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THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE



13658 WEST MEEKER BOULEVARD
SUN CITY WEST AZ 85375-3730
623-584-2280
www.shepherdofthehills.org



*Our mission:
Serving the world with God's love.*



Sanctuary Art Project

Created in October through December 2017, these multi panel murals were installed during the week before Christmas, and dedicated at the 10am service on December 24, 2017. They were made to replace the deteriorating soft sculptures that adorned our Sanctuary for many years, and in addition, to provide a multi panel mural to balance the one on the Lectern side of the Sanctuary with one over the Choir Loft.

Sparked by the choir's desire to create a Memorium for our beloved former organist, Joan Mork, we hired scenic designer Bobby Sample to create paintings that re-imagine and replaced the soft sculptures. After consulting Pastors, The Worship Committee, the Trustees and The

Church Council, I asked Mr. Sample to design two separate murals, one representing daytime events in the Bible, and one representing nighttime events. In August 2017, Bobby visited our church campus to see what was needed, and to begin the process of designing our murals.

Each week, after our volunteers had finished their part, the artist, Bobby Sample, started applying texture, shading, and generally cleaning things up. Some weeks, it was a factory in that little Bell choir room, with volunteers gathering in the morning to paint new canvases, and Bobby coming at night to put the finishing touches on them. The volunteers finished their work on Nov. 20, and Bobby finished his around Dec. 20. Overall, our volunteers put in more than 250 man-hours on this project!

The scenes within the murals turned out better than we could have hoped for Bobby's design uses the color palette from our Sanctuary stained glass windows. It also has design elements that tie it in with the windows. The second panel on the second row of each mural will change with each liturgical season. As you face the front of the church, the mural on the right side of the Sanctuary shows bible scenes which occur during the daytime. (**Advent:** The Angel Gabriel telling Mary that she is with Child; **Lent:** John baptizing Jesus; **Easter:** The Empty Tomb; **General Time:** God's hand creating the day) and the mural on the left side represents nighttime scenes. (**Advent:** The Wise Men following the star; **Lent:** Jesus praying in Gethsemane; **Easter:** Three empty Crosses; **General Time:** God's hand creating the night.)

Many hands made this project possible, including all the volunteer painters, and those who made financial donations. Thank you all so much!

My prayer is that these Murals will beautify our Sanctuary for many years, and that their presence will enable our congregation members to experience God in a new way!

Ken Goodenberger, Music Director
(And temporary art guru)



**Shepherd of the Hills
United Methodist Church**

13658 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West AZ 85375-3730
A Stephen Ministry Church serving
Sun City West, Sun City Grand and the West Valley

Reverend Deanna Self-Price..... Senior Pastor
Reverend Galene Boyett..... Associate Pastor

Congregational Care

Mrs. Esther Vallet, RN..... Parish Nurse
Deb Phillips Lay Leader

Music Ministry

Ken Goodenberger..... Director
Bill Moore Musician

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Partners in Prayer: Please send prayer requests to:
prayers@shepherdofthehills.org

Email: church@shepherdofthehills.org
Website: shepherdofthehills.org

Find us on Facebook at shepherdhills

**HOSPITALIZATION NOTIFICATION
PROCEDURE**

All members and friends of Shepherd of the Hills
United Methodist Church are urged to
**IMMEDIATELY CALL THE CHURCH
OFFICE (623-584-2280)** when you or a loved
one is admitted to or discharged from
the hospital.

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Friday, January 19
Article deadline for March issue:
Tuesday, February 20

FAMILY LIFE DINNER

Friday, January 26, 2018

Doors open at 5:00 pm. Dinner served at 5:30 pm
Program at 6:30 pm. Fellowship Hall at SHUMC

**Entertainment by
"Desert Winds Steel Orchestra"**

Ten to fourteen orchestra members will play
Caribbean style music. It will include Phantom of the
Opera medley, Baby Elephant Walk, Brazil, Dueling
Pan joes, Build Me Up, Brown Eyed Girl.



MENU

A Full course meal will be provided by "Personal
Touch" catering.
Fresh Seasonal Fruit Salad
Chicken Parisienne Ham
In lemon butter,
Cabernet rice, sautéed snap peas with onions
Rolls, Butter and Assorted Desserts

Tickets \$16— Available Jan. 3rd thru 19th
from the church office

Tickets also available after the 9:00 service and before
the 10:45 service.

