

*Behold,
I will do a new thing;
Isaiah 43:19*

January 2021

United Methodist Church of Green Valley
Methodist Messenger



From the desk of your Pastor...

***Look! I'm doing a new thing;
now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?
I'm making a way in the desert,
paths in the wilderness. Isaiah 43:19***

The prophet Isaiah offers us words that we need to hear, perhaps more than ever before. Coming to a new year, we often look back reflecting on the past year but also looking forward with hopes and dreams for what is to come. Looking back, we attempt to put events, mistakes, even habits and ways of living behind us once and for all. Countless souls have looked back swearing to "never touch that stuff again!" Or vow to now begin exercising again, or for the first time.

How many have made plans, resolved to be different, to live different, to embrace a new way of being for the new year only to fall short and give up in frustration before the first week has even passed? Raise your hand if you are guilty? I am and have fallen short with my New Year's plans more times than I can count.

The text however, although we look at it with hope about what might be, it clearly indicates that God is doing a new thing, right here, and now. God is at work in this very moment, not waiting for tomorrow, or waiting until we get our affairs in order. God is making a way in the desert of our lives, making the paths straight, sprouting new life, breathing new life into us and into the spaces we occupy. No need to wait, but stop, look around and see what God is doing, in the dry and deserted places of your life. No one wants to see 2020 behind us more than I do, but I don't want to look too far ahead because God is with us! Emmanuel! Here and now and God is at work in you, in me and all around.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Doug



WELCOME JANUARY!

United Methodist Church of GV
300 W. Esperanza Blvd.
Green Valley, AZ 85614
520.625.4712

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**Worship Opportunities**

**Radio Broadcast 8:00 AM  
on K.G.V.Y. 1080 AM or 101.5 FM**

**Worship Services, Special Communications,  
the UMC Newsletter and Calendar can all be found on  
our website: [umcgv.org](http://umcgv.org) You can also check us out  
on our YouTube channel: UMC GV and Facebook!**



## PLEASE REMEMBER...

The Penny Project is a year round Ministry that takes not just pennies but *all* U.S. currency. This money goes to help women and children in need. Thanks for your help!

The Secretary is now able to Notarize your documents **FREE OF CHARGE** with a valid I.D.



Office Hours: By Appointment  
Tuesday - Thursday  
Please leave a message

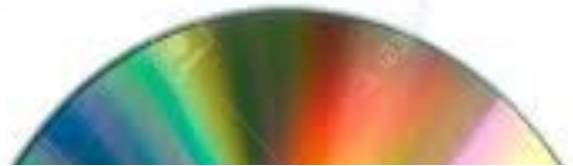
300 W. Esperanza Blvd.  
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Phone: 520-625-4712

Website: [www.umcgv.org](http://www.umcgv.org)

After hours  
**EMERGENCY PHONE**  
**625-4712 Option #1**

The Church email address is:  
[secretary@gvcc.tuccoxmail.com](mailto:secretary@gvcc.tuccoxmail.com)



Email:

[umcmmediateam@gmail.com](mailto:umcmmediateam@gmail.com)

to request your copy of UMC Services on DVD by date! You will be notified when it is available for pickup at the Communications Table.



UMC Staff & Committee Meetings continue through the use of our Shelby Conference Calling and ZOOM Accounts.

If you are a Committee Chair and would like to schedule an upcoming meeting, please contact the office.





# PRAYER LIST

**The Alfing Family**

**Betty Cupples**

**Sam Benner**

**Les Brisbois**

**Amy Carlisle**

**Jacqui Coble**

**Bob Coder**

**Bill & Eileen Finzel**

**Pearl Frye**

**Lewis & Barbara (Hospice) Gardner**

**Ron Guschel**

**Angel, Alyssa & Tim Gutekunst**

**Marjorie Jenkin (Hospice)**

**Hattie Jo LaFollette**

**Karen Lafrance-Ball**

**Carol Lewis**

**Anita McMullen**

**Carolyn Miller**

**Adeline Mitchell**

**Pat Mitchell**

**David Platt (Hospice)**

**Jim Reedy**

**Jean Ross**

**Hugh Sanford**

**Ray Sears**

**Rhett Welch**

*May God hold you in the palm of His hand  
and angels watch over you.*

**Our knitting and crocheting ladies have outdone themselves in 2020. We gave away a total of 236 sweaters, many with attached hats, 31 afghans and 42 extra hats. Also borrowed from the sewers, we included 3 little dresses and 21 quilts. In light of COVID this took intense communication, devotion and even our own yarn shop provided by Diane O'Driscoll at her home. May God Bless and give us a wonderful 2021.**

