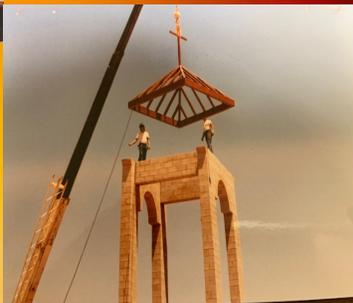


# The Voice

Treasuring 40 Years  
Anticipating 40 More



Give  
Thanks



November 2019

# FALL WORSHIP

Saturdays - 4:00 p.m. "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Sundays - 9:00 a.m. "Spirited Traditional Service"

Sundays - 10:45 a.m. Informal Praise Service

## Pastoral Team

Rev. Deborah Lerner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Alma Aguirre-Olivares, Associate Pastor

Rev. Lee Hirt, Associate Pastor (Part-time)

Rev. Stephanie Soon, Assistant Minister of Care (Part-time)

Esther Vallet, R.N., Parish Nurse (Part-time)

## Staff

Julie Calvert, Accounting

Jodi De Luca, Administrative Secretary

Jennifer Lutz, Assistant Secretary

Ken Goodenberger, Director, Music Ministry

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 encouraged to IMMEDIATELY CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (623-584-2280) when you or a loved one are admitted to or discharged from the hospital.

*A place to belong - A place to believe - A place to become*

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.

## CHANGE IN THE VOICE DELIVERY

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

The Voice published by Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church  
13658 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375-3700  
Submit articles: [church@shepherdofthehills.org](mailto:church@shepherdofthehills.org)  
Address corrections: [church@shepherdofthehills.org](mailto:church@shepherdofthehills.org)

Article deadline for December issue of The Voice is Friday, November 15, 2019

## A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:



Dear Friends,

November is always one of my favorite months, because I love Thanksgiving. It is one of the few holidays left that is focused primarily on gathering with friends and family and giving thanks to God that we live in a land that allows us to live, love, and worship as we see fit. Watching the news, especially the coverage from lands like Syria, is a reminder of how precious this gift really is.

This year it is even more special for our church, as we give thanks to God for 40 years of ministry among the people of Sun City West, Sun City Grand, Surprise, and other surrounding communities. You've been seeing pictures from our past: the bare horizon when the land was purchased and the first shovels of dirt were turned over; the walls of the sanctuary rising, the bell tower taking shape. The first members of this church had a great vision and a lot of trust in God to invest in the beautiful campus we now enjoy.

I hope you will plan to join us for as many of our anniversary celebration events as you can. Plan to worship more than once that weekend, as each service will have a different scripture, a different sermon, a different preacher, and a variety of former senior pastors and associates helping with the service. If many folks choose to come to all three, it will be like a mini revival, preparing our hearts and minds for all that is to come in the next 40 years!

Be here for a very special choir concert at 3:30 on Sunday, and be sure to buy a ticket and join us for a festive dinner Sunday evening. We will have a slide show carefully prepared by Tom Richardson that walks us through the ages and stages of our church to this very day. Some of the associate pastors who have not preached will give us a short word, our District Superintendent will address us, and I will take the opportunity to share with you my "I have a dream" message.

Along the way we will enjoy a few interviews with our earliest members, helping us stay in touch with the treasures of our heritage.

We are working hard to honor this moment in our history, and this pivotal moment for our future. In the Bible the number 40 is used to mean "a lot" or "a long time." We've been in ministry for a long time, and look forward to remaining in ministry yet a long time to come.

Help us celebrate all God has given, is giving, and will give to make us who God intends for us to be.

Blessings

Pastor Deborah



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# **40th Anniversary Celebration**

## **40th Greatest Hits from the Choir**

**When: Sunday, November 17, 2019**

**Time: 3:30 p.m.**

**Where: Sanctuary**

**No tickets needed - Free will offering for SHUMC Music Dept.**

**Performances from:**

**The Sanctuary Choir**

**Shepherd's Bells**

**Singing Shepherds and much more**

### **FOLLOWING THE CONCERT:**

## **40TH CELEBRATION DINNER**

**Date: Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Where: Fellowship Hall**

**Tickets & Reservations are required.**

**Tickets are \$25.00 each**

**Meal catered by Personal Touch**

**Ken Goodenberger, Emcee**

**Message from Past Pastors**

**Video Review of History**

**Word from our District Superintendent, Rev. Nancy Cushman**

**Rev. Deborah Lerner, "I Have A Dream"**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## TIME FOR ALL HANDS ON DECK!

