

# The Voice

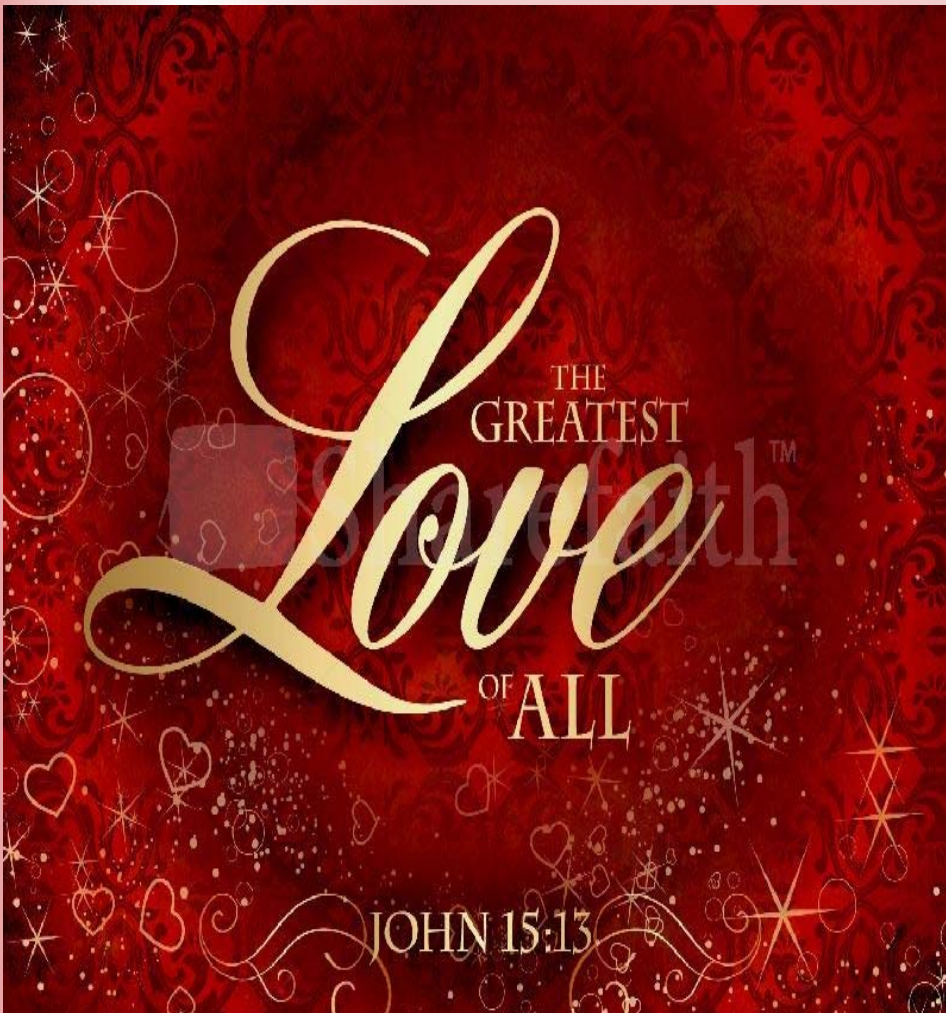


Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church

February 2019

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623-584-2280

[www.shepherdofthehills.org](http://www.shepherdofthehills.org)

Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## **CHANGE IN MARCH VOICE DELIVERY**

**Please pick up your paper copy of the Voice in the Narthex on the first Sunday of the month. Only homebound and out-of-state copies will be mailed.**

### **Congregational Care Team**

Reverend Deborah Lerner, Senior Pastor

Reverend Alma Aguirre-Olivares, Associate Pastor

Reverend Lee Hirt, Associate Pastor (Part-time)

Esther Vallet, R.N., Parish Nurse

Deb Phillips, Lay Leader

Julie Calvert, Accounting

Bill Amperse, Office Administrator

Music Ministry Ken Goodenberger, Director

Bill Moore, Organist/Pianist

Office Telephone: 623-584-2280

FAX: 623-584-1868

Pastor on call for emergencies: 623-584-7642

Prayer Request Line: 623-584-2922

Prayer Request: [prayers@shepherdofthehills.org](mailto:prayers@shepherdofthehills.org)

### **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 are admitted to or discharged from the hospital.

### **A Welcoming Statement**

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church affirms the teachings of Jesus Christ by welcoming all of God's children regardless of race, age, gender, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity. Physical or mental ability, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, or any other factor that might separate us from each other. All are invited to join in our shared journey of faith and participate fully in the life of our church.

