September 2026

Shepherd's Voice

Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary

Trina S	1st	Joyce S	15th	Mike and Denise	13th
Vonnie M	5th	Mavis J	18th	Al and Karen	14th
Loland H	6th				

If you would like to be included in the newsletter to celebrate your birthday or anniversary, please contact the office we will be happy to include you in the newsletter.

Thank you.

September Prayer Focus for the Desert Southwest Conference Churches

Mission Bell UMC, Glendale, AZ

New Song UMC, Surprise, AZ

Peace in the Desert Church: An ELCA and UMC Congregation - Scottsdale, AZ

Please submit items for the newsletter to the office by the **17th** of the month.

Save The Dates

Sept. 10 - Martha Circle will meet Thursday, Sept. 10, at 10:30am in Room 1.

Sept 12 - Saturday September 12th, 8 am to 10 am, will be a garden workday to finish filling the above ground beds. Volunteer help would be greatly appreciated by the gardeners as we get ready to plant.

Sept 19 - Breakfast Bunch will take place on Saturday September 19th at 8:30am. We will meet at Mimi's Cafe, 7450 W Bell Rd. Glendale, AZ 85308

Sept 20th through Sunday morning of the 27th, Family Promise will be hosted at St. Andrews Lutheran Church. Shepherd of the Valley will provide and serve the Wednesday and Friday dinners. We also need to provide overnight coverage on those nights (until 5:30 am). Please let Suzanne know if you

are available to help prepare & transport meals, come to serve the meals, or be an overnight person.

The October Family Promise dates are Sunday October 20th to the 27th. That will also be our turn to provide groceries (from a provided list) and to do the bed laundry in addition to the Wednesday and Friday meals and night coverage. Please let Suzanne know if you can help with any of these tasks.

Sept 23 - Life Line Screening will be at our church Wednesday, September 23rd. Screenings are by appointment, starting at 9 am The time available for 'walk in" screenings is usually limited as they leave after the last booked appointment. Call 800-324-94-9458 or go online to www.llsa.social/habc to schedule an appointment. Insurance companies DO NOT cover this expense.

Two complimentary screening certificates for the Stroke/Carotid Artery Plaque Buildup screening are available! This is not for the complete screening package of 4 tests. Please contact Suzanne if you can use a certificate.

Oct 17 – Good Shepherd's Garden at 9:30 am will be the Grand Opening Ceremony, with Blessing & Ribbon Cutting at 10.

There will be refreshments, yard games, and a kids' craft table.

All are welcome!

Nov 19 - Church Conference November 19th at 6:00pm: SPRC Zoom meeting with District Superintendent, Rev. Melissa Rynders

Nov 29 - Cluster Church Conference at Trinity UMC at 12:00pm.

The Good Shepherd's Garden Update

Engaging our community is a top priority for our church as we seek to be outwardly focused in our mission and ministry. We are excited to partner with the Lake Biltmore Block Watch (LBBW) and Keep Phoenix Beautiful (KPB) on this project.

Ed is a member of our community who will be our Garden Manager. Progress on the Garden has slowed a bit this summer due to the heat and the need for Ed to take some time to recover from a recent injury. Please keep him in prayer.

We have postponed the Garden Dedication and Celebration so that we can make a little more progress, enjoy cooler weather, and plan a quality event.

The Garden Dedication and Celebration will now take place on Saturday October 17th from 9:30 – 11:30 in the morning with remarks at 10:00.

If you expressed interest in having a garden bed, you should have received emails from Ed with paperwork to review and a link to an informational meeting on September 2nd. Let Pastor Janet know if you were expecting this information and didn't receive it.

We have young people from JCORPS and their probation officers coming to put some of the garden beds together on September 8th, and we will still be having a workday on Saturday September 12, from 8:00-10:00am for those who are able and willing to brave the heat. We have volunteers from LBBW and KPB lined up to help that day.

