Helper  
John 3:1-11  
Psalm 121: 2,5,8
- 3/24: Look For the Thirst-Quencher  
John 4:4-26  
Exodus 17:3, 5-6
- 3/31: Look For the Shepard  
1 Samuel 16:7, 11-13
- 4/7: Look For the Liberator  
John 11:1-44
- 4/14: Palm Sunday

where we stayed. Doing the hands-on work of assembling the relief kits was #1, but attending a rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir was a close 2<sup>nd</sup>!

**Bruce Benke** - On this mission trip, God wanted me to see as much as work. In my prayers, I often ask God to expand my ability to see Him at work in the world – and He has. But on this trip, He really delivered! The five of us drove 7 hours and 450 miles to our lodging destination. With great accommodations and a full-sized market blocks away, we bought the food and supplies needed for the week. Our chief chef, Kathleen Wood, guided our menu and led kitchen detail.

Our work started the next day, and we began packing “back-to-school” starter kits, for beginning young students, in the UMCOR Distribution Warehouse. I began to notice around me all kinds of signage, posters and logos from church volunteers before us – several hundred at least, and it was humbling. On the second day, we toured and worked for a short time in the LDS Salt Lake City Welfare Square which encompassed at least 4 square blocks – impressive, and, again, humbling. As our daily work continued in the warehouse, I began to feel somewhat marginal – what I was doing seemed so little compared to the “mountain” of giving and doing before, during and after we wrapped up and left.

On the way home, we experienced a rear-tire blow-out on the busy freeway. The spare was too low to drive further, but a road construction worker saw us, stopped and pumped up the spare. I offered grateful payment for his help, but he refused, wished us well, and left. Pastor Sandy recognized immediately the *Angel* that God sent us on our return trip home, and she shared the experience with the church.

The lesson learned for me on this trip was God’s reminder that there are lots of Disciples out there and to do and give what I can. God loves us beyond our comprehension regardless of how much we are able to give. The lesson I learned was: Just go, do, give and walk with Jesus. He’ll take care of the rest.

**Kathleen Wood**-A Bucket list item was checked with our trip to the UMCOR warehouse in Salt Lake City. I wanted to see the action of packing relief buckets, or school supply bags or hygiene kits. Our action was completing hundreds of school supply kits!

My most vivid memory was the joy and care that was held within the seams and stitches of the handmade bags from women’s group around the United States. Those bags would hold the items needed for school kids to get back to the normalcy of learning after a natural disaster. The materials of the bags were a tapestry of colors, weaves, styles, blends, textures and shapes.



## **New Faces –LINDA SCOTT**

I officially retired from my Long Beach teaching job and moved to Boulder City 7 years ago. But my emotional move started 21 years ago when I fell in love with Lake Mead and bought a couple small fixer-upper boats and kept them in a slip at the Las Vegas Boat Harbor Marina. That kept me coming here on weekends and vacations.

My three siblings and I had a wonderful childhood growing up in a Seattle suburb. We were poor but very happy and secure.

I attended the local Presbyterian church where I sang in the choir, taught vacation Bible School, was active in our youth group, and attended their summer camp a few times.

My passion for water activities came from 10 years of summers spent on Lake Tapps with our neighbors and their kids.

I moved to California at age 19 to be with my future husband and attended UCLA. I worked nights at the phone company while I raised my children and continued my education, eventually getting a master's degree in education.

I taught special education in Long Beach for over 20 years and for 1 ½ years in Vegas before medical issues kept me from working. I now tutor 5-7 days a week in Boulder City.

A stroke 12 years ago brought my hyperactive life of skiing, boating, dancing and traveling to a screeching halt. But God brought me back from the brink after all the doctors were certain I would never come out of the coma. I now try to pay it forward by caring for seniors in my park, in B.C. and around Henderson.

I have been further blessed with 2 wonderful grandsons. All I needed was a spiritual nudge. Lar Nelson steered my hunt towards BCUMC and I never looked back. I have found a home.



