

# July 2024

## Shepherd's Voice



HAPPY  
4<sup>th</sup>  
of july

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### Happy Birthday!

Bob D	4 <sup>th</sup>
Norma D	13 <sup>th</sup>



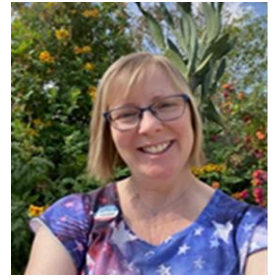
If your name isn't listed, please contact the office or Karen B. We'd love to include you!



### July Prayer Focus for the Desert Southwest Conference Churches

Mission Bell UMC, Glendale  
Mountain View UMC, Cottonwood  
New Song UMC, Surprise

At Annual Conference, Wanda, our Lay Member, and I were invited to take a prayer card, write the name of our church, and to discern a current need of our church. We wrote: “workers for the harvest.” Another church was to pick up our request and pray. We can also pray this prayer.



We were asked to take a card from another church and commit to praying for that church’s request during the summer. We picked up the prayer card from Song of Life Church in Queen Creek. That name may sound familiar because our Handbells are on loan to Song of Life. Their prayer was for their “Campus Facility Growth Plan.” In other words, they need a larger worship space. We asked Pastor Sylvia Harris about the request, and she explained that they have property and a triple-wide temporary structure. The church is now experiencing rapid growth and they need a new worship space. She also let us know that the Bell Choir has begun to grow, and they are having the bells professionally maintained. Please keep Song of Life UMC and their need for a larger worship space in your prayers.

Peace,  
Pastor Janet



**ATLANTA** – CharityWatch, the only independent charity watchdog in the United States, released a report this spring on the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), awarding its highest A+ rating for the United Methodist humanitarian and relief agency.



Evaluating on a number of key factors, the report states that UMCOR spends 97% of its cash budget on programming for humanitarian relief, response and recovery work. In addition, it spends \$1 to generate \$100 in donations. Analysis of UMCOR’s operations included the work of the Sager Brown Depot and the Immigration Law and Justice Network (ILJN, formerly NJFON), which are wholly owned subsidiaries of UMCOR.

Key factors included the transparency audit practices and the accessibility of financial data, governance policies, governance of the board of directors and privacy policies related to the organization’s donors.

According to CharityWatch: “Groups included on the CharityWatch top-rated list generally spend 75% or more of their budgets on programs, spend \$25 or less to raise \$100 in public support, do not hold excessive assets in reserve, have met CharityWatch’s governance benchmarks, and receive ‘open-book’ status for disclosure of basic financial information and documents to CharityWatch.”

Read the March 2024 report on UMCOR at [United Methodist Committee on Relief \(UMCOR\) | Charity Ratings | Donating Tips | Best Charities | CharityWatch](#)

## About UMCOR and the General Board of Global Ministries

Founded in 1940, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the global humanitarian relief agency of The United Methodist Church. A part of Global Ministries, UMCOR works in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States and its territories. The agency's mission, grounded in the teachings of Jesus, is to alleviate human suffering. Working in the areas of disaster response and recovery, sustainable development and migration, UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters that are interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Learn more about UMCOR by visiting [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org) or by following [www.facebook.com/umcor](https://www.facebook.com/umcor) and [www.twitter.com/umc\\_umcor](https://www.twitter.com/umc_umcor).

### Media Contact:

Susan Clark for Global Ministries/UMCOR  
[media@umcmission.org](mailto:media@umcmission.org)



Dear Church.

Once again, your generosity is so evident. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this Mission.

### Mission Project Totals for **Shepherd of the Valley**

Cash **\$10.00**

2 Walmart gift cards @\$25 = **\$50**

- Toddler & Children's t-shirts (2T-16). **6**
- Toddler & Children's pants/shorts (2T-16) **2**
- NEW Children's Socks **35**
- Women's leggings or stretch pants (S, M) **8**
- Women's t-shirts, long and short sleeves (S, M) **14**
- NEW Women's underwear (Size 5 & 6) **20**
- Women's Bras (sports bras – S/M/L but not XL) **4**
- NEW Women's socks **13**
- Men's t-shirts, long and short sleeves (S, M, L) **4**
- Flip Flops (for showers) **4**

## Lay Servant Ministries

### Leadership Talk

The Clergy and Lay Leadership Development team will host this leadership talk via Zoom featuring Rev. Dr. Nicole Reilley, a seasoned life and ministry coach on July 8, 2024, at 7 pm (MST).

She is deeply committed to evangelism and disciple-making through digital ministry, leadership development, and spiritual practices. Currently managing social media for churches and providing coaching for pastors and congregations; also, hosts the Clergy Wellness Podcast and is the author of “Expanding the Expedition through Digital Ministry“. In this session, she will focus on the why of digital ministry in a post- pandemic world and examine practical and doable steps to take it to the

next level. Outcomes from the presentation will enable us to grow in our understanding of social media, develop a social media plan, and understand how to use social media to reach new people.

Suggested references/resources: “Church as Network: Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture” by Jeffrey Mahan; “From Social Media to Social Ministry: A Guide to Digital Discipleship” by Nora Jones.