That's what helps to make our rummage sale so successful each year - the volunteers – those who help the rummage sale week but also throughout the year as we prepare. Success is just not defined by the money we make, but by the comradery, the fun and the friendships that develop. Those who help are wonderful and the people who shop are as well. So won't you please come join us! The dates to remember are:

11/4 – Empty the furniture container  
11/2, 11/4 – 11/6 – Finish set up and marking  
11/7 – 11/9 – Rummage Sale!

Feel free to contact Pat Burke with suggestions or questions.  
623-748-3751 or [patburke48@gmail.com](mailto:patburke48@gmail.com).

**A big thanks also to those who have made donations!**



## *40th Anniversary Pastor Schedule*

**Saturday, Nov 16, 2019**

**4 PM**

**Preaching: Lee Hirt**

**Other Pastors Participating:**

Galene Boyette

Fannalou Guggisberg

Godfrey Ebright

Patricia Magyar

Jean Dumas

Cheri Whisler

Larry Gerber

**Sunday Nov 17, 2017**

**9 AM**

**Preaching: Godfrey Ebright**

**Other Pastors Participating:**

Galene Boyette

Fannalou Guggisberg

Jean Dumas

Cheri Whisler

Larry Gerber

Lee Hirt

**Sunday Nov 17, 2017**

**10:45 AM**

**Preaching: Larry Gerber**

**Other Pastors Participating**

Galene Boyette

Jean Dumas

Godfrey Ebright

Cheri Whisler

**Make it a two or three service weekend: See them all!**

## Honoring Our Veterans



In honor of Veterans Day, the weekend of November 9 & 10th, we are asking all veterans to wear their uniform, or any part of the uniform (hat, pins, medallions, etc) to honor and recognize their service to our country.

*Thank You*

The Pastors would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone for all of the wonderful gifts and cards for pastor appreciation!

## OUR VISION

### Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church

(Revised August 2019)

*We envision our church as a place to belong, a place to believe, and a place to become.*

#### **SHUMC is: A PLACE TO BELONG:**

**Our welcoming statement** (below) declares our intention that all persons be able to find a place of belonging in our community of faith. We invite, welcome, and make room in our hearts and life together for persons to discover the fullness of Jesus' transforming love.

**We are committed** to the celebration of life and health as a gift.

**We are a caring community**, providing fellowship, support, comfort, and practical help for those suffering grief, loss, loneliness, or hardship.

#### **SHUMC is: A PLACE TO BELIEVE:**

**We take the Bible seriously**, as the primary source and guide for living faithfully, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**We are a community focused on** prayer, praise, worship, and ongoing spiritual formation.

**We embrace our Wesleyan heritage**, centered in grace and personal piety and made visible in our efforts to serve and mend the world.

#### **SHUMC is: A PLACE TO BECOME:**

**We are committed to leading** all persons who call SHUMC home to become more deeply committed followers of Jesus.

**We provide ongoing and varied classes and small group opportunities** to deepen our faith and understanding of God's love; to strengthen our relationship with Christ, and to train us for our ministry of witness in the world.

**We provide many opportunities for service**, both within the church and out in the world, living out Christ's example by giving ourselves away for the sake of others.

### **SHUMC MISSION STATEMENT:**

**To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our communities and the world.**

### **CORE VALUES:**

**Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors**

### **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, socioeconomics status,*

*or any other factor that might separate us from each other.*

*All are invited to join our shared journey of faith  
and participate fully in the life of our church.*

## EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

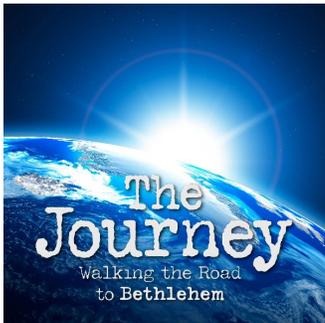
"Money has a great power in our lives." Used wisely, it is one key to accomplishing our goals, providing for our needs, and fulfilling our life purpose. However, finances can become a source of pain and problems, even for the most prudent and thoughtful people.