**“Before” & “After” Words from our Congregation on how they experienced God through a ministry, service or mission of this church. How has God touched them?**

Before: “Wilted” – After: “Energized”

Before: “Lonely, empty” – After: “Whole, blessed, full of life, in gratitude”

Before: “Not fulfilled” – After: “The mission work was very fulfilling & God’s loved showed everywhere”

Before: “So lost, clueless” – After: “Beyond words, enriched, at peace & humbled”

## **Obituaries**

### **BARBARA LINK**

Barbara Jean Link, 83, died suddenly Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Her final day this side of heaven consisted of voting, getting a haircut and dining out with a good friend, Frank Munoz. Barbara peacefully slipped into eternal rest on the ride home. Barbara was born December 5, 1934 to Herman and Mary (Waychoff) Hessenius in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She grew up in Des Moines and attended East High school, where she met the love of her life, Noel E. Link. They were married for 54 years. Barbara worked numerous jobs, but primarily served as a Licensed Practical Nurse. She moved to Boulder City to be closer to her daughter after the death of Noel in 2006. She was preceded in death by her husband, Noel; sons, Darwin and Dennis; and her parents. Barbara is survived by her children, Diane (Mario) Hernandez of Boulder City and Douglas (Debra) Link of Vallejo, Calif.; her brother, Alan Hessenius of Marshall Town, Iowa; grandchildren, JC Niday III, Alyssa (Gabe) Brueningsen, Audra (Michael) Ortega, Jacob (Link) Mather and Jacob's brother, Derrick Mather; and great-grandchildren, Eliana, Abigail, Emily, Oliver, and Elijah. Burial will be private at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa. A celebration of life will be scheduled in early 2019 at Boulder City United Methodist Church where she served God faithfully alongside her church family, whom she cherished greatly.

Published in Boulder City Review on Nov. 15, 2018

### **NANCY SEYMORE**

Nancy Anne Seymore, 72, Boulder City, Nev., passed away Nov. 17, 2018, in Boulder City. She was born in Red Oak on Feb. 10, 1946, to Marshall Heckerson and Gladys Guyer Heckerson. Nancy and Donnie L. Jones were married in May, 1965 and were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Marcia. Nancy later married Paul Seymore in Red Oak on July 3, 1979. Together, they moved to Boulder City in 1986.

Nancy was a proud and loving mother and a good friend to her Boulder City neighbors. Nancy was very proud of being a member of the Boulder City United Methodist Church. She enjoyed reading and being a part of her church's book club and Bible study group. She also enjoyed crocheting. She worked as an assistant in the scholarship department of and retired from the Nevada Public Education Foundation. She was instrumental in assisting many students to obtain scholarships to be able to further their college education.

Nancy was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Seymore, who passed in 2014.

She is survived by her daughter, Marcia (Steve) Barcomb; two grandchildren, Bradley (Ashley Guay) Barcomb, Rachele (Cory Nolette) Barcomb; three great grandchildren, Isis Barcomb, Xoey Barcomb, Liam Nolette; and one great-grandchild to be born in February. Services will be held at a later date. Family and friends can sign an online memorial guestbook at [www.bouldercityfamilymortuary.com](http://www.bouldercityfamilymortuary.com)

## **VIRGINIA BROOKS**

Virginia was born on October 7, 1928 to her parents Curtis and Ella Mae (Carnley) Brooks. She was the 7th child born of 10 children in Seymour, Texas. She was the last of her immediate family. She then went on to lose her son Ronald Dean, Great Granddaughter Aleshia Marie, Granddaughter Christina Marie, Daughter Brenda Jean. She leaves behind five children including many grandchildren and great grandchildren. This includes Garry King of Boulder City, Nevada, Barry King of Kingsland, Texas, Sherrie King of Las Vegas, Nevada, Angela Cuellar of Pahrump, Nevada, Gregory Bethany of Boulder City, Nevada. She passed on November 7, 2018. She was age 90 Years and 1 Month.

## **DON COOLEY**

Don passed away at home on December 18. No services are yet planned. Please keep his wife Sandy in your prayers.

## **REV. IDA EASLEY**

Ida was born on June 7, 1946 and passed away on Saturday, December 29, 2018. Pastor Ida preached at our church regularly when Pastor Sandy was out of town. She will be missed.

**UMC IMPORTANT GATHERING** – Special Session of General Conference: Commission on a Way Forward – February 23-26, 2019 & the DSW Holy Huddle (December 2018)

The Council of Bishops has called a special session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops.

