

# The Vision

Volume 16, Issue 7

“For the VISION is for the days yet to come.” *Daniel 10:14*

July 2023

## Food for the Body and Soul By Pastor Ann

JUNE IS ALWAYS a busy month for United Methodist pastors. This is the month of transition for pastors starting new appointments. And that means for folks like me, saying good bye to beloved colleagues as they prepare for new appointments. I have been blessed to work with Pastor Daniel. His guidance and knowledge of the people of Velda Rose UMC has been invaluable. I will certainly miss him. Accordingly, it was my honor to help celebrate his ministry, both with a potluck lunch on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> with the food pantry and mission building volunteers, and his big celebration on June 11<sup>th</sup>. I was delighted to use my baking skills for the potluck and make Pastor Daniel various desserts—and as is my tradition, I’m including the recipe for one of them in this newsletter (the flourless chocolate cake on page 14). June is also the month for Annual Conference, which was held June 15-17<sup>th</sup>. Your VRUMC delegation has provided a detailed report of Annual Conference in this newsletter. If you would like to know even more, just talk to me or one of the other members who attended. I am pleased to report that Bishop Rapanut has reappointed me to Velda Rose UMC and I am looking forward to another year in ministry with you.

Blessings, Pastor Ann



IT’S A WRAP! The 39<sup>th</sup> session of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference is in the books! For three days,

from June 15 - June 17, the lay delegates and clergy of the Desert Southwest Conference met in the Mesa Convention Center and online to conduct the business of the Annual Conference. This included VRUMC’s own Pastor Ann and Pastor Daniel (and soon to be our pastor, Pastor Chan), and our lay delegates Ron Roberts, Nisi Kaipalea, and Mary Killgrove (alternate).



The theme of the Conference drew heavily upon the scripture from Genesis about Jacob whose name was later changed by God to Israel. Bishop Rapanut’s opening sermon talked about how Jacob found himself wrestling with his brother, Esau, from inside the womb to later on as an adult for his birthright. And, at one point, Jacob found



himself even wrestling with God. United Methodists also wrestle with the issues of the day. But, despite our differences, we are bound by a common call from God to the world. We are to be a community that says to our children that we take them into our heart as we perfect together our love of God. We need to model a way to engage each other in a loving discussion rather than harming each other when we find that we have differing opinions. Bishop Rapanut said that the theme #We Are is in the present tense leading us to engage each other now, to rise, and to meet loves call. In God, we are all important and valuable. Bishop Rapanut told us, "We are to wrestle with ourselves and our issues, until the desire to wrestle each other diminishes and the only lens through which we see each other is love."

With this as our foundation, the members of the Annual Conference voted on issues financial and ethical, social and spiritual. A (continued on page 2)

number of routine items were dealt with on the consent calendar, including recommendations on Special Days and Causes, Advance and Benevolence Specials, recommendations relating to clergy retirement and insurance, and a 3% increase in equitable compensation (which are also minimum clergy salaries). We saw parliamentary procedure at work as one of the proposed items for the consent calendar, a proposed 4% increase in the wage ranges for conference employees, was removed from the consent calendar with 50 votes so we could wrestle with the issue. The increase passed easily after debate.

The Laity Session included a sermon provided by Kelly Dayo of St. Mark's UMC in Tucson. The topic of his sermon was "evangelism." He equated that word "evangelism" with the word "witness." He noted that often parishioners are reluctant to engage in "evangelism." When Methodism first started, it spread like wildfire. People of the church told others why their church was important to them and invited friends and others to attend. Today, we shy away from talking about our church to others because we think our faith is personal. But we have been called by Jesus to be his witnesses. We need to tell our own stories about what God has meant to us in our own personal lives. Mr. Dayo equated telling the "good news" with telling someone about a new car you just bought. You are usually very excited about the new car and can't wait to tell your friends and neighbors all about it. In that same vein, we should be excited about sharing what God has done for us in our lives. We know Jesus. Let others know what we know. We can witness by our actions, by the way we live our lives, with integrity, honesty, and humility exemplifying the fruit of the Spirit. As St. Francis of Assisi said, "Preach the Gospel at all times and, if necessary, use words."