**We are encouraged to be praying for the churches and pastors of the South District. Several churches will be listed each month for your prayer covering. It is encouraging to know that other churches are praying with and for each other.  
St. Paul's UMC, Tucson ~ Trinity UMC, Bisbee  
San Pedro Valley UMC, Benson**



# IN REMEMBRANCE

***Jarice Lynch ~ Bill Williams  
Ruth Whitaker***

*In this age of HIPAA the only way the church office or staff can know if someone is in the hospital or having difficulties of any kind is through notification by you or a friend. Please let us know if anyone in your family or the church family needs prayers and/or a visit. It is the practice of this church to prepare a prayer list, providing the names of the sick for the purpose of intercessory prayer. If you do not want your name communicated, please contact and inform our church office at 520-625-4712 as soon as possible. Thank you.*

Staff-Parish Relations Committee held its last meeting for 2020 on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Doug Handlong expressed his gratitude for what he called his exceptional staff. We agreed we do have a wonderful staff and wonderful volunteers, who have gone the extra mile in this year of the pandemic, which has changed the way we express our love for and thanks to God in worship. We have had to learn to use electronics. Our staff has learned those skills and they have taught us.

We do appreciate Chad Eggen, Facilities and IT Manager, and his volunteers: Tom Bright; Janie Furtwangler; Shirley Urquhart; and Bill Vorhees for the excellent weekly worship video which they produce. Included in this team are Linda Truesdell, Music Director; Sue Wilson, Administrator/Secretary; and Pastor Doug. Taking good care of our money in this difficult time, is Lou Schellhaas - for whom we are indeed thankful. There are more for whom we are most thankful: Jane Cable who has gone the extra mile in keeping in touch with our children and families in this time when we cannot be together. Rev. Jerry Haas who provides ideas and prayers which Sue both emails and prints for distribution on the outside table each week. Rev. Ken Bensen and Sandy Bensen, leaders of the calling team whose members telephone those listed on the 39 pages of the church directory each week. This activity has been well received by both callers and recipients. We believe it has played a major role in keeping us together during this time when we can't meet in the church building. Thanks to Zoom, meetings are held and classes are taught. We so liked the study of Advent music led by Rev. Haas and Linda Truesdell that we begged for a Lenten class. Pastor Doug's Advent Bible class was enjoyed by all and most informative.

For our new staff member, Marlene McNiece, this has not been the best of times! When your church is closed by the virus, it is hard to impossible to bring in new members. And how about that outside table which Sue fills with all the information we need every week?!

Praises be to God, for all He has given us and for this time of Advent, the birth of Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man. ~ Helen Coile, Chair



**Now more than ever**  
**the Food Bank needs our help!**

Thanks to all who have helped  
to keep the shelves stocked!



COMMUNITY  
FOOD BANK  
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA



**Today's delivery was 142 pounds!**  
**That included a generous donation of fresh produce.**  
**What a generous & caring congregation we are blessed with.**

**Feliz Navidad a todos ~ Don Scarlett**



Many thanks to all who have helped to launch  
the HOPE Community Closet on the Esperanza side  
of the church. We can see that it is being used  
and we truly appreciate YOU!

## **HOPE - Bi-Monthly Community Lunch**

**United Methodist Church of Green Valley**

**300 w. Esperanza Blvd. Green Valley, AZ 85614**

**Phone: 520-625-4712 Website: [www.hopev.org](http://www.hopev.org)**

**Helping hands**

**Open hearts**

**Providing assistance**

**Everyone welcome**



**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



# January Anniversaries

**1/13 Jana/Rick Oxenford**

**1/21 Laura/Glen Zion**

**1/23 Myrna/Morris Pillers**



**The UMCGV prayer chain** is a group of church members dedicated to praying for those unexpected events and long-term needs in the lives of you and your loved ones, friends, neighbors or anyone in need of intercessory prayer. We do not publish names or needs, all information we receive is kept confidential.