About 9 of us from BCUMC went into Trinity UMC in Las Vegas in December to attend a Holy Huddle on the future of the global United Methodist Church and hear what the Commission is putting forth for a vote at the special session. The 32-member commission was authorized by the Gen. Conference in 2018 & formed to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

It was hoped that the Commission could design a way forward that would maximize our presence & allow for as much contextual differentiation as possible, and balance an approach to different theological understandings of human sexuality, with a desire for as much unity as possible. With about 100 others at the Holy Huddle, we pledged to stay curious, be kind & to listen with the same passion with which we would want to be heard. Three plans were set forth, with the **One Church Plan** being the recommendation of the Council of Bishops.

This is the prayer of the Council of Bishops:

As the Special Session of General Conference approaches, we pray that the Holy Spirit will draw us together. May we see the image of God in one another, treat one another with tenderness, and love one another fiercely. Bearing Christ's love in these ways, we pray to be God's faithful witnesses.

## NCG News and Upcoming Events

NCG member institutions have been busy over the last two months. Approximately 50 people participated in legislative trainings learning how to initiate and lead a meeting with a legislator. The goal is to meet with every legislator in Clark County prior to the opening of the 2019 Nevada Legislative Session on February 4. At these meetings NCG leaders share NCG's legislative agenda on education, affordable housing, payday lending and healthcare. During the meetings we learn what questions or concerns the legislator has about each issue and whether he/she will support our issues. We also learn what each legislator's priorities are for the upcoming legislative session. A team of leaders in the Boulder City NCG Cluster has met with newly elected assemblyman, Glen Leavitt. A meeting with Senator Joe Hardy is being scheduled.



In December NCG held an Education Summit at Western High School. The Guinn Center for Policy Priorities, a Las Vegas-based nonprofit, independent policy research center, presented an analysis of Nevada's current K-12 education funding formula. The current funding formula is over 50 years old, very complex, and doesn't meet current needs. One of NCG's education goals is to rewrite the funding formula. The Superintendent of the Clark County School District, Dr. Jesus Jara, also spoke. About 60 people attended the summit including 3 state legislators who also spoke.

NCG was invited to participate in listening sessions on education and healthcare organized by then Governor-elect Sisolak. Both sessions were an open discussion among education or healthcare stakeholders, experts, and advocates on specific needs in Nevada. The education session focused on funding, classroom size, the teacher shortage, and teacher pay. The healthcare session focused on behavioral/mental health, Medicaid, the healthcare provider shortage, and cost of health care. It was an excellent opportunity to learn from others and share NCG's concerns.

Upcoming NCG Events:

**February 12 – Boulder City NCG Cluster Meeting**, 7:00-8:30 PM, location to be determined. The meeting will focus on how each member of the Cluster can participate in NCG's legislative strategy and set goals for action on local Boulder City, issues.

For more information on this event contact Barbara Paulsen ([paulsenbnv@gmail.com](mailto:paulsenbnv@gmail.com)), Jenn Haag ([jennhaag44@cox.net](mailto:jennhaag44@cox.net)), or Pat Benke ([patbenke@gmail.com](mailto:patbenke@gmail.com)).

### **The Staff/ Parish Relations Committee: Who we are and what we do.**

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is the administrative unit in a local church where staff and congregational interests are integrated to focus on the mission of the church. The primary responsibility of the SPRC is to work with and support staff so that the mission of the church is realized. Staff includes the pastor and all other employees of the local church. Currently, staff for Boulder City United Methodist Fellowship is the pastor along with contract employees, the music director and pianist.

Some of the duties of the SPRC are to:

- ◆ Encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, and respect the pastor and staff and their families;
- ◆ Promote unity in the church;
- ◆ Confer with the pastor and staff on matters pertaining to the effectiveness of ministry, relationships with the congregation, and conditions that may impede the effectiveness of ministry;
- ◆ Confer with, consult and counsel the pastor and staff on matters pertaining to setting priorities in regard to gifts, skills and time;

First and foremost, the SPRC works to support the pastor and his/her family, and other employees, in their work. This committee also serves as a link between the pastor/staff and the congregation so questions or concerns can be addressed in a manner in line with our Christian values and in the best interests of the pastor, staff and the congregation. As such the SPRC works closely with the Church Council and the Lay Leader. The 2019 SPRC members are: Barbara Paulsen, chair; Myra Davis, Linda Robertshaw, Kay Benge, Chuck Barbour, Ida Hansen and Pastor Sandy Johnson.