There were several pieces of legislation for delegates to debate and vote on, all of which passed, including:

- the 2024 Conference budget of \$5,560,615,
- a resolution calling for Conference and local church commitment to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050,
- a resolution reaffirming our conference commitment as a Reconciling Conference to full-inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons in conference, district, and local church, campus and extension ministry settings,

- a resolution that the Conference Board of Church & Society create a document, including study materials, stating that the philosophy, goals, and values espoused by Christian nationalism are inconsistent with the United States Constitution, and with the history, teachings, and practice of the United Methodist Church, and as such, the advocacy of Christian nationalism is unacceptable, and
- a resolution that our conference supports the Christmas Covenant legislation in full, including the creation of a U.S. Regional Conference, as proposed by the Philippines.

A luncheon on Friday gave delegates the opportunity to learn about the death penalty. The luncheon began with an article from the morning's paper about a man who had been on death row in Arizona for 29 years but was released when it was determined that the evidence did not support a conviction for first degree murder and the death penalty. From there, the presenters talked about the racial inequity in the application of the death penalty (the race of the victim, not the perpetrator, is the significant factor), the high cost of death penalty cases (3-4 times the cost of life in prison), and the impact of their work with prisoners as Jesus directed in Matthew 24:36b, "I was in prison and you visited me." This all led to the vote on and passage of a resolution calling for the commutation of the death penalty in the states within the bounds of the Annual Conference. Anyone interested in this issue or interested in working in prison ministry, are invited to join the Prison Reform/Death Penalty Task Force. We were also told to watch for information about tours of death row that may be offered in the near future.

In addition to the scheduled legislation, there were two pieces of "late breaking" legislation: a resolution supporting the removal of all discriminatory policies and harmful language related to sexual orientation from the Book of Discipline, and a resolution asking all lay and clergy members who intend to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church to recuse themselves from leadership roles in all areas of the church. Both of these resolutions passed.

Mary Killgrove says, "I was so pleased by the legislation that was passed at the Conference. From

supporting the removal of all discriminatory policies and harmful language relating to sexual orientation in the United Methodist Church’s Book of Discipline, to resolving to work hard to fully include LGBTQIA+ persons, both laity and clergy, in the work and leadership of the DSW Conference, district and local churches, to striving to reach Net-Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions in our local churches by 2050, to opposing capital punishment, members of the DSW Conference have shown a desire to move forward and treat all of God’s children with love, fairness and integrity.”

One of the elements of Annual Conference is the setting of appointments. As expected, Bishop Rapanut appointed Rev. Ann Lyter and Rev. Chan Kim to serve here at Velda Rose UMC. Our beloved Rev. Daniel Gómez will be serving at Shepherd of the Hills in Sun City, AZ.

In addition to the legislation and appointments, we heard from the Taskforce on Conference Culture, who reported on issues relating to trust and harm that has been suffered by various clergy. We received a Covenant for the entire Conference to uphold in an effort to correct the harm of the past and to move forward together. We learned about the differences between gender, gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation, among other terms, as part of our training on the use of pronouns and how to be respectful and caring, even when we may not understand why someone identifies as they do. We learned that to let someone know that we are a “safe” person and will be respectful of them, we should offer our own pronouns, rather than ask someone for theirs. We also learned that if we make a mistake and misgender someone (that is, use a pronoun they do not identify with), we should simply apologize and

try to remember to use their preferred pronouns.

All of this reflects our desire and our value of treating each other with love and respect. To that end, monitors watched the proceedings and reported daily on when the AC had included people and cared for each other well, and when we fell short, whether through our language or actions such failing to have sign language interpreters available or holding a luncheon in a room that was not readily accessible to anyone with mobility issues.

And we put our money, and our actions, where our mouths are—with mission projects raising over \$30,000 for three mission projects, relief to Ukraine, relief to Turkey and Syria, both through UMCOR, and

RIP Medical debt which relieves people burdened with medical debt and collection actions. The money is still coming in. We prayed for other Annual Conferences in our connection, wrote post cards, and ran (or walk)



laps while praying for them. In the process, we learned more about our connection, and let others know that we are here praying for them. We heard how the UM church in Douglas is now hosting both the Episcopal and the Presbyterian congregations of Douglas in their church, since those two churches were victims of arson. Awards were given to courageous churches doing amazing work, and churches who brought in multiple new members and celebrated numerous adult baptisms in the past year. As we celebrated new church starts, Nisi was struck by the wisdom that, “if you wanna go fast, you go alone. If you wanna go far, you go together.”