**You can activate the prayer chain by calling Ruth Goodrich at 520-344-8740.**



Just a  
friendly  
reminder...

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES** will be available for you to pick up in the church office beginning December 1, 2020. Please contact Sue to arrange a time to pick yours up!





# January Birthdays



|      |                  |      |                   |
|------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1/2  | N. Lee Taylor    | 1/18 | Jean Neely        |
| 1/4  | Mary Leshner     | 1/18 | Don Crum          |
| 1/4  | Sue Jehle        | 1/18 | Virginia Harper   |
| 1/6  | Karen Conley     | 1/23 | Billie Fidler     |
| 1/7  | Dave Tobinson    | 1/24 | Stan Znamierowski |
| 1/7  | Warren Schupp    | 1/24 | Andrew Smolley    |
| 1/8  | Ronald Morris    | 1/25 | Tom Bright        |
| 1/9  | Jackie Davis     | 1/27 | Janice Smith      |
| 1/10 | Joyce Schupp     | 1/28 | Joan Toltzmann    |
| 1/11 | Diane Dougherty  | 1/29 | Celina Knudsen    |
| 1/12 | Linda Kettermann | 1/31 | Lorain Zimmerman  |
| 1/14 | Jean Reynolds    | 1/31 | Sarah Alfing      |
| 1/15 | Jim Reedy        |      |                   |



## Happy Birthday!



### **CALLING ALL FRY'S CUSTOMERS**

United Methodist Church of Green Valley (QH797) is now a qualified non-profit with Fry's Community Rewards Program! You can link us to your personal rewards card, by going to <https://www.frysfood.com>



and searching for us by full name or ID Number (QH797)

# DID YOU KNOW?

(Articles about our church building)



This month's parable window is of the Candle and Bushel Basket.

Many of us know the song "This Little Light of Mine". *Hide it under a bushel, no-I'm going to let it shine, won't let Satan blow it out-no, I'm going to let it shine, down in my heart-I'm going to let it shine, everywhere I go-I'm going to let it shine.* Fond memories of singing this song with my finger light.

The light is to be shown to help guide us in the darkness. Let your light shine.

Jesus has also been called the 'light of the world'. When we are filled with the love of God, it shines in us, through us and from us. Our light shines from our eyes, the portal of our being.

In these times of pandemic where we are wearing masks, it is hard for others to see our expressions or smile. So, we need to express ourselves through our eyes. Take a look at yourself in a mirror with your mask on. Smile and see if it shows in your eyes, frown and see if your eyes look different. Try other emotions: sad, angry, frustrated, joyful, confused. If nothing looks different to you, at least it is a fun experiment. It also shows us what other people see when they look in our eyes. We may need some practice on letting the light of God shine from our eyes. ~ Sandy Ehrman

***No one after lighting a lamp  
puts it in a cellar or under a basket,  
but on a stand, so that those  
who enter may see the light.***

***Luke 11:33***

In memory of Verna Oakland



## Thrift Goes “Semi-Virtual”

As you might expect there will be no United Methodist Women’s Big Thrift Sale in 2021. As a congregation you have always supported Thrift with your time, donations, and shopping. Your generosity has made it possible for UMW to give money to numerous charities over the years. This year we are asking you to donate to **United Methodist Women** for one or more of the designated charities listed below – no hard work, no “stuff” donations, no shopping, just giving for charity.

We will highlight one of the charities listed below each week over ten weeks beginning February 7. You’ll read about the first one in Monday’s Keeping in Touch on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

You can make your donation as the charity is highlighted or you can make a donation now or at the end of the ten weeks. Make your check out to **United Methodist Women**, put the charity in the memo line (or leave it blank) and mail it to the church or drop it off at the mail slot at the church. Please note on the envelope that it is for United Methodist Women. Our goal is to raise a \$500.00 dollars for each charity.

|             |                         |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| February 7  | The Community Food Bank |
| February 14 | The Navajo Nation       |
| February 21 | Crossroads Mission      |
| February 28 | Valley Assistance       |
| March 7     | McCurdy School          |
| March 14    | Hands of a Friend       |
| March 21    | CASA                    |
| March 28    | Youth on Their Own      |
| April 4     | Red Bird Mission        |
| April 11    | He Intends Victory      |



UMW is looking forward to a successful “Semi-Virtual Thrift”. We will keep you up-to-date on how it is going. If you have questions, call Jean Neely at 505-228-0034.