The Mission and Outreach Committee says THANK YOU to the church for supporting the committee's projects this past year with your generous donations. You provided resources all year long that were valuable in keeping the vision of showing love and care to those in need in our church community, our Boulder City community, and to UMCOR's (*United Methodist Committee on Relief*) efforts of providing to needs of the world community.

At the end of 2018, committee member, Sharon Wright, regretfully left the committee because of her current work commitments. In her place, Dave Allison was appointed to the committee and will be a great new contributor to the committee. Dave already knows the importance of commitment and giving as he has been a member of the church's choir for several years. Welcome aboard, Dave!



The committee would like to really promote our **Helping Hands** outreach program this year. **Helping Hands** is a joint project with the Lend A Hand organization to assist church and Boulder City community seniors in need of assistance with projects of light house cleaning, yard or landscaping cleaning or beautification, minor home repairs, and similar personal needs.

**Helping Hands** is a separate program and not to be confused with BCUMC's Benevolent Fund. The Benevolent Fund is available for church members or families with immediate or emergency financial needs for food, housing, medical care, and other related circumstances.



Church member, Fred DiManno, showed this past October how the **Helping Hands** program is designed to work. Fred was called upon to assist in a project that needed immediate attention. Without hesitation, he volunteered to put together a plan to build a ramp for Nancy Seymore's home. Within a day, Fred built a platform that allowed Nancy the opportunity to be moved from one part of her home to another while in her wheelchair. He added a ramp to the platform that gave Nancy the opportunity to get from her bed to the outdoors to enjoy some fresh air. The Mission and Outreach budget paid for the materials to build the ramp and Fred donated his time and skills. A perfect **Helping Hands** success story!

You too can help! The program needs the following ...names of those who could use the kind of assistance this program can provide and names of those who would be willing to help with projects. Please contact anyone on the committee with your name if you need this type of help, suggest the name of any other individual(s) who may need this type of assistance or add your name if you would like to be one of the “helping hands”.



### **Worship on Wednesday!**

The Worship Committee met the first of January and decided to revamp our Wednesday night worship service known as WOW. It will be on hiatus until March 6 (Ash Wed.). The service will be held once a month on the first Wednesday. The evening will start with a 45-minute service at 5:30 followed by dinner at 6:15 p.m. The first evening the new worship service will be held is March 6 and the worship team will provide dinner, from Fox's BBQ. The following month will be potluck. The worship team hopes that we can build a strong community on Wednesday evening and engage new people in our mid-week worship. Worship will continue to be led by Pastor Francyl Gawryn, Rev. James Lyons and Rev. Sandy Johnson. We are looking for a new name for this service-if you have a creative gene and come up with a name, please email it to Pastor Sandy for submission

Prayer for churches –

JANUARY 2019 • Needles Ministry, Needles, CA (Pastor Eugene Stouffer) • Boulder City UMC, Boulder City, NV (Rev. Sandy Lynn Johnson) • Hope UMC, Bullhead City, AZ ( Pastor Robin Lee)

FEBRUARY 2019 • Community UMC, Caliente, NV (Pastor Robert Mayer) • Federated Community Church, Flagstaff, AZ (Rev. Jessica Goad) • Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, AZ (Rev. Lynn Bartlow)

MARCH 2019 • First Henderson UMC, Henderson, NV (Pastor Fred Heggstad) • Green Valley UMC, Henderson, NV (Rev. James Wallasky) • Holbrook UMC, Holbrook, AZ (Pastor Nicholas Grainger)

APRIL 2019 • St. Johns UMC, Kingman, AZ (Pastor Robert Gilfert) • St. Michael's UMC, Lake Havasu City (Rev. David Harriss) • First Tongan UMF, Las Vegas, NV (Pastor Mavae Koli)

***Spectator or Participant?*** (by Charles Stanley; Romans 12:9-13)



“We are called the body of Christ, and as such, our lives are meant to touch, intersect, and connect with other believers in a local church.”

(from the verses in Romans) You can see that the church is a place for participants, not spectators. Yet many Christians today think this kind of involvement in others' lives is too costly. So, they come on Sunday, stand to sing, sit to listen, and walk out to get back to their own lives.