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Sun City West, Arizona 85375

Submit articles: [church@sheperdoofthehills.org](mailto:church@sheperdoofthehills.org)

Address corrections: [church@shepherdofthehills.org](mailto:church@shepherdofthehills.org)

Article deadline for March issue Monday, February 11, 2019

## A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

In our culture February has become the month of love, as we celebrate Valentine's Day on Feb.14. In fact it has become something of a test of love. The ads that popped up a number of weeks ago, and the displays in most stores, suggest that you not only need to remember your beloved, but you need a card to express your love, and chocolates would not hurt, and diamonds would be even better! I'm not sure you need to go that far, but it never hurts to let those we love know how we care about them.



The scripture that we often read at weddings, "The Gift of Love" found in I Corinthians 13, seems appropriate for that occasion and for this month, but was not initially intended for romantic moments. It was written for a church that was not a very good portrait of love: a church in which the early comers to the communion meal consumed all the food before those who had to work late could get there; in which people flaunted their God given gifts as if they were personal badges of honor, not gifts given to the church for its health and growth.

It actually turns out to be good advice for persons standing at an altar to pledge their love to one another; even better for persons whose vows may be long in the past and whose life together has been routinized and tinged with dissatisfaction, irritation, and grumpiness. If you are feeling dissatisfied with your life mate and the life you have built together, you might want to consider your own part in the dysfunction, instead of blaming the other. Hear now Paul's words:

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. I Corinthians 13:4-7*

How are you doing at patience, and kindness, and politeness, and humility? How are you doing at compromise, and cheerfulness even on hard days? How are you doing at hoping and enduring all things? The good news is that God will help you do better, if you will ask for help in prayer. We can never change the behavior of "the other" except through changes in our own. What would happen in your marriage or your partnership if you became more patient, kind, cheerful, willing to yield?

And while we're talking about it: how is our church doing at patience, kindness, politeness, humility? How are we doing at compromise, and cheerfulness? How are we doing at hoping and enduring all things? How might we move toward becoming a community of enduring, visible love? What is your part, and mine, in that possibility? What if each of us became more patient, kind, cheerful, willing to yield? What would that say to the world about our love, and the love of Christ for all of us?

Paul tells the Corinthians (and therefore us): *Love never ends.* That's good news. As he closes this part of his letter he leaves this promise:

*And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.*

Let's work on love this month. It won't be easy. It will be worth it!

Blessings,  
Pastor Deborah

# YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT!



## UNAFRAID: LIVING WITH COURAGE AND HOPE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

with John Riddle

A video-based discussion on Adam Hamilton's book will begin on Friday morning at 10:00 a.m., January 11th and will run for 5-6 weeks in Fellowship Hall Meeting Room—Join us anytime during the study.

## LIFE CHANGING BIBLE STUDY

with Pastor Deborah

\*Session 1: Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.

January 10th—February 14th

Conference Room

\*Session 2: Fridays at 11:15 a.m.

January 11th — February 15th

Conference Room

Join us anytime during the study.



Dear Church Administrator,

As part of the connection of the United Methodist Church did you know that your congregation participated through giving, prayer, and relief support in every major disaster that occurred worldwide in 2018? Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief the United Methodist Church is there when any disaster disrupts lives, and all the work is done by volunteers like the people in your church.

The Western Jurisdiction Disaster Academy is being held in Phoenix Arizona March 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of 2019. This training opportunity will connect participants with trainers from UMCOR and disaster coordinators across the country who will equip and prepare you to mobilize your congregation and community to respond to whatever disaster might arise in your area.

We ask that you share this information with your pastors and congregation and we hope you can use the worship slides, flyers, and other information online at:

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

Please let me know if you have any questions and we hope to see your members in March.