## NEW ADULT CLASSES TO BEGIN

### *Understanding Racialization in America*

Last fall, our church offered a five-session series on Race and Racism with outside speakers and suggested readings. Because there's still so much more to learn, Constance Strickland, Claudette Haney and I are organizing a class we're calling Understanding Racialization in America to read and engage in conversation around two important books: *Black Fatigue* by Mary-Frances Winters and *Be the Bridge* by Latasha Morrison starting on Wednesday, January 27 and continuing through Lent. (Note: this is a change from our original plan to start the class earlier in January).

*Black Fatigue* offers a factual perspective on the impact of racism on the health and well-being of Black Americans. Written by a business consultant and scholar in 2020, the material is concise and easy to read. We anticipate spending three Wednesdays (January 27, February 3 and 10) on this book. *Be the Bridge* offers a Christian perspective on racism; its subtitle is "Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation." Prayers and liturgies are included in the reading, along with encouragement to "be the bridge" with others. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any of us. To register, please contact Sue at the church office at "secretary@gvcc.tuccoxmail.com". **All sessions will be via Zoom at 10:00 am on Wednesdays beginning January 27.** Jerry Haas jndhaas@gmail.com



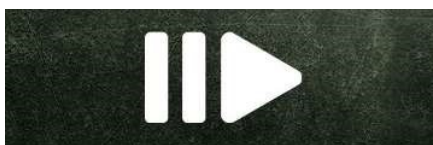
### The Salvation Army Thanks Everyone

who helped to provide Christmas gifts!

They were able to cover over

**350 children (139 families)**

Numbers on the Kettle Drive were not available at the time of this publication, but I believe, this community went above and beyond - as usual! **Praise GOD!**



**PATIO SALES WILL BE EXTENDING**  
**THE SUSPENSION OF SALES UNTIL FALL OF 2021**



## Feliz Navidad and Muchas Gracias

Three Kings donations totaled nearly \$2000 for our mission churches.

Pastor Francisco of El Divino Redentor Methodist Church, Nogales, Sonora said, "Bless you from Green Valley church. The children will have a Merry Christmas".

Pastor Raul and Maritza of El Mesias UMC said, "Thank you so much. We wish all from UMCGV a very Merry Christmas".

Pastor Agustin from New Hope UMC of South Tucson offered a blessing to our congregation for the gift cards to ensure the children have a Merry Christmas.

Pastor Anabel of Menlo Park UMC stated they had a new family just the week before, and how much the gift cards are a blessing to the children of her congregation.

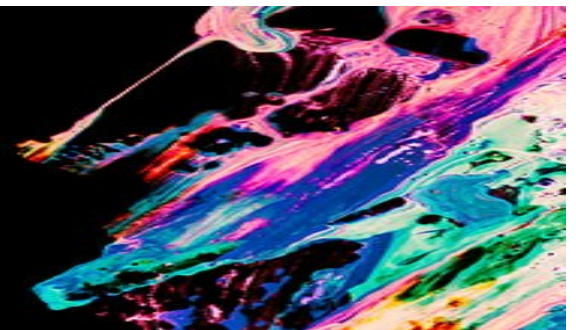
Each of the pastors were asked about the children in their congregation. Gift cards were given according to the number of children.

El Divino Redentor received cash since gift cards from the USA are not redeemable in Mexico.

**Thank you, congregation, for being a blessing to so many children.**

Your Mission/Church & Society Committee

## CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE



You are invited to send a photo of your choice, to the UMC Secretary email address: [secretary@gvcc.tuccoxmail.com](mailto:secretary@gvcc.tuccoxmail.com)) for your membership record.

This photo can be of you alone, or with your spouse.