Friendship Groups: To reserve a table,
Call Gail Krusean 763-248-8482
or 623-975-6611.

**REMEMBER THESE ALTERNATIVE REVENUE
SOURCES FOR SHUMC**

SHUMC Window Decals — \$5 at church office;
\$1 goes to missions

Paper & Cardboard Recycling — Use bins in parking lot
Fry's Community Rewards Program —
Ask church office for instructions

Shepherd's Staff



Dear Ones,

What a wonderful Advent and Christmas season we have experienced at SHUMC! Special thanks go to our fantastic Worship and Music teams for the beauty of the Sanctuary this season and the lovely music that has kept our hearts and spirits in tune with the Holy Mystery of God's love throughout our Christmas celebration!

And, speaking of thanking people, I know that we are all grateful for the hard work of the congregation for creating the beautiful new artwork that graces our Sanctuary. With Ken Goodenberger's leadership, and the inspired talent of Bobby Sample, Stage Artist, we have created some beautiful new visuals to last us into the future.

Let us also be sure to thank Esther Vallet for leading a class on "Color the Themes of Christmas," which kept us spiritually centered and stress-free during what is sometimes a very hectic season!

As always, our Missions, UMW, and other Outreach ministries went beyond the call of duty this Christmas season -- by challenging us to give to UMOM Shelters, Sidewalk Sunday School, and four different facilities where children received books and puzzles. We made someone's season a little brighter and more hopeful through our gifts.

Our ever-faithful Care Ministry stayed in touch with people who can't always be with us in worship through cards, phone calls, visits and meals. Thank you, Health and Welfare friends, Stephen Ministers, and Cancer Support team -- your compassion and grace-filled care of others means so much to those who are alone or suffering. You make Christ's love real through your ministry!

Thank you to our SPRC for completing all the personnel work and those endless forms that must be completed and sent to the Bishop and Cabinet this time of year, and for celebrating so beautifully -- the work of the Church Staff during a very busy season! The Potluck Luncheon was wonderful! I know I speak for the whole Church Staff in saying that we are grateful for the work of SPRC, for the support and the care we receive as persons who serve Christ and His Church.

Speaking of Staff, thank you, coworkers in the vineyard, -- for your professionalism, your smiles and yes, grace under pressure during the busy Holy Season -- we don't know what we would do without you!

And let me add one more thank-you to the list: I am grateful for all of you who are part of our church family! I am grateful for the cards, the notes of support, and the many gifts, goodies, and remembrances that you shared with me, personally, and with my family this Christmas season. You have been so kind and generous. I am so privileged to serve among you!

So, thank you, Church Family for a great Holy Season! The work of Christmas begins -- again, as we enter a New Year. May our path be lighted by a shining star and our hearts be guided by the wisdom of sages and prophets as we journey together into a new calendar year and future.

Much love,
Pastor Deanna

2017 RUMMAGE SALE DISBURSEMENT REPORT

After expenses were paid out, we had \$35,333.53 left in the rummage sale account.

Approximately 30 RS volunteers met on 12/14 and made the following recommendations:

Retain in account - \$1950

Missions - \$3500 with a request that \$1750 be designated for the UMCOR team and \$1750 be undesignated.

Posse - \$300 as a thank you for their help

Library - \$1200 for the purchase of large print books

Staff - \$600 in recognition for the support they provide to the sale

UMW - \$509

Trustees - \$27,274.53 – with the request it be used to make improvements in the FH. Our suggestion is that the money goes toward the sound system and/or kitchen.

The recommendation of the rummage sale committee was accepted and will be distributed as detailed above.

Since we need to hire people to do the pickup of large items, we will be coordinating multiple requests to ensure cost effectiveness and a point person to arrange for pickups. We will let you know as we develop a plan and would ask that if you think you will be donating large items, such as furniture pieces, that you give us sufficient notice.

2018 RUMMAGE SALE DATES: Sort and pack will be on 3/2, 5/4, 7/6, 9/7, 10/5 and 11/2. Drop off is the days preceding the Friday sort and pack. Set up and sale dates: 11/2-11/3, 11/5 – 11/10.