GO FORTH AND SERVE.

When you did it to the least of these, you did it unto me.

Polly Turner

DSW Disaster Coordinator, Academy Director

[Polly@ix.netcom.com](mailto:Polly@ix.netcom.com) 480-861-9033



## EDUCATION COMMITTEE CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS:



### SHUMC Book Club Information

Third Thursday of the Month

10:00 a.m. in the Staff Conference Room

The following books were chosen for February—August 2019

February 21—Go Set a Watchman—Harper Lee

March 21—The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society—Shaffer & Barrows

April 18—White Houses—Amy Bloom

May 16—Before We Were Yours—Lisa Wingate

June 20—Next Year in Havana—Chanel Cleeton

July 18—Educated—Tara Westover

August 15—Orphan Train—Christina Kline

Happy reading ...and it will be fun to read and discuss these books.

## WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION

### NEW CLASSES

SIX WEEK LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

“REAL FAITH FOR REAL LIFE”

with Pastor Deborah

“VITAL CONVERSATIONS”

with John Riddle—Vital Conversations 4: Race, Culture

The Church, & Human Sexuality.



### GriefShare Support Group

**GriefShare Support Group** with Marilyn Foster (Stephen Ministry Leader and counselor), and Frank Nothafft.

GriefShare Support Group began Wednesday, Jan. 16th from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sessions are self contained, so come at anytime during the 13 week sessions! For those who have had a loss or death of a loved one. Please call the church office to sign up (623) 584-2280.

**“CIVIL DIALOGUE CONVERSATION  
ON GUN VIOLENCE”**



**Saturday, February 2, 2019—2:00 p.m.— Fellowship Hall**



**Beyond the Rhetoric: An Honest Conversation About Guns**

Almost daily we are hearing about more situations of gun violence ... in churches, schools, wherever crowds are gathered.

Talking about gun violence can be challenging. Often discussions become debates with both sides talking past one another. That’s why the Arizonans for Gun Safety created special workshops to facilitate discussions on various aspects of gun violence and gun safety. The goal is to create understanding and common ground amongst various opinions.

Geraldine Hills, the workshop facilitator, is an ASU Certified Civil Dialogue Facilitator and is recognized locally and nationally for her work with gun violence.

Plan to attend for an honest, civil, and critical conversation about gun violence in Arizona. The meeting will be in Fellowship Hall — snacks will be provided. (Registration suggested, but not required. (To register call SHUMC’s Church Office—623-584-2280).

This workshop is a joint effort of Education Committee and Church and Society.