The term “spectator Christian” doesn’t apply only to those who deliberately avoid going to church. In fact, many churches are filled with observant attendees who sit in pews each week but never touch a fellow believer’s life. What about you? **Are you a *spectator* seeking what you can get or a *participant* looking for ways to give to someone else?** (Emphasis added) (In Touch, January 2019)



Join the Prayer Group and lift up prayer requests of our church, community and the world beyond. We meet weekly on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at Pastor Sandy’s home (628 Avenue G). Everyone is invited to join the prayer team! A huge thank you goes out to Bruce Benke who led the prayer group for many years. Bruce has resigned his position as leader and Rev. Sandy will be leading the group moving forward.

### CARE MINISTRY

The congregation of Boulder City UMC cares about you. We have a church-wide care ministry program, the purpose of which is to provide prayer, support, assistance and communication to every member of the congregation, whenever it may be needed.

The Care Ministers have been chosen to care for specific individuals or families in the congregation as their primary responsibility. From time to time you may receive a call or contact from a care minister. The reason for that contact is to extend the opportunity for prayer, support, love and concern to every person in our congregation.

Care ministers assist the pastor with staying abreast of the activities and needs of our congregation. Any of the care ministers are available to you at any time, for any reason.

The Care Ministry meeting is the third Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. at the Smith Building. Should you need any assistance with anything, please contact a Care Minister: Jennifer Haag, Rick Ladwig, Pat Dam, Myra Davis, Val Chapman or Linda Scott.



With the new year, new curriculum, and a faithful cadre of volunteers, the education committee is turning their attention to rearranging and redecorating the classroom and nursery areas. With input of all the teachers, we have developed a safety plan to ensure the welfare of students and teachers. Parents can view the plan posted in the classroom.

We still invite the participation of church members in teaching and guiding our youngest minds while giving parents a time to attend services and increase their own faith knowledge. If you feel called to give us even one Sunday a quarter, please see Pam Triolo or Jane Sharp.

**Adult Bible Study** meets Sunday mornings 8:45 (bring your coffee) and runs to 9:30. It is led by Scott Dam and David Paulsen. The discussion group is continuing our study of the Gospel of Matthew. Our principle reference for this study William Barclay’s Daily Study Bible Series. When the group finishes with Matthew, we will start a new series on the life of the Apostle Paul, including Acts and Paul’s letters. This series will use a number of reference materials including The Call by Adam Hamilton. Please join our discussion group at any time. Check us out, we’d love to have you participate and enjoy the discussion. We’re having fun as we learn about the Bible.

**Our bank** has asked that when making donations to our church, please make checks payable to “Boulder City United Methodist Church” NOT BCUMC. Please consider using automatic deposit from your bank as your method of supporting our church. PayPal deducts a fee. Thank you.

**Please wear your name tag in church!** Most of us know each other, but not always. New people don't know any of us, so let's make it easier for them.

**Birthday Sunday-** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month, we celebrate all the birthdays of that month with a birthday cake during Followship.

**Church Directory-** If you wish to have copy of our church directory, contact Jeff Romine at [jeff0263@gmail.com](mailto:jeff0263@gmail.com) or see him at the projection booth on Sunday. Also, visit our website at [bouldercityumc.com](http://bouldercityumc.com) for more information about our church.

### **Small Group Meetings**

Book Discussion Group

**Battlefield of the Mind: Winning the Battle in Your Mind** by Joyce Meyer (2002).

Worry, doubt, confusion, depression, anger and feelings of condemnation: all these are attacks on the mind. If readers suffer from negative thoughts, they can take heart! Joyce Meyer has helped millions win these all-important battles. In her most popular bestseller ever, the beloved author and minister shows readers how to change their lives by changing their minds.

Please let Jenn Haag know, if you'd like a copy of the book. First discussion will be Monday, Feb. 4, 1:30, location TBD.

**Women of the church** (Once known as the Women's Group): Those interested in a Spring Project, contact Myra Davis, 702.371.3037 or [mjdfly@cox.net](mailto:mjdfly@cox.net)

**Walking Group** meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning at 8:00 in Lake Mountain Estates at the corner of Marina and Lake Superior Lane. We walk 30-45 minutes on the hilly streets there. Our pet dogs come with us and we usually separate into different groups based on your comfortable pace. Join us!