We have a New Service Opportunity

Pastor Kari Williamson from St. Andrew Lutheran Church writes:

Hi, Janet -

I am super excited to partner with Shepherd of Valley to fill the food pantries at Cholla and Lakeview.

I have invited Saint Jerome to also be a part of the drive. With the three churches we would each have 7 items to get from the list of 21 that was put together by the social workers and principles at Cholla and Lakeview.

The dates of the drive will be the month of September. We will deliver the food to the school on September 29. We would like the food to be at Saint Andrew on Monday, September 28.

Here is what we would like Shepherd of Valley to collect:

Canned Soup	**Mac and Cheese**	**Cheese/Peanut Butter Crackers**
Pasta Sauce	**Microwavable Cups**	**Pop Tarts/Toaster Pastries**
Pasta	**Peanut Butter**	

I love partnering with you all!

God's peace- Pastor Kari

If you are able to contribute to fill the food pantries at Cholla and Lakeview schools, please bring your donations to Shepherd of the Valley by Sunday September 27th. Thank you for your generosity.

We are running low on bottled water. If you could help that would be awesome. If you are unable to bring the water in you can designate a donation for it and we will get it for you. Thanks for any assistance you feel led to provide.

Is Development Feasible?

That is the big, overarching question we are asking about the land behind the church, the land some of us refer to as "The Ballfield." We are moving through the process of our feasibility study with the help of developer, Steve Capobres. Steve is employed by Catholic Charities. The Vitalyst Foundation (from whom we received a grant for the feasibility study) brought Steve on board because his experience aligns with the type of housing project we envision.

Based on survey results from church members and the community, the board made some decisions. We asked Steve to continue his research based on the following assumptions.

- We desire to lease the land as opposed to selling it.
- We would like to lease to a non-profit organization that can manage the property and provide services to residents.
- The group we are targeting are seniors age 62+.
- We would like 1 and 2 bedroom units.

- These would be single-story free-standing units.
- The units would be for rent, not for sale.
- We envision a leasing office in the music building along with some shared church & community space.

The following are Steve's findings and estimates based on current and projected housing conditions in Maricopa County:

- Based on the size of the plot and our residential zoning, we can likely build 6 one-bedroom and 5 two-bedroom units with designated parking.
- The developer leasing the land would pay the construction costs.
- The developer leasing the land would assume all liability for the property.
- Units would rent for approximately $1,100 - $1,300/month.
- The annual income the church would receive for the lease of the land would start at $35,000 the first year and increase by 3% each year thereafter.
- In the first six years, the church could expect to receive $226,395.

The next part of the study involves:

- Site visits to similar developments in our area.
- Conversations with other faith-based landowners and the developers and management companies they work with.
- Steve will find an architect to suggest the lot layout and unit design.

The Board and Pastor Janet are open to feedback and would be happy to discuss any ideas or concerns that you have about the potential development of our property. Please continue to pray for wisdom, clarity and discernment regarding this project.

Leadership Team Members

Chair	Karen	Pastor	Janet	Treasurer	Sandee
SPRC	Suzanne	Finance Sec	John D.	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

September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
			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	Fun Friday Bingo 6pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time	Labor Day!	LBBW 6:30pm FH	Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom	Martha Circle 10:30 rm 1 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		Garden Work Day 8 - 10 am Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 12 pm - 4 pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time	Girl Scouts 5:30pm FH		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		Breakfast Bunch 8:30am Community Clean up Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 11 am - 3 pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Comm Garden Dedication & Celebration Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time Board Mtg 12:00			Office Open 12:00 - 4:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm zoom LifeLine Screening 9-4 am F.H. Family Promise Dinner @ St. Andrews	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	Family Promise Dinner @ St. Andrews	Jewelry Making with Sandee, rm 1 12 pm - 4 pm
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Worship 10:30 am Worship On-Line Any Time	Girl Scouts 5:30pm FH			Worship is available In-Person and On our YouTube channel SOVUMC. Enjoy coffee and snacks after the worship service.		