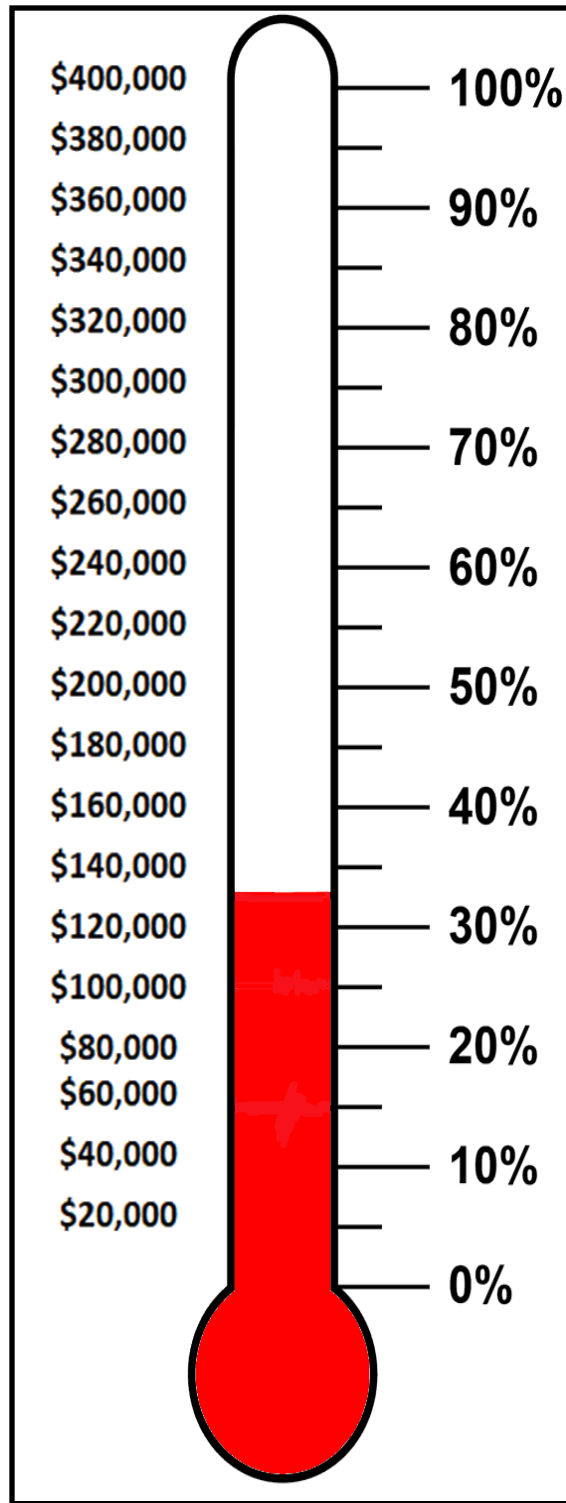


**MAKING A DIFFERENCE in Our Community:  
Stephen Ministries and Prayer Shawl Ministry**

First of all a BIG shout out to the talented knitters who have made the most beautiful Prayer Shawls. Absolutely stunning. I call myself “the bridge” between your knitted gift and delivery to an appropriate receiver. In 2007, I became a Stephen Minister at Shepherd of the Hills UMC and later a Stephen Leader and loved serving in various functions of this church. When I hit my mid eighties, it became necessary to sell my house and move on. I selected El Dorado Condos of Sun City in late 2011. Getting settled in, my heart was searching for a way to give back...and one day it hit me like a flash... it’s right here in front of me. So many seniors were losing their mates, or having major surgeries or taking bad falls with resulting injuries. So my plan formulated: Deliver a Prayer Shawl in a cute bag along with a note in a card with sympathy or encouragement. I usually tuck in a little treat of cookies or candy also. Those who have lost their mate, I enclose a “Life After Loss” book to support them in their journey of grief... and offer to have a prayer with them. I applaud you knitters, the recipients are so grateful and appreciative. They continue to wrap their shawls around them and feel the love and compassion. I have been doing this since 2012 and do keep a record to avoid duplicating. To date there have been over 100 Prayer Shawls given. YOU have touched so many lives in this wonderful way! I call it “Boomerang Love,” Knitters! Thank You!!

Blessings,

Jacquelyn McCubbin



**\$130,800**

**Thank you for your generous monetary support of Imagine 40 More Years Campaign to improve and sustain the SHUMC campus.**

# TRUSTEES FOOTPRINTS

**Trustees going forward: One Step at a Time:**

- \*65 tons of rock added to Meeker Blvd side landscaping (Sanctuary).
- \*Two new microphones purchased for Sanctuary to improve sound quality.
- \*Planning continues for audio improvements in Chapel & Sanctuary
- \*SHUMC can accommodate T-Coil hearing aids for those in the Sanctuary - Located on cart in Narthex
- \* Blessing—Two new electric ranges have been donated for Fellowship Hall Kitchen—thank you for these generous gifts.
- \*Blessing—SHUMC’s Commercial Stove/Ovens were donated to two churches serving 200-300 refugees per day. Casa de Oracion and Iglesia Nueva Esperanza churches.

**Imagine 40 More Years Campaign Update**

A big thank you to those of you who have made a commitment to our “40 More Years” campaign. These contributions and those to come will provide our Trustees the resources necessary to ensure that our campus will remain a safe, beautiful and comfortable place to gather for worship, fellowship, and study through the next 40 years.

As the adjoining chart shows, as of January 21 we have received 37 pledges totaling \$130,800 and we have received \$96,980.

For those of you who have yet to make a commitment, we would ask that you prayerfully consider the pledge material and return the complete pledge card to the church office by February 14<sup>th</sup>. If by chance you have not received the campaign information and pledge card, please let the church office know.

Again, your participation is greatly appreciated.

**EXPLORING  
MEMBERSHIP  
SATURDAY  
MARCH 9  
1:00 p.m.  
FELLOWSHIP  
HALL**



*Interested in Joining SHUMC?*

*Have questions about what it means to be a member?*

*Have questions about United Methodist belief and practice?*

## **CHRONIC PAIN SUPPORT GROUP**

Thursday, February 25th at 1:00 p.m.—Nutrition with Lisa

From the Area Agency on Aging

SHUMC's Fellowship Hall Meeting Room — Open to the Public,

Please sign up in Church Office or call 623-584-2280 to register.



## **Thank You to —**



Giant Thank You to all who helped removing the greens in the Sanctuary and Chapel on Thursday the 10th. I know Shawn appreciated it also and thanks to all, it was great.

**Patty O'Neal, Worship Co-Chair**

Thank you to everyone for their prayers, in regards to my recent cornea eye surgery. Especially to the Pastors, Esther and office staff. I am a firm believer in prayer. **-Sharon Trenda**

## **IN MEMORIAM**

**Johnson, Marilyn December 20, 2018**

**Brown, Clifton**

**December 31, 2018**

**Ulianich, James December 29, 2018**

**Ditton, James**

**January 23, 2019**





## 2018 RUMMAGE SALE DISBURSEMENT REPORT

We had another successful year and after accounting for all expenses, 22 rummage sale volunteers met and made recommendations on the disbursement of funds. We then took those recommendations to the Council where they were unanimously approved. The disbursements are as follows:

**Retained: \$2,000**

**Posse: \$300**

**Missions: \$2,300** with a request that \$500 be designated for the UMCOR team and \$1,800 in undesignated funds

**Library: \$1,200** for the purchase of large print books

**Staff: \$600** for the support they provide throughout the year for the sale

**UMW: \$342** from the coffee, donut, baked goods booth

**Trustees: \$16,385.73** with the request that funds first be used to make improvements to the Prayer Room. Secondly, any leftover be designated to make improvements in the kitchen.

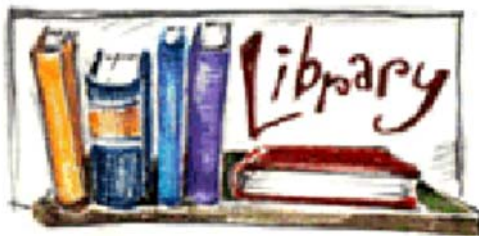
**TOTAL \$23,127.73**

For the last couple of years the Rummage Sale volunteers have wanted to disburse money to the Trustees for improvements to the Fellowship Hall because we use it throughout the year. Plus the improvements, such as the sound system in 2018, make it a more attractive facility for not only the churches' use but for rentals to outside organizations.

Once again, I would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers and to all those who support this annual event through your donations and purchases.

Pat Burke, Chair

### FROM THE SHUMC LIBRARY:



If you didn't visit the SHUMC Library in 2018, you missed 100 new fiction, non-fiction, and large print books and DVDs. Thankfully, the church budget and rummage sale supports this library, and it is filled with great books. In addition, generous donations of 194 used fiction, non-fiction and large print books and DVD's were also added to the library.

The library is open whenever the church office is open 8-4 each day and the following volunteers work there. Maleta Colclough, Sand'ee Spears, Jan Eberwein, and Mary Jane Banfield look forward to greeting you.

## RUMMAGE SALE NEW PICK-UP PROCEDURES



In the last couple of years our pick-up volunteers have endeavored to respond quickly to any and all requests. However, in 2019 we have fewer volunteers and vehicles available to perform pick-ups. We will likely have to hire people and/or vehicles to make pick-ups of larger items, like furniture. Because of these additional expenses, we will be scheduling pick-ups on specific days each month and we will be asking to look at the furniture ahead of the pick-up confirmation to assess suitability for sale, space and manpower needed.

For those who are unable to drop off smaller items that can fit into an SUV, we do have several volunteers who are able to make pick-ups on an as needed basis.

While we schedule sort and packs on specific days, we realize that might not meet the needs of those wishing to get things removed from their homes in a timelier manner. Therefore, we will have **drop-offs at the containers on Wednesdays from 8 AM to 3 PM** for those who want to drop off items. The container on the left is for furniture and the container on the right is for all other items. We will then box those items during our regular sort and packs.

**Items we can't accept are tube TVs, full size appliances, day or hideabeds, large entertainment centers, very heavy/bulky items, and items that are stained or torn.** A good rule of thumb to think about is, "if you wouldn't give it to a friend, then don't give it to the rummage sale."

We have three volunteers who are taking requests and they are: **Marian Hamman, 623-243-7666 or marianhamman@hotmail.com; Mary Ann Harris, 623-544-7135 or mah31rlh@gmail.com; Betsy Maple, 573-231-5877 or lochlady@yahoo.com.** Feel free to contact either of them and they will provide more details on the process.



### What Are Undies Sundays?

The Mission Committee invites you to join the fun and bring **new underwear** and **sock** donations for **UMOM**. All sizes of men's, women's and children's underwear are urgently needed. Children's diapers in sizes 5 and 6 are needed, too. **Undies Sundays** will celebrated during February.

To give some dignity to homeless and low income individuals and families, please bring **new** underwear donations to the church. Collection boxes will be in the Narthex and beside the office.

Thank you for your past support mission projects, and thank you for your support and prayers for this project.

-Mission Committee



## 2019 UMW OFFICERS INSTALLED

Pastor Deborah installed the 2019 Team members at the January Luncheon held on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The newly elected officers include returning members and new leaders. Julie Killebrew, the new Secretary of Program Resources introduced the audience to the UMW Reading Program. The group's treasurer, Jan Bosio, lead the Pledge Program. In the coming year, luncheon programs include:

- February 7<sup>th</sup> A light and lively program about the history of aprons.
- March 7<sup>th</sup> A focus on Benevilla with guest speaker JoAnn Thompson
- April 4<sup>th</sup> A Mighty Change of Heart, a foster care organization featuring speaker Darin Moss
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> Native American Ministries and the Cook National American Ministries Foundation

We have a Bake Sale fund-raiser scheduled for March 16 and 17. We hope you will come prepared to purchase fine home-baked goods and support our mission work.

United Methodist Women extend an invitation to all the women at Shepherd to attend a luncheon and find out why we have so much fun doing mission work for others.

Submitted by Sandy Bradley, President

## UMW LUNCHEON ON FEBRUARY 7, 2019—EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

“A IS FOR APRONS!”

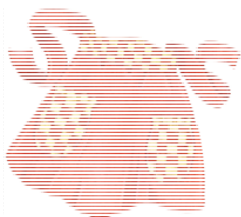
Join us and bring your favorite apron or one with a history.

Cost: \$8.00—Fellowship Hall—Sign up at the Kiosk or church office

## MIRIAM CIRCLE

Please join us for Miriam Circle—4th Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall—Contact Person, Peggy Pollay—623-546-3948



## LET US PRAY

By Carol Hilder

When I close my eyes in worship and come to you in prayer, I cannot see your face but feel that you are there.

Sometimes I sit in silence, not knowing what to say, but I sense you with me be it night or day.

You are my loving, caring God the mighty three in one—gracious father, Holy Spirit and sacrificing son.  
Thank You! - Amen

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**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER  
PROMPTLY**

The Shepherd's Voice

February 2019

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturdays 4:00 p.m., "Sweet Hour of Prayer" - in the Chapel

Sundays, 9:00 a.m. "Spirited Traditional Worship" - in the Sanctuary

Sundays, 10:45 a.m. "Informal Praise Worship" - in the Sanctuary

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Feb 2-3   | <b>Unafraid: Facing Our Fears of Change and Missing Out</b><br>John 5:2-9; Rev 21:1-4   |
| Feb 9-10  | <b>Unafraid: Facing Our Fear of Aging, Illness, and Dying</b><br>50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration<br>Psalm 23 2 Cor 4:16-18 |
| Feb 16-17 | <b>UMW Sunday – Nancy Cushman, Guest Preacher</b>   |



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Open Hearts  
Open Minds  
Open Doors*

*See you at worship Saturday evening or Sunday*