The Annual Conference was filled with powerful, Spirit-filled worship, beginning with opening worship and the Episcopal Address, the Memorial Service on Thursday evening honoring clergy and clergy spouses

who passed in the prior year, the Ordination Service on Friday evening with the Right Reverend Jennifer Reddall, Bishop for the Diocese of Arizona (Episcopal), and closing worship on Saturday with Holy Communion.



And we shared lighter moments too. Some of the jokes told during the conference: “I was going to tell you a joke about boxing, but I forgot the punch line.” “The Bishop ran a race with a barber and the Bishop lost. The barber knew a shortcut.” And then there was the DSC Delegation Report 2023:

Rev. Dan Hurlbert (First clergy delegate): Bishop Carlo, members of the annual conference and friends, I am here representing the 2024 delegation to General Conference

Paul Gómez (First lay delegate): (interrupting) Excuse me, Dan we are the 2020 delegation.

Dan: But we are scheduled to go to the 2024 General Conference.

Paul: It is actually the 2020 General Conference, it’s just happening in 2024.

Dan: The 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis?

Paul: No, the 2020 General Conference will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Dan: So we are going to North Carolina in 2020?

Paul: No, we are going in 2024.

Dan: For General Conference 2024?

Paul: No, for General Conference 2020, just being held in 2024.

Dan: Wait a second. We went to Salt Lake City for Jurisdictional conference in November of 2022?

Paul: That's right.

Dan: And we elected 3 bishops?

Paul: Yes.

Dan: Jurisdictional conference happens after the General Conference.

Paul: Except for the jurisdictional conference in 2022, which happened before General Conference 2020, which will be held in 2024.

Dan: Will there be a Jurisdictional conference in 2024?

Paul: Yes, it is scheduled to happen after the General Conference 2020.

Dan: In 2024.

Paul: Naturally

Dan: Let me get this straight. 2024 is a General Conference year?

Paul: Yes.

Dan: And we are having a General Conference?

Paul: Yes.

Dan: General Conference edits the Book of Discipline

Paul: That’s right.

Dan: When we are done with that in 2024 and the Publishing Company prints the book what date will be on the cover?

Paul: Presumably 2020.

Dan: Will there be a General Conference 2024?

Paul: That is scheduled for 2026.

Dan: Will there be jurisdictional conference in 2026

Paul: No one has said either way.

Dan: When will General Conference 2028 happen?

Paul: In 2028, of course.

Dan: So we had jurisdictional conference in 2022, which shall be forever known as 2022 even though it happened before General Conference 2020, which is scheduled for 2024, to be followed by Jurisdictional Conference 2024. Then, in 2026, they have scheduled General Conference 2024, which may or may not be followed by Jurisdictional Conference 2026. Then in 2028, General and Jurisdictional Conferences will happen in the usual way.

Paul: It is just that simple.

Dan: Thank you for explaining it so clearly.

**If you would like to learn more about Annual Conference, General Conference (2020, or 2024), talk to Pastor Ann or Pastor Chan, or one of our lay members to AC: Ron, Nisi or Mary. The 40th session of Annual Conference in 2024, will be June 13-16 2024 in Tucson Convention Center.**

# Summer Worship Series: The Path of the Disciple

SUMMER OF 2023 will be a season for discipleship. Our worship series is “The Path of the Disciple.” This worship series, based on the Revised Common Lectionary, will look at what it means to be a disciple and a member of the family of God. We begin by looking at the Call. God calls to each of us, and when we hear and decide to answer that call, great things can happen.

We begin by focusing on how God can do anything—we just have to answer that call.

When we hear and answer the call to follow Jesus it is not the end of the journey—it is only the beginning. We will look at what it means to be a disciple when we focus on “Learning to Grow.” We consider together what it means to be a disciple. Let’s embrace the truth, even when it is difficult and takes effort, even when we learn of the commitment

that is involved in following Jesus.

There is optimism to the disciple’s path. These aren’t rose-colored glasses that make things look better than they are, but a certainty that the church is still a force for good in the world, that justice is still within reach as hearts and minds and behaviors are changed, and that

there is a God who will bring the new reality into being in and through us and sometimes despite us.

In the second half of July, we will look at the question of what we could accomplish if we were certain we wouldn’t fail? What invitations could we issue, what hope could we offer, what joy could we share if we could see the new reality God has in store for all of creation? It all begins with our ability to imagine a new reality as disciples.