Happy New Year and again, many thanks for everyone's support!

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

If you will celebrate your 50th wedding anniversary in 2018 and/or have not been recognized previously for this milestone at SHUMC, you are invited to participate in the Golden Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, February 18, 2018. If you plan to take part, please call Joyce Webster at 546-6419 and leave a message. The Family Life Committee invites you to provide a wedding picture for display between services. A cake will be served and photos will be taken.



DO YOU NEED A NAME BADGE?

The membership committee understands how important it is for the people of Shepherd of the Hills UMC to wear name badges. Our badge tells other people who we are (and reminds those whose memory is slipping a little) and it lets church guests know who might be able to answer a question or two. For this reason, when people become members, associate members, or affiliate members, we give them a name badge. However, what about the people who attend the church, but do not plan to join, those people we call constituents? Constituents (non-members who attend regularly) who would like a Shepherd of the Hills UMC name badge can request a badge by completing a form available at the church office. Members who have lost their name badge may speak to Mary Jo about a replacement.

FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO: A CHALLENGE FOR THE CHURCH REGARDING INCLUSIVENESS AND RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Beginning on January 11th, Church and Society Team will host a four-week study on how we can be more inclusive in welcoming all people—especially members of the LGBTQ community-- into the fellowship of Shepherd of the Hills UMC. Listed below are the dates, times, speakers and topics we hope to cover. All members and friends of SHUMC are invited to attend.

January 11th, 2-4pm in the Choir Room: Viewing of the documentary film, For the Bible Tells Me So. This documentary looks at the ongoing battle of gays and lesbians to celebrate their faith without denying their sexual orientation. The film tells the stories of five families of faith—including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson--who deal with the realization of having a gay child or family member. Discussion will follow the film.

January 18th, 2-4pm in the Choir Room: Rev. David Ragan, Senior Vice-President of Senior Services at Beatitudes, a church-related retirement community. He will speak about the issues facing seniors who are part of the LGBTQ community. He will also talk about PFLAG, a support group for friends and family members of persons who are a part of the LGBTQ community.

January 25th, 2-4pm in the Choir Room: "Sharing Our Story". This will be an opportunity for participants to share their stories about having a family member or friend who is part of the LGBTQ community.

February 1st, 2-4pm in the Choir Room: Richard (Rick) Mahrle, an attorney and member of Paradise Valley UMC, will talk about the journey that Paradise Valley has been on to become more welcoming and inclusive. As an attorney he can also discuss the legal struggles that LGBTQ members have faced related to discrimination in housing, the workplace and other areas of their lives.

The Church and Society Team is excited about this four-week study series and hope you will plan to attend. There are signup sheets outside the church office.

PERSONAL NOTES

Thank you for the lovely cards and church programs. I am feeling well but anxious to return to church services. Please keep me in your prayers.

Barbara Cutrell

I want to thank the Shepherd of the Hills family for all the good wishes, cards, and gifts I have received both during Clergy Appreciation month in October and for Christmas. I especially want to thank the SPRC for their mission moments in October and the ongoing support throughout the year. Once again, thank you all, and I wish a blessed and healthy new year to everyone.

Rev. Galene J. Boyett, Associate Pastor



TRACKING THE TRUSTEES

As we begin the 2018 year, the trustees would like to thank all those who have supported our team and our projects. Through your generous donations of time and money, we have been able to maintain our facilities and property. We appreciate the volunteers who respond when physical work needs to be done. We often rely on your experience and expertise with various projects. This not only saves us money at times, but also provides fellowship and the opportunity to make new friends within our church family.

A recent example was the painting of the door trim in the fellowship hall. Several volunteers assisted trustee members in giving all the door jambs a new look. We have also painted the exterior blue tile surrounding the stain glass in the sanctuary. The tile had become faded from years of sun light. The upgraded color blends in better with the new paint scheme that covers the repaired outer wall. The memorial garden has been improved with the replacement plantings of three myrtles, a sage bush, and a new palm tree.

The main water line has been replaced with approximately 130' of new piping and several new valves. This line supplies water from the street connection to the church. It has been repaired by Shawn and the trustees several times in recent years. Each time a repair is needed, the entire church is temporarily without water. The new line should be service free for many years. And the new configuration will allow for separate controls to the fellowship hall and the main building. The final cost for this was \$20,000.