**Women's Coffee:** Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at Starbucks at 8:45 a.m. Join us for a cup of coffee and some great conversation.

**Men's Coffee:** Men's Coffee meets at the Boulder Creek Grill at the Boulder Creek Golf Club located at 1501 Veterans Memorial Dr., Boulder City, NV 89005. We meet at 7:30 a.m. for a cup of joe and maybe breakfast. No need to make a reservation. All are welcome!

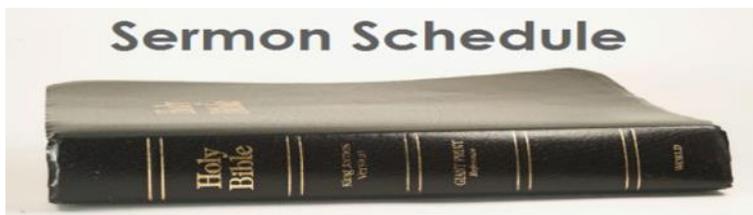
**Did you know?** There are two Personal Support Groups available to all the residents of Boulder City. They are the Grief Support Group and the Alzheimer's Support Group. They both meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Senior Center of Boulder City.

**The Grief Support Group** continues to meet at the Senior Center of Boulder City. Please share this information with anyone you know who may be experiencing grief from the death of a loved one, divorce, job loss, or any other life loss. The support group meets bi-monthly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The group is open to everyone, you do not have to be a member of the Senior Center to participate.

**The Alzheimer's Support Group** meets the bi-monthly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 p.m. As we grow older, sometimes dementia may creep up on us slowly. This group helps the participants try to understand and support what is happening to a loved one. The loved one may be a parent, mate or even a friend. The group is led by Amy Peterson who lost her husband to Alzheimer's at an early age. The group is small, no more than eight or ten tops. We talk about our loved one. It is amazing how we learn from each other, the way to look at behaviors differently.

There is also an Alzheimer's group that meets at the Homestead at 10:00 a.m. on the 1st Saturday of each month, plus an Alzheimer's/Dementia support group that meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00 at the Veterans Home.

If you think you might need some emotional support for either grief or dementia, please contact Pastor Sandy or Amy Peterson at 702-294-0323 or her cell phone 702-281-4061, or just drop into the Senior Center on the designated Wednesday and ask where the group is meeting. We would love to have you with us and we will support you in your loss. There is no cost involved, just time.



**Winter Sermon Series:** Winter can be a time of Seasonal Affective Disorder when the lack of sunlight affects our moods and ability to cope effectively. But **Spiritual Affective Disorder** can also be a factor as we lead lives that are too crowded, busy, over-committed, sometimes disturbing and uncertain. At the turn of this new year, we will explore everyday life activities that can become spiritual practices—deepening our experience of a meaningful life and make us more “light-hearted.” Join us beginning January 6 at 10 a.m. worship.

January 6, Flip the Switch, Isaiah 60:1-6

January 13, Sooth a Savage, Psalm 40:1-11

January 20, Lighten Up, Isaiah 9:1-4

January 27, Make My Day, Micah 6:1-8

February 3, Altars, Altars Everywhere, Psalm 84:1-4, 112:1-9

February 10, Walk This Way, Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8

February 17, Guest Preacher

February 24, Leave Room for Dessert, Leviticus 19:1-2

March 3, Get Up and Don't Be Afraid, Matthew 17:1-9

Lenten Series: Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places

This Lenten Series offers many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, healing, can REAL-  
LY be found. And usually it is not in the “usual” places. Isn't it as true of us today as it was of the scriptural authors? Don't we often look for wholeness and happiness (love) in places that offer only temporary “good feelings” and satisfaction? Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to re-assess where we are searching for meaning, for “redemption.” We'll move through the lectionary to find out who offers the “real deal.”

March 10, Look for the Resistor, Matthew 4:1-11

March 17, Look for the Helper, John 3:1-11; Psalm 121, 2, 5, 8

March 24, Look for the Thirst-Quencher, John 4:4-26, Exodus 17:3, 5-6

March 31, Look for the Shepherd, 1 Samuel 16:7, 11-13

April 7, Look for the Liberator, John 11:1-44

January 22, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of the Desert Southwest Conference,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!