Register at: <https://dscumc.org/event/leadership-talk-social-media-for-churches-july-8-2024/>

### LSM Introduction to Lay Ministries:

#### The Basic Course at Prescott Valley UMC, August 23-24, 2024

**The West District of the Southwest Desert Conference of the UMC is pleased to announce it will be offering the Lay Servant Ministries course:**

The Introduction to Lay Ministries, The Basic Course.

WHEN: Friday, August 23 from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Saturday, August 24 from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

WHERE: Prescott Valley UMC

8944 E Sommer Dr, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

This course is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship. The participants' text The Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson is required reading for this program. You are required to have read the text prior to the course starting.

The cost for this course is \$15 and is payable upon registration. You can register and pay online. If paying by cash or check, bring it to the class and give it to the instructor.

Once you register for this course, you will receive a confirmation email with a link to the book and other information.

LSM Introduction to Lay Ministries: the Basic Course at Prescott Valley UMC, August 23-24, 2024

Register at: <https://dscumc.org/event/lsm-introduction-to-lay-ministries-the-basic-course-at-prescott-valley-umc-august-23-24-2024/>

This class is a prerequisite for any other Lay Servant Training classes

Dear Friends,

One of our goals is to start a Congregational Care Team.

Pastor Janet will be teaching the Lay Servant Ministries class on Congregational Care on September 20th and 21st at Dove of the Desert UMC in Glendale. If you are interested in being a part of that team, you are encouraged (but not required) to take the "Basic" class and the class on "Congregational Care."

### **Save the Date!: West District Celebration of Music Ministry**

West District Celebration of Music Ministry

Date: Sunday, August 18, 2024, at 2:00 pm

Place: Sedona United Methodist Church

110 Indian Cliffs Rd.

Sedona, AZ. 86336

West District Superintendent Rev. Javier Olivares, Rev. Elizabeth LeMaster, and Sedona UMC would like to invite your church to participate in a celebration of music ministry being held at Sedona

UMC on Sunday, August 18th, at 2:00 PM.

Space is limited. If you have a choir, band, or anyone musically gifted that is interested in participating, please email [jmarinoni@dscumc.org](mailto:jmarinoni@dscumc.org) with the following information by no later than August 9, 2024, with the following information:

Participant Type: Choir, band, or musically gifted

Name(s) of participant(s):

Email Address:

Phone Number:

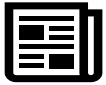
Please note, transportation costs to and from the event will be the responsibility of the participants and are not eligible for reimbursement through the District Office.

Participants and guests are invited to gather after the performance for refreshments and a time of fellowship.

Sent on behalf of Rev. Javier Olivares

West District Superintendent & Missional Strategist

### Action Steps:



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



**Thursdays at 6pm.** We are enjoying and discussing Season 2 of The Chosen in the sanctuary. It's not too late. Come join us! We will not meet on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We'll resume on July 11<sup>th</sup>.



Family Fun Friday Night on **July 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.** We will be enjoying an Ice Cream Sicle Social. Please come join us for a fun evening. A variety of Popsicles and other handheld ice cream will be provided.



Breakfast Bunch will meet **July 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.** First Watch at 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave and Thunderbird. No host meal. Everyone is invited.



There will not be a Cactus book club meeting this month.

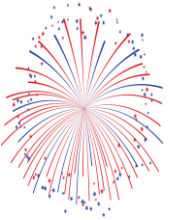
### Financial Information



	May	Jan-May 2024
Income:	\$9,245.60	\$47,107.97
Expense:	\$8,093.97	\$51,948.07
Total:	\$1,151.63	\$(4,840.10)

Church Envelopes are available on the Welcome Wagon in the Narthex.

# July 2024

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Happy 4th! Office CLOSED No Chosen Study Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH	Fun Friday 6pm Ice Cream Social FH	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time			Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom I-HELP 6pm FH	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm The Chosen 6:00pm sanc Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 noon - 4 pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time SPRC 12 pm	HOA		Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm The Chosen 6:00pm sanc Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		Blood Drive 8:00am - 1:00 pm Fellowship Hall
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time Board 12 pm			Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm The Chosen 6:00pm sanc Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 noon - 4 pm
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
			Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm The Chosen 6:00pm sanc Women's AA 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall & kids Rm 1 Men's AA 7:30 pm, FH		

4 5 NOTES

Worship 10:30 am  
Worship On-Line  
Any Time

Worship is available In-Person and On our YouTube channel SOVUMC.  
Masks are Encouraged, but not Required unless trends change.  
Enjoy coffee and snacks after the worship service.

## Leadership Team Members

Chair	Suzanne	Pastor	Janet	Finance	Don
SPRC	Femi	Finance Secty	Wanda	Fac/Sec	Suzanne
Lay Leader	Randal	Member	Jack	Member	Vonnie
Member	Sandee	Member	Betty		

### Shepherd of the Valley UMC

3039 W. Cactus Rd. Phoenix AZ 85029

602-758-3473

Pastor Janet Culbertson SOVUMC@hotmail.com

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

Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, UMC Bishop

Reverend Javier Olivares, District Superintendent