The trustees have been given just over \$27,000 from the proceeds of the rummage sale, for which we are extremely grateful. The gift came with the recommendation that it be used to upgrade the sound system in the fellowship hall. It is also hoped that part of the money can be used to begin work on renovating parts of the kitchen. With the increasing use of the fellowship hall for social and educational events, this is an ideal time to address these needs. There are always smaller projects that require attention. And the trustees will act on them as best we can with the funds that we have available.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN WEST VALLEY MOBILE PACK EVENT



You are invited to pack food at the West Valley Mobile pack Event hosted by Lord of Life Lutheran Church (13724 W. Meeker Blvd, Sun City West) February 7, 8, 9, & 10, 2018. To learn more, visit www.lolaz.org and there is FMSC link in the upper left corner. You can register there also.

The plan is to pack 171,000 bags of their special formulated food. There will be 10 packing sessions, and they need 800 people to make it happen. Registration begins January 10. Groups of 10 or more may pre-register in December by email to register@lolaz.org or phone message at 623-322-5457.

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian non-profit organization committed to feeding God's children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple; children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children, and we ship these meals to our distribution partners. FMSC meals have reached nearly 70 countries around the world in our history.

**HOME ADDRESS
CHANGES
NEW DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE AT
THE CHURCH OFFICE**

Bill & Barbara Blackman

John Dorch

Mrs Marilyn Johnson

Bill & Sue Kerr

Mrs Judie Mandziuk

Grant & Cleo Perry

Mrs Sheryl Stewart

Mrs Mary Ann Wagemann



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GIVE THANKS



Our unit of United Methodist Women had a successful year thanks to the support from you, our church family. We pledged \$4477.00 to Mission as our commitment to help women, youth and children around the world and were able to meet this pledge. Our members also gave additional funds nationally in the amount of \$850 for designated and undesignated projects.

We raised and gave to local and national missions and charities, over \$4000.00. This included many agencies in our own community. We were able to do this because you helped by "Lighting our Mission Candle"; supporting our fundraising events and by buying tickets to our monthly luncheons.

We have prepared a template outlining our programs for 2018 and secured a full "Team" to lead. We have four Circles. Each Circle has its own focus and mission projects as well as helping with the Unit projects.

We wish to thank all of you who attend here at Shepherd of the Hills for supporting us so we can "pay it forward".

The UMW purpose states that...we shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ: to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

I am proud to say we cheerfully strive each day to do these things and we welcome all women of the church to be a part of this organization.

**Blessings to all of you in the New Year!
Sandy Bradley, UMW Unit President**

MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

During the month of January the focus of our mission program will be St. Mary's Food Bank. In addition to distributing emergency food to individuals and families in need, St. Mary's offers several other programs.



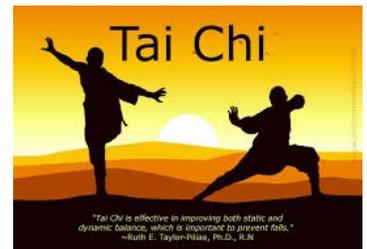
These programs include Community Kitchen, CK Catering, Child Nutrition program that includes Kid's Café and a Back-Pack program, and Citrus Gleaning. On the 3rd Thursday of each month members of our congregation sort donated food at St. Mary's in Surprise. During January through March of 2017 our gleaning program collected, 40,000 of citrus from 165 trees that went to St. Mary's. Beginning this January we have 147 trees already committed to be gleaned. We have 38 volunteers from our congregation and PRIDES of Sun City West signed up to work each Wednesday morning starting January 17th. The Mission Committee encourages your financial support during the month of January.

TAI CHI CLASSES

Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27

Beginners at 12:15 to 1:15; Intermediates 11:00 to 12:00.

\$35 for series of seven (7) classes. Sign-up at the church office, Monday— Friday.



Tai Chi combines movement and meditation. It helps with achieving balance and strengthening joints, muscles, and your heart. It can also improve cognition and sleep quality. It also decreases stress chemicals, increases energy and enhances overall health. It is one of the best, most natural ways to treat pain. All Classes will be held at the church in Fellowship Hall! The Contact person is Coordinator Esther Frost. Phone: 623-544-1873

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT? DISTRICT TRAINING COMING!