Following the Special General Conference next month, I invite you to gather as a family of faithful followers of Jesus united in hope! Although we cannot know now what will transpire at General Conference, we are praying that God's spirit will be present in moments of grace, reconciliation, faith, love and hope.

I know that laity and pastors alike are concerned about what the outcome will be. Whatever it is, we know that there will be a strong need to come together after General Conference to remind ourselves that we are the body of Christ in unity with one another as we continue our ministries of love and compassion, of hospitality and grace in our communities of the Desert Southwest Conference. And to center ourselves again in our call to be in relationship with one another as we do so.

There has been a great deal of discussion and debate already about the legislative work that General Conference will be asked to do. But no matter what happens in the legislative arena, I am hopeful that we can BE the church together. Some of us will receive the decisions of General Conference with joy; while others will be disappointed. Some will sense an optimistic future. Others will be enveloped with a sense of doom. Such is the result of a legislative process like General Conference. In such a time of conflict and division, when some are the "winners" and others are "losers," I am calling us to be a courageous church united in hope. We can be exactly that with God's help.

On Saturday March 2, I am asking you to be present for a time to turn to God for strength and wholeness. Worship and the Holy Meal will center us, feed our souls, and focus us. Plans are being developed for at least 4 sites where you are invited to come to be joined through technology while being in the presence of others of our Conference united by the spirit of the living God who makes all things new!

Here are the details as we know them at this moment. (Consider this a "save the date" notification )

**CALLED TOGETHER BY GRACE: ONE BODY**

The Desert Southwest Conference's invitation to be united in hope

Saturday March 2, 2019 (Locations to be announced) joined by technology and by our common faith

Scripture focus: Colossians 3: 12-17

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m. (PT), Gather at 8:30 a.m. —10 a.m.—12 noon (MT), gather at 9:30 a.m.

As I return from St. Louis, I will look forward to being "home" with you. The Desert Southwest Conference is the place where God has planted us for this time to engage in hopeful ministry and mission in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Save the date, plan to be present, and by all means let's keep praying for God's spirit to be with us and among us!

In Christ,

Bob Hoshibata,

Bishop, Desert Southwest Annual Conference



## **The Phoenix Rises**

Rubble to Rebuild



**REGISTER TODAY FOR THE  
2019 WESTERN JURISDICTION  
DISASTER ACADEMY**

March 28th-31st

Scottsdale, Arizona

[wjcumc.org/disaster-academy](http://wjcumc.org/disaster-academy)



# Council of Bishops

## The United Methodist Church



Friday, December 28, 2018

To our Global LGBTQ Kin in Christ,

The Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church recognizes the ways in which the convening of the Special Session of General Conference creates a time and space of harm for you and members of your family. To be the focus of attention, discussion and debate is hurtful.

Demeaning and dehumanizing comments and attacks on LGBTQ persons in conversations related to the upcoming February Conference are a great tragedy and do violence to hearts, minds, and spirits. When you suffer, the whole body of Christ suffers. Together, we need to work to resist hate, violence, and oppression of persons. In these attitudes and actions, great harm is done throughout the community, to the offended and the offender.

As Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 12: We cannot say to a part of the body, “I have no need of you.” We belong to each other. In our Baptism, we are incorporated into the Church, the body of Christ, and made one in Christ. The Church pledges to every baptized member: “Your joy, your pain, your gain, your loss, are ours, for you are one of us.” (*The UMC Book of Worship*, pg. 83). Our Book of Discipline clearly states that all people are of sacred worth.

As leaders of the church, we are brokenhearted by conversations that dishonor, objectify and dehumanize. We confess, as Bishops of The United Methodist Church and as we attempt to honor our convictions, that our actions and words have not always been life-giving or honoring of the LGBTQ community. Amid our sorrow, we seek to learn and grow in grace. To that end, we commit ourselves to helping people who disagree with each other to have conversations that include, honor, and respect people with different convictions. We are a diverse group of leaders—conservative, centrist, progressive—however, we are unified in our commitment to work together in ways that will give you and all God’s children strength, comfort and hope for better and more merciful tomorrows.

As the Special Session of General Conference approaches, we pray that the Holy Spirit will draw us together. May we see the image of God in one another, treat one another with tenderness, and love one another fiercely. Bearing Christ’s love in these ways, we pray to be God’s faithful witnesses.

The Council of Bishops  
The United Methodist Church

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