## July Sunday and Wednesday Morning Services

### JULY 2ND

*Learning to Grow:  
Quenching a Thirst*  
Gen. 22: 1-14;  
Matt. 10:40-42  
Pastor Ann

### JULY 16TH

*Imagining a New Reality:  
Seeds in the Dirt*  
Gen. 25: 19-34  
Matt. 13: 1-9, 18-23  
Pastor Ann

### JULY 30TH

*Imagining a New Reality:  
Hidden & Mixed In*  
Gen. 29: 15-28  
Matt. 13: 31-34, 44-52  
Pastor Ann

### JULY 9TH

*Learning to Grow:  
Taking the Yoke*  
Gen. 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67  
Matt. 11: 16-19, 25-30  
Pastor Ann

### JULY 23RD

*Imagining a New Reality:  
Shine Like the Sun*  
Gen. 28: 1-19a,  
Matt. 13: 24-30, 36-43  
Pastor Ann

### **10:00 AM WEDNESDAY ONLINE BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION**

**7/5 - Matt. 11: 16-30**

**7/12 - Matt. 13: 1-23**

**7/19 - Matt. 13: 24-43**

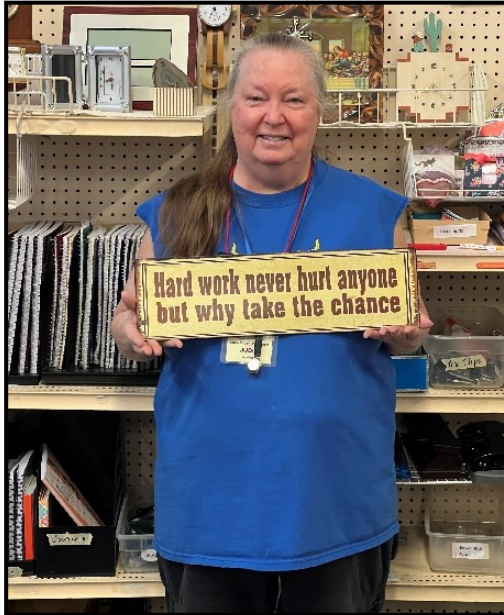
**7/26 - Matt. 13: 31-52**

# United Women in Faith



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Meet a Mission  
Warehouse Volunteer!**



**Judie Thompson, Chair of A&E Department,  
Mission Warehouse**

Meet Judie Thompson, who started working in the Mission Warehouse in the Spring of 2021. According to Judie, she was invited to go see the Mission Warehouse and ended up leaving as the new Chair of A&E, which stands for “Anything and Everything.” When asked what items sell the fastest in her department, Judie listed greeting cards, gift bags, tote bags and gift boxes as her top selling items. Other items that are sold in this department include devotional books, office supplies, party supplies, postcards (some with funny sayings on them), DVDs and CDs. Judie noted that very nice items are donated for sale in her department. For instance, many DVDs have never been opened. The Mission Warehouse sales are held twice a year (October and February) on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. When asked what impressed Judie the most about the first day of the 3-day rummage sale, she stated that the first day is the busiest so if you see something you want, it is best to come early and buy that day. If a customer wishes to take a chance,

they can wait until Saturday when prices are marked down by 50% on most items throughout the warehouse. Judie’s advice to potential shoppers is: “Come in and shop during the sales. You will be amazed, and you will see something you want!”

## **UWF supports Youth23 camperships!**



**Theme of Youth23: Preparing to be BOLD: BEING OURSELVES & LIVING DIFFERENT! At Youth23 participants will reflect on how someone may come to live boldly as a disciple of Jesus, pressing on and pursuing discipleship, even when it is challenging or life is hard.**

Youth 2023 is a gathering of United Methodist Youth that happens every four years. It is a time of worship, learning, fellowship, and service. This year’s event will be in Daytona, Florida, on July 25-28, and the Desert Southwest Conference is taking a group of 124 youth and their chaperones to the event. All participants were asked to fund-raise \$1,400 of the cost. However, this can be a challenge for youth and/or their leaders that may want to attend. On May 26, the Velda Rose UWF Executive Board voted to send funds to the DSW Conference’s Youth23 campership program as this is a line item in our 2023 budget. It should be noted that last year UWF also supported the DSW Conference youth campership programs. If you would like to make a separate donation, you can mail a check to Desert Southwest Conference with Youth23 written in the memo.