On Saturday, February 17, 2018, the West District will sponsor a Day of Learning from 9 am to 3 pm at Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church. Registration is \$15 until February 9th, and can be done online at dscumc.org/secure/west-district-day-of-learning—02/17/2018.

Workshops will be offered in the morning and in the afternoon on Congregation Care, Prayer, Church Leadership, Generational Challenges, Lay Servant Ministry and Certified Lay Minister Programs, SOUL (Story, Outreach, Uniting hope, Love), and the music of John and Charles Wesley. Full course descriptions are available online and through the office. You will be asked which workshop you want to attend when you register.

WEST DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE TRAINING

Once again, the districts are offering training to the administrative committees: Finance, Trustees, Staff-Parish Relations. **If you are on one of these committees, please try to attend on Saturday, January 13' 2018 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at Dove of the Desert UMC.** The event is free, but attendees are asked to register at dscumc.org/events/east-west-district-administrative-training.

LET US PRAY

For The New Year
By Carol Hilder

May no man stand
alone in fear,
and always find
that You are
near.

May hatred cease
and the world
find peace;
as we all refuse
to malign and
abuse.

Lord,
In our faith
help us be true
and live a life
that pleases
You.

AMEN



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER AT SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS UMC?

***Then be sure to mark your calendar so that you can attend the next
New Member Opportunity coming up in 2018!***

New Member Coffee Hours 1 & 2 will be held from 10:15-11:45 in the Fellowship Hall Meeting Room. We'll spend some time visiting and learning about each other at Coffee Hour 1. At Coffee Hour 2, We'll invite some of our church leadership to come and share more about the life of the church and all it has to offer here at SHUMC. Those who wish to become full members at SHUMC will be received into membership the following week at the 9:00 AM Sunday Service! Mark your calendars now, so that you can be part of the Next New Member Opportunity.

New Member

Opportunities are hosted by Pastor Deanna and the great folks on the SHUMC Membership Team. **RSVP your attendance to Bill in the Church Office @ 623.584.2280.**

February 2018 New Member Opportunities:

February 11	Coffee Hour 1 10:15-11:45 AM	Fellowship Hall Meeting Room
February 25	Coffee Hour 2 10:15-11:45 AM	Fellowship Hall Meeting Room
March 11	Reception into Membership	@ 9:00 AM Worship Hour

April 2018 New Member Opportunities:

April 8	Coffee Hour 1 10:15-11:45 AM	Fellowship Hall Meeting Room
April 22	Coffee Hour 2 10:15-11:45 AM	Fellowship Hall Meeting Room
April 29	Reception into Membership	@ 9:00 AM Worship Hour

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

The football season is coming to an end, and the Super Bowl is Sunday, February 4, 2018. Many people celebrate with parties, food, and laughter. However, in Maricopa County, more than 623,300 people live in poverty. Twenty-six percent of those living in poverty are children. Nearly 1,138,000 are "working poor". Arizona is tied as the fifth worst state in the U.S. for overall food insecurity. One in four children, one in five adults, and one in seven seniors struggle with hunger.

The Mission Committee is asking for your help for these hungry people. Please bring cans of soup anytime during the month of January. Let's make Sunday, February 4th a great day for everyone. Your soups, dried beans or other soup fixings will be given to Valley View Food Bank.



Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church
13658 W. Meeker Boulevard
Sun City West AZ 85375-3750

Address Service requested



WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturdays 4:50 pm in the Chapel
Sundays 9:00 & 10:45 am in the Sanctuary
Coffee Fellowship Hour between Sunday services

Jan. 5 & Jan. 6 "The Long Way Home"Rev. Self-Price
Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12
Holy Communion

Jan. 13 & Jan. 14Rev. Boyett
Stephen Ministry Weekend

Jan. 20 & Jan. 21 "Ready, Set, Go!"Rev. Self-Price
Jonah 3: 1-5, 10, Psalm 62:5-12, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

Jan. 27 & Jan. 28 "A Disturbance in Church"Rev. Self-Price
Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

Feb. 3 & Feb. 4 - "How to Handle Your Mother-in-Law"Rev. Self-Price
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13, Psalm 147, 1-11, 20c, 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23, Mark 1:29-3
Holy Communion