

# February 2026

## Shepherd's Voice



### Happy Birthday!

Hailey W	13 <sup>th</sup>	Vignia B	17 <sup>th</sup>
Michael R	14 <sup>th</sup>	Gail R	18 <sup>th</sup>
AJ C	15 <sup>th</sup>		

If you would like to be included in the newsletter to celebrate your birthday and/or anniversary, please contact the office or Karen B.

Thank you.

Please submit items for the newsletter to Karen by the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### Discussing Difficult Topics

**We are a congregation with diverse opinions. Sometimes we need to discuss difficult topics. Here are some ground rules that can help.**

**Respectful ground rules for discussing divisive topics focus on active listening, fostering empathy, and prioritizing the exchange of ideas over winning arguments.**

**The relationship is the priority**

**Whether it's another member of our congregation, a family member, or a professional colleague, you likely will need to continue the relationship long after the disagreement has occurred. Go into the discussion with the understanding that the relationship needs to survive the conversation and commit to communicating in a way that preserves instead of frays your connection. An overt commitment to the relationship is a great way to start a difficult conversation. It establishes a critical priority.**

Here's an easy way to remember these ideas:

## The HUG Principle

**Hear the other person.**  
**Understand what they are trying to say.**  
**Go forward together.**

**When we set ground rules, we are starting the conversation with an agreement. It may be the only agreement that comes out of the discussion, but the relationship will be preserved, and useful insights may be gained by following some civil guidelines.**

## February Prayer Focus for The Desert Southwest Conference Churches

Dove of the Desert UMC, Glendale, AZ  
Faith UMC, Phoenix, AZ  
First UMC, Glendale, AZ

### Special Sunday Celebration Dates

Human Relations Day: January 18  
UMCOR Sunday: March 15  
United Methodist Student Day: May  
Native American Ministries Sunday: April 19  
Peace with Justice Sunday: May 31  
World Communion Sunday: October 4

### Save The Dates

**February 1<sup>st</sup>** SPRC meeting after worship service in the pastor's office

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** Family Fun Friday at **6pm**. It's game night! Come and enjoy fellowship with your friends. Bring a game to teach us to play and your dinner if you like. Snacks to share are also appreciated.

**February 5<sup>th</sup>** Martha Circle meeting at **10:30am** in Room 1

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** Breakfast Bunch at Moon Valley Cafe, 502 E. Thunderbird Rd, Phoenix 85022 at **8:30am**.

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>** Ice Cream Social in Fellowship Hall after worship service.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** Read Across America Day at Chaparral school from **8:30 to 10:30am**. Times are flexible. You may want to bring a book or to use one from the school library. Please let Pastor Janet know if you are interested.

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** G.A.I.N. Event, previously scheduled in November. Volunteers needed to help from **4-7pm**. More information on how you can help will be shared soon.

## From the Pulpit

Safe Lots: There are two families residing in the Safe lot on our campus. They informed us that several families graduated to housing prior to coming to the Safe lot.

Community Garden: We have been working with Lake Biltmore Block Watch on this project. The Leadership Board voted on Sunday to place the gardens in the north area in front of the Education Building where the wall is located. We look forward to progressing with this project in the spring.

Ballfield: The ballfield committee, made up of volunteers, has met with and has shown the Vitalyst Healthcare Foundation to assist us with plans for obtaining revenue from the unused land to the south of the property. They assist organizations with building low-cost housing. They have offered us \$5,000 to start the process of submitting a Feasibility Survey to start the process of developing the land. It could be used for water and soil studies. We are preparing to meet with them next week to talk about the next steps. If you feel called to be a part of the committee, please contact Pastor Janet.

Gina is collecting bread tabs. She is helping to teach a Monster Club at the High School. They will be turning them into earrings. Other items that will be needed this spring are plastic bottle caps or lids, googly eyes, fish-hook type earring backs, jump rings for jewelry making, scrap wood, chicken wire, acrylic or spray paint leftovers. She will be collecting until April.

### Chaparral Elementary PTO

# SHOE DRIVE

We are collecting new AND used shoes  
You can bring them in or we can pick them up.



**SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2025 - MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2026**

**ALL sizes 🐾 ALL kinds 🐾 ALL year**

**CLEAN OUT YOUR OLD  
SHOES AND SUPPORT  
A GOOD CAUSE**



# February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Martha Circle 10:30 am rm 1 Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH	Usha F.H. 1:30 - 5:30 Hoziana Ministries 11-3 pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time Hoziana Ministries 12-2 pm		LBBW 6-7:30 pm	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		Breakfast Bunch 8:00 am Hoziana Ministries 11-3 pm Jewelry making with Sandee 12-4, rm 1
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time Hoziana Ministries 11-2 pm Board Meeting 12N	Girl Scouts 5:30 pm		Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		Hoziana Ministries 11-3 pm Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 11 am - 3 pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time Hoziana Ministries 12-2 pm Ice Cream Social F.H.	HOA 5:30 - 8:30 Fellowship Hall		Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom CPCA 6-7:30 pm Rm1	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		Hoziana Ministries 11-1 pm Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 12- 4 pm
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time Hoziana Ministries 12-2 pm	Girl Scouts 5:30 pm		Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		

## NOTES

Worship is available In-Person and On our YouTube channel SOVUMC.  
Enjoy coffee and snacks after the worship service.

## Leadership Team Members

Chair	Karen	Pastor	Janet	Treasurer	Sandee
SPRC	Suzanne	Finance Sec	Nickie	Lay Leader	Gail
Trustee	Jack	Member	Ruth	Member	Denise
Member	Betty				

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Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, UMC Bishop  
Reverend Melissa Rynders, District Superintendent