*Continued on next page: UWF has a new General Secretary/CEO!*

## United Women in Faith, continued

### UWF has a new General Secretary/CEO!

Recently United Women in Faith elected Sally Vonner to the position of General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, effective June 1, 2023.



Ms. Vonner joined the organization's national staff in 2010. She oversaw an organizational rebranding that opened new ways for women to join, introduced program innovations and initiatives, and rolled out

United Women in Faith as the new public-facing name. "Sally is not just a woman who knows this organization but also a visionary who possesses a

wealth of knowledge and experience," said 'Ainise 'Isama'u, UWF board president. "She is the kind of leader who understands where we've been, where we are, and where we need to go."

***Certainly the faithful love of the Lord hasn't ended; certainly God's compassion isn't through! They are renewed every morning. Great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23***

***We believe love in action can change the world!***

*Mary Killgrove, President of Velda Rose United Women in Faith*

## Out to Lunch Bunch

V.R. United Women in Faith Announces:

"OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH"

Event: Social Gathering of Women  
When: Friday, July 14  
Time: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Where: Morning Glory Brunchery  
4545 E McKellips Rd #108  
Mesa, AZ 85215

Please contact K Roemmich or the church office to leave a name and phone number.



United  
Women  
in Faith

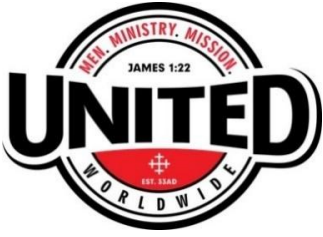
ALL WOMEN WELCOME—RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

## United Women in Faith Prayer Chain

*Prayer*

NEED PRAYER? Contact Karen Taylor by calling church office

# United Methodist Men: Men. Ministry. Mission.



THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL that was held on June 8 was well attended. Everyone seemed to like the Social with Ice Cream and entertainment. We are planning to do this again on JULY 13, 2023 in

Morgan Hall at 6:00 PM. Tickets will be sold at the church on Sundays prior to, and at the door of Moore Hall the evening of the event.

Our United Methodist Men in Ministry and Mission invite all men to our meetings. Come and enjoy some fellowship and get acquainted. Hear of some of the things we are planning. Most of our endeavors support our local missions. Our July meeting will be held on July 10 at 11:30 AM in Martin Hall on the Church Campus. A light lunch is served.

## CANS CANS CANS

The UMMM are now collecting aluminum drinking cans to be recycled. This is good for our



environment and also will help us with income for our missions and projects. You can drop your cans off at the pods on the east end of the mission building. There are slots there to place them in. All cans are appreciated.

Our email is [veldaroseummm@gmail.com](mailto:veldaroseummm@gmail.com) if you wish to contact us.

Bruce D. Williams President UMMM

## Velda Rose UMC Food Pantry

YOUR FOOD PANTRY at Velda Rose UMC is



committed to equality and inclusion of everyone within our community. The Food Pantry provides non-perishable food items to those who come seeking assistance.

Donations are received in the church office Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 2:00pm. On Sundays, drop off your donated food items in the shopping carts located in front of the Sanctuary.

Our current Food Pantry needs are:

- Canned meats
- Canned vegetables (all kinds)
- Granola bars
- Canned fruit
- Canned beans (all kinds)
- Pudding cups
- Jelly / Jam
- Canned soups (vegetable beef, chicken noodle & tomato)
- Saltines

*in loving memory*

Ruth Mogen June 24, 2023



## Introducing... Our New Associate Pastor, Pastor Kim

I WAS BORN in South Korea and grew up in a Methodist church from the age of 10. In my second year of college, I had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ that completely transformed my life. During the military dictatorship in South Korea in the 1980s, I actively participated in student movements for social change. While reading books by the Reformer Martin Luther, I felt called to become a pastor. In 1997, I founded a church in California and served a small congregation. In 1999, I relocated to Arizona and started a new church with about 20 members. I ministered to immigrants, sharing both joy and sorrow, and dedicated myself to the future of immigrant churches and the expansion of God's kingdom. Unexpectedly, the COVID-19 pandemic turned our church and myself upside down, leading me to seek maturity and wholeness in



the Wesleyan tradition of Methodism, as taught by John Wesley.