Electronic Photos are best, but if you need a photo taken, an appointment can be made with the church office to get that done!

Thanks to all those who have already responded. I have the photos from the last Picture Directory, if you choose to use it again.

It was my hope, to have this ready to print in January, but because of the challenges we've experienced, I am now shooting for **February 15th.**

# **Bible Study & Breakfast for Men**

The men of UMCGV meet for breakfast, fellowship & Bible Study at Manuel's Restaurant. We meet **Wednesday mornings [please note change of day] at 7:00.** We are currently reading the Letters of Paul, and are in 1 Thessalonians. Consider joining us... we promise good food, good study and a lively conversation. Questions? Contact Don Scarlett

**New Meeting Place!**  
Continental Plaza - Room 203

There is an elevator.  
Plenty of room  
to social distance.  
We disinfect  
everything prior  
to the meeting.

*Grief  
Support  
Group*

Have you experienced a loss?  
The **GOOD GRIEF GROUP**  
meets each Tuesday  
from 10:00 to 11:30 AM.  
It is a discussion group  
that offers hope to those  
traveling the journey of grief.

Deb Jones facilitates this  
group. You can call her  
at: 520-207-5711  
for more information.

## **WE'RE HERE IF YOU NEED US!**

Are you interested in learning more about your smartphone, tablet or laptop computer? Would you like to participate in our Zoom Calls, Facebook and other online communications? **We have folks who are willing to help!** Call the church office to see what your options are! We don't want anyone left out of the loop!



# WE ARE ALL IN THIS T♥GETHER

**Student Sunday is January 3rd...**

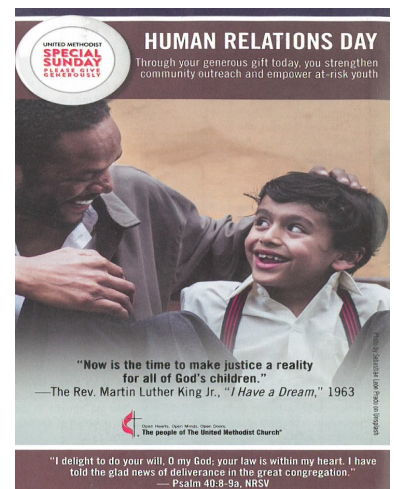
Students will be introduced during the service  
so be sure to tune into the website for this  
very special UMC tradition.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17TH**

**IS A UMC SPECIAL OFFERING DAY**

**HUMAN RELATIONS DAY**

**LOOK FOR THESE ENVELOPES  
ON THE COMMUNICATIONS CORNER  
TABLE TO PARTICIPATE.**



[tacklehunger.org](http://tacklehunger.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**FEBRUARY 7th is  
the Souper Bowl  
of Caring Event**





Laughter is just good medicine!  
Thanks to all who keep us LOL!



MARCH

APRIL

MAY

**Looters have it easy today. It was a lot harder to run with a Color TV in 1968.**



New MONTHLY Budget  
Gas \$0  
Entertainment \$0  
Clothes \$0  
GROCERIES \$1624

**Paranoia has reached absurd stages...**

I sneezed in front of my laptop and the anti-virus started a scan on its own

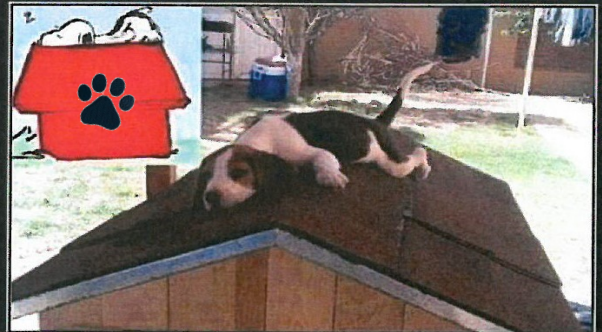
**DUE TO COVID 19.....**

**WE ARE ASKING RIOTERS**

**TO WORK FROM HOME**

**AND DESTROY THEIR OWN PROPERTY.**

**Nachos are just tacos that don't have their life together**



**HE'S REAL!!!!**

Blowing on the wine in your coffee mug  
to convince the rest of the zoom  
meeting that it is tea 🤪