This class is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. The study features Adam Hamilton's teachings on each of the book's four chapters. Pastor Deborah will be connecting these teachings with her sermons.

The class will be led by Bill Price and will meet at 9:00 AM on Wednesdays November 6, 13 and 27. Sign up at the outdoor Kiosk or by the church office.

Books have been ordered and are available in the office for \$15.00.

### The Journey, Walking the Road to Bethlehem



Journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. As he did with Jesus' crucifixion in *"4 Hours That Changed the World"*, Hamilton once again approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heartfelt as you walk along this road.

This 4-week class will be on Mondays at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall Meeting Room starting November 25.

Rev. Rick Walker will be facilitating.

Cost of the book will be \$12 and the study will follow Pastor Deborah's sermon series.

### COMING IN 2020

The Alpha Course is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. This promises to be an exciting course so watch for more details in The Voice and weekly emails.

### THE ALPHA COURSE

explore the meaning of life!



# LOOK

## FOR CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES COMING SOON!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## valley view community foodbank

### NOVEMBER MISSION PROJECT VALLEY VIEW FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS BAGS

Valley View Community Food Bank was founded in March 2007. From its first 500 square foot location to now, they currently provide nutritious food boxes at four locations. As more than a food bank, Valley View Community Food Bank is committed to doing as much as possible to serve the needs of our diverse community. Their mission is to serve those in need with compassion and respect while providing the resources for wholesome nutritious food. Valley View Community offers a safe, positive environment where those seeking help can easily find the resources they need to feed themselves and their families.

For November, we're handing out Christmas bags to be filled from the list of suggested items. These bags will be given to the children whose family uses the food bank. The bags can be picked up at the outdoor kiosk or in the office.



#### SUGGESTED GIFT ITEMS - ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW

Crayons & coloring books	Anything art related
Markers	Small toys
Simple craft kits	Comic books, story books
Sports cards/memorabilia	Small handheld games
Games	Puzzles
Dolls	Small stuffed animals
Matchbox cars	Nerf toys
Christmas pens/pencils	Christmas socks
Jacks/marbles (ages 8-10)	Jump ropes
Hair items	Activity books

Anything fun that a child would like. **NO monetary gift cards.** Candy is all right as long as the candy isn't left over from another holiday such as Halloween, Easter, etc. **PLEASE NO CHOCOLATE OR PEANUT CANDIES** due to possible allergies. These gifts are sometimes the only ones the child will receive so they should be something fun and appealing to a child. Hygiene items and school supplies are not appropriate.

Please return your filled bag to the Church and put in the container by the office or narthex no later than  
**December 1, 2019**

### SHUMC Foundation Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the SHUMC Foundation will be held at 2:00 PM on November 12, 2019 in the Fellowship Hall Meeting Room.

SHUMC members are welcome to attend.

### **Please Sign a Card!**

Please take a moment to sign the cards we have created for each of the pastors attending our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Your notes of thanksgiving and love will be our "Thank You" to them for coming to celebrate with us.

Cards will be available after each service  
Nov 2-3, 9-10 and 16-17.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Friendship Groups

Friendship Groups are an important part of SHUMC ministries. Small groups of members and friends meet monthly for fellowship with others. The groups are focused around meals, trips and/or activities in the community. There are about 12 Friendship Groups and more will be formed soon. If you would like to join or know more about Friendship Groups, please contact Becky Fay at 623-518-9502.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is in need of persons who like to knit or crochet to help with making prayer shawls or lap covers for those in Hospice, the hospital, or just in need of a warm sign of caring. Those that receive these shawls are truly blessed. See Marlene Northup, if you are interested or call her at 623-975-5367. Yarn donations are appreciated, please bring to the church office.



### UPDATE: PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

For those who were unable to have your pictures taken for the directory during October, there will be a January session on the 6, 7, and 8. Lois Byrd is compiling a list of those wishing to have pictures taken in January. Please contact her by email at [loisgeiger1957@gmail.com](mailto:loisgeiger1957@gmail.com).

### SHUMC BOOK CLUB

When: Third Thursday of each month except December at 10:00 a.m.

Where: SHUMC Conference Room

#### Reading List:

November 21: **The Secret Diary of Hendrik Groen, 83 1/4 Years Old**

January 16, 2020: **The Girls of Atomic City** by Denise Kiernan

February 20, 2020: **Bold Spirit** by Linda Lawrence Hunt

If you have questions, please call the church office at 623-584-2280 and leave a message for Darlene Bradner or Mary Jane Banfield.



### Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

When planning your IRA withdrawal strategy, you may want to consider making charitable donations through a QCD. A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity (SHUMC is a qualified church). QCD's can be counted toward satisfying your required minimum distributions (RMD's) for the year, as long as certain rules are met.

In addition to the benefits of giving to charity, a QCD excludes the amount donated from taxable income, which is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. Keeping your taxable income lower may reduce the impact to certain tax credits and deductions, including Social Security and Medicare.

Also QCD's don't require that you itemize, which due to the recent tax law changes, means you may decide to take advantage of the higher standard deduction, but still use a QCD for charitable giving.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Remembering 1979



I want to extend a **HUGE 'Thank You'** to all who helped plan, set-up, decorate, handle tickets, and clean up for last Saturday's Family Life Celebration. A special Thank You, too, to Bryan McIntyre, our host and emcee for sharing his talent with us. And kudos to Mike Hicklin and Ken Peckham for all the technical wizardry. What a wonderful, toe-tapping, memory-filled way to celebrate fellowship and to kick-off our 40 More Years !!



**Thank you all!**

Cathy Peckham,  
Family Life Chair

## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 3:30 PM. in Chapel  
Light Meal to follow in Fellowship Hall**



When we are mourning important losses in our lives, the holiday season can be a difficult time to go through for some of us. [Join us for a Special Blue Christmas Service](#) that will focus on celebrating this Christian Faith Tradition of Christmas, with attention to how we face our different losses of loved ones, relationships, direction in life security, peace, etc., while we find the hope for the redemption of that pain and suffering through God's gracious gift. Let your friends know about this special worship service opportunity, particularly those you know will find it spiritually comforting and fulfilling at this time in their lives.

## 2019 Order Form For Christmas Poinsettias & Special Decorations



Donor (s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print (clearly) as you would like it to appear in the bulletin*

Quantity:  \$10.00 per Plant or Honorarium

I will **pick-up** my poinsettia      The poinsettias can be picked up Thursday, December 26

I wish to **donate only** to Special Decorations

Your choice for entry in the bulletin:

In **Honor** of \_\_\_\_\_

In **Memory** of \_\_\_\_\_

**To The Glory of God** (Donor name(s) will be in bulletin)

Please make your check payable to: **SHUMC** (Shepherd of the Hills UMC)

And in the Memo: "**Poinsettias**"

Please place your check and this filled out form in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" and hand it to someone in the Church Office. If the office is closed, place it in the mailbox outside the church office, or place it in the Offering Plate.

**Sorry, no orders after December 15.**

*Thank you for helping adorn our church at Christmas.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SANDWICH SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 24, 2019

9:30 - TILL ALL THE SANDWICHES ARE MADE!

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.

QUESTIONS: CALL 623-584-2280



NEED WORKERS TO MAKE SANDWICHES, WASH FRUIT AND VEGGIES!

LUNCHESES FOR HOMELESS SENIORS—JUSTA CENTER SENIOR DAYCARE IN DOWNTOWN PHOENIX

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING YOUR TIME, PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, CHEESE, HAM AND TURKEY OR MONETARY DONATIONS TO PURCHASE FRUITS AND VEGGIES.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

### UMW Mary-Ruth Circle

Mary-Ruth Circle will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 19th at 9:30 AM at the Sonoran Room, 2nd floor, at Grandview Care Center. All ladies are welcome. Contact Sandy Bradley 623-293-3018 for more information.



### UMW— Rebekah Circle

Rebekah Circle will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, November 18th at 2:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Contact Pam Rice 801-540-6573 for more information.



### SAVE THE DATE!

#### JOIN THE FAMILY LIFE 2nd ANNUAL TRIPLE EVENT

Salad & Dessert Potluck — Bingo — White Elephant Gift Exchange

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 12

**TIME:** 11:30 AM—3:00 PM

**WHERE:** Fellowship Hall

**COST:** \$2.00

**POTLUCK:** Bring a salad or dessert to serve 4-6 guests

**PLEASE** bring a white elephant gift in a gift bag wrapped in tissue paper or wrapped in pretty paper so there is no peeking.

Sign up will begin November 10.





## **UMW MONTHLY LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM**

United Methodist Women will hold their monthly luncheon on NOVEMBER 14th at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. The program will feature Michelle Rucker from Maricopa County Attorney General’s office speaking about “Human Trafficking,” a social issue we all need to be aware of. Please join us for a salad luncheon, drinks, and dessert. The cost is still \$8.00. Bring a friend and find out how we can make a difference for those caught up in this “web”!

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

### **We Are Back On The Move**

After a very successful October Luncheon and enormous numbers of baby items donated to the “Layette Programs” at Luke Air Force Base, we are now looking into the holidays and how we can continue to financially support local and national organizations. UMOM and Wesley/Golden Gate Centers are near to our hearts. At our luncheons and in our Circles we collect loose change for UMOM. In May we sent a check for \$207.66 to UMOM just from the jar monies collected January to May. At Christmas, Wesley/Goldengate Centers are recipients of our books and puzzles collected at our Christmas luncheon.



We hope you will all come to the annual Rummage Sale on November 7th to 9th and stop by our refreshment booth, open from 7 to 11. We will be featuring Basha’s famous fritters, coffee , and water. All the proceeds will help us with our mission goals.

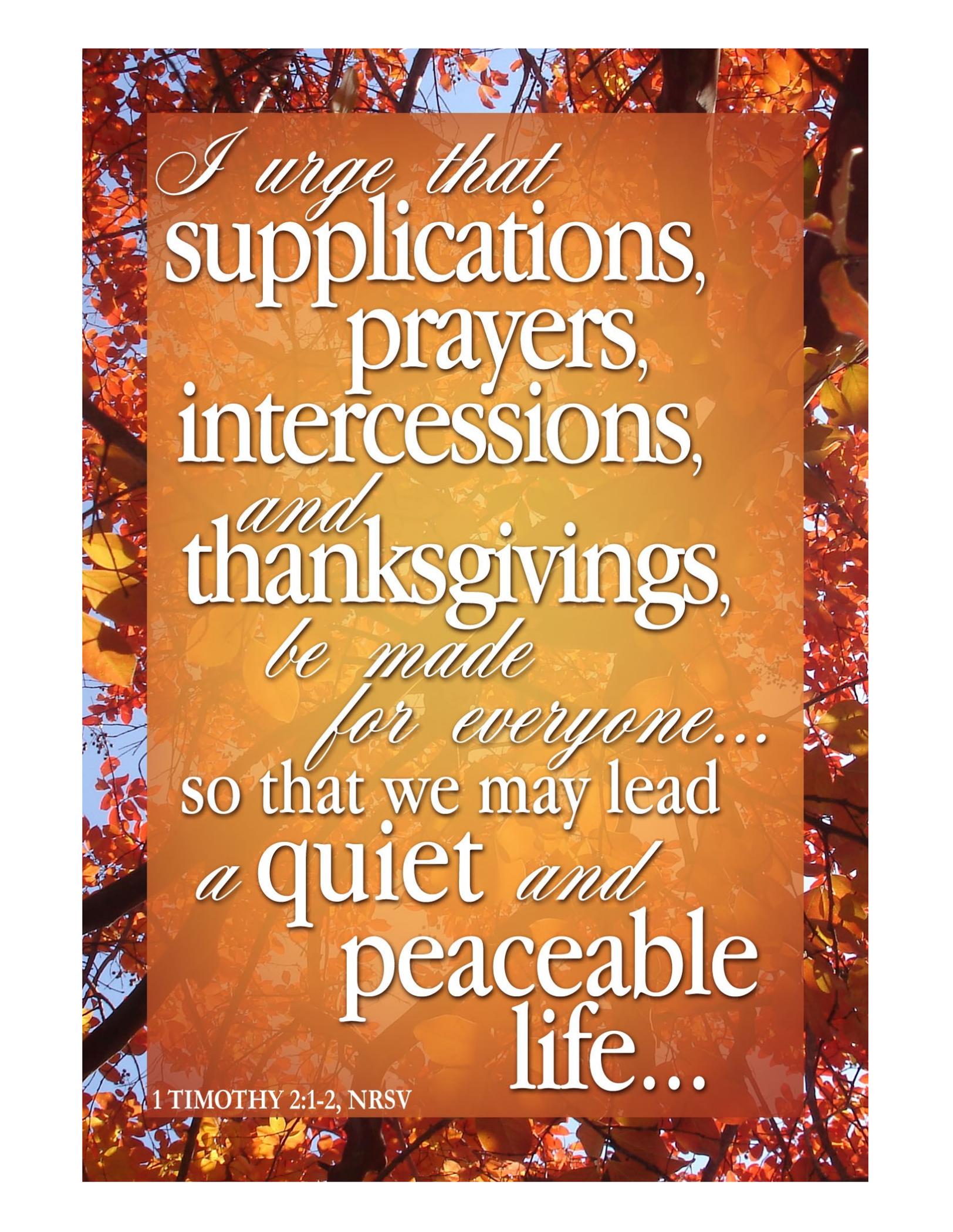
**SAVE THE DATE:** DECEMBER 6th is our annual Christmas Luncheon. Don’t forget to begin your shopping for books and puzzles.



On Saturday and Sunday, December 14th and 15th, we will have our Christmas Bake Sale. United Methodist Women are wonderful bakers and you will have the opportunity to purchase “homemade” items that you can enjoy the entire Christmas season.

We are looking forward to a busy and productive 2020, as well and hope to find new ways to encourage more women at Shepherd to join this committed organization in making things better in the world for women, children, and youth. We are thankful for such a supportive congregation. Without YOU we could not accomplish our goals.

Sandy Bradley—UMW President



*I urge that*  
supplications,  
prayers,  
intercessions,  
*and*  
thanksgivings,  
*be made*  
*for everyone...*  
so that we may lead  
*a quiet and*  
peaceable  
life...

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-2, NRSV

## LET US PRAY

By Carol Hilder

Dear Father,  
Hold me close in  
your loving arms.  
Comfort me, keep  
me safe from harm.

I long to look into  
your sweet face as  
you bring me love  
and heavenly grace.

Teach me, Lord, and  
I will obey, not just  
for now but every day.

**PRAISE THE LORD!**  
**AMEN**



## IN MEMORIAM

David Gray

October 3, 2019

Roger Drew

October 10, 2019

Nancy Norton

October 16, 2019

Rev. Ed Beck

October 10, 2019

Ted Anderson

October 17, 2019

Wayne Bowman

October 27, 2019

## Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service

The congregation of Lord of Life Lutheran Church is pleased to invite the congregations of Beth Emeth and Shepherd of the Hills to share in a Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on

**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.**

As always, we will follow this service with a time of fellowship as we share in our traditional pie social. We ask that pies are dropped off at the Lord of Life Church kitchen between 5:30 and 6:00 pm that evening.

We look forward to worshipping with you!

## SERMON SERIES

- Nov. 2-3 Enough: Wisdom and Finance  
Proverbs 21:20 Luke 15:11-16  
All Saints  
Communion
- Nov. 9-10 Enough: Cultivating Contentment  
Luke 12:1-21
- Nov. 16-17 40th Anniversary Celebration  
Guest Preachers Sat. & Sunday
- Nov. 23-24 Thanksgiving Sunday  
Consecration Sunday  
Enough: Defined By Generosity  
I Timothy 6:17-19 Luke 19:1-10
- Nov 30-Dec 1 Sunday after Thanksgiving  
Anniversary Cake - 40 Years on Dec. 2  
Advent 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS: CHRISTMAS

Blue Christmas Service & Light Meal	Wednesday, December 4, 2019	3:30 p.m.	Chapel/ Fellowship Hall
Cantata	Saturday, December 14, 2019	4:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Cantata	Sunday, December 15, 2019	9:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Informal Praise Service	Sunday, December 15, 2019	10:45 a.m.	Sanctuary
Christmas Eve Service	Tuesday, December 24, 2019	4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.	Sanctuary

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church

13658 W. Meeker Boulevard

Sun City West, AZ 85375-3700

**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER  
PROMPTLY**

**THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE NOVEMBER 2019**

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

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

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

**Sundays, 10:45 a.m. "Informal Praise Service" - Sanctuary**

*Coffee Hour after Sunday service in Fellowship Hall! Come Join us.*



*Happy  
Thanksgiving*