After graduating from Seoul National University's College of Agriculture, I worked at a genetic engineering research institute. I completed M. Div. at the Seoul Methodist Theological Seminary and studied religious education and liberation theology at the Claremont School of Theology in California. I have an artist wife, and a daughter who will be getting married in August, as well as a son studying computer science in ASU. As a hobby, I enjoy gardening vegetables and flowers in my backyard's small garden, and I engage in Grand Canyon trekking (R2R) once a year as part of my health management routine.

## And... Our New Receptionist!



VELDA ROSE UMC welcomed our new receptionist Heather Maahs to the front office

this week. We are grateful for the experience she brings to the office, and are looking forward to getting to know each other during this "slow" season! A bit about Heather:

Heather Maahs has lived in Arizona for the past 7 years. She is originally from Missouri and moved here for her son to attend school. She lives with her husband, son, daughter-in-law and dog in Apache Junction. Heather enjoys watching movies, being in nature, spending time with family and likes anything associated with Art. She is excited to be starting this next chapter of life as the Receptionist at Velda Rose UMC.

Please join us in making Heather feel welcome at VRUMC.

## Join Pastor Ann in Worship Planning!



WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN a powerful opportunity to create engaging worship by participating in the worship planning retreat with Worship Design Studio, “Come to the Table.” The Annual Conference has made it possible for every church to participate in this seminar. Participating in an intentional process of worship planning honors the importance of worship in our lives as disciples with the hope that we will celebrate worship that engages the congregation who gathers. But the hope is bigger than that—worship is not only the work of the pastors or of the musicians but of the entire Velda Rose family and often serves as the foundation for growth in our discipleship. The planning retreat invites us to think strategically and to plan our worship for the year, to celebrate the seasons of the church, and to meet the needs of our worship community.

Planning effective and meaningful worship includes themes and topics, and music and liturgy, but it also include visual elements, online and social media messages, studies to accompany worship series, and would ideally include things such as social gatherings that build of the messages from the Spirit in worship, mission projects that tied into our worship series, and advertising so our community knows what we are offering for their worship, their spiritual life, and their growth and care. Because each of these elements requires different skills, we need the entire body of Christ to help create complete worship.

The planning retreat, although scheduled for August

13-15, is also being offered as a series of videos, each focusing on a topic (like how the planning process works) or a season (such as Advent or Christmas). This gives us substantial flexibility. Rather than participating live, I and anyone who would like to join me, will participate in the seminar through the videos at times that work in our schedules. Anyone who would like to help plan our Advent and Christmas season, for example, can attend the opening session, which explains the process, and then the Advent and Christmas session. For anyone who is unavailable to participate in the Advent/Christmas season, perhaps because you won’t be in the Mesa area until after the New Year, you could sign up to help with Lent/Holy Week or perhaps the season after Epiphany, or the season after Pentecost. And because we have conferencing technology, you can be part of the planning even if you are not in Mesa, by attending through Zoom.

My hope is to include as many members or friends of Velda Rose UMC as who might be interested or feel called to participate. Accordingly, I am asking for anyone who might be interested in helping to create our worship plan to sign up. *There is a form on the next page that you can fill out, detach, and place in the offering plate or mail into the church office.* Alternatively, you could send an email to me at [PastorAnn@veldarose.org](mailto:PastorAnn@veldarose.org), providing the requested information. The sessions will begin in late August and will be scheduled to accommodate as many volunteers as possible.

## WORSHIP PLANNING

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

### AREAS OF INTEREST/SKILLS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

Alter Decorations  Sanctuary Decorations  Liturgy/Theme

Social Media  Mission Projects  Social Events/Outreach

Classes or Studies  Advertising  Music

### SEASON(S) OF INTEREST (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

All Seasons  Advent/Christmas  Season after Epiphany

Lent/Holy Week  Easter Season

Season after Pentecost (Summer and Fall)

## Monthly Prayer for Churches



- AZ Korean Fellowship, Mesa
- Chandler UMC
- Cross in the Desert UMC, Phoenix
- Desert Chapel UMC, Apache Junction

## Village Mentors Update

### Leasing Of Moore Hall And Other Buildings On Hold

UNFORTUNATELY, WE DO NOT have a finalized lease with Village Mentors. Despite an early approval from the compliance officer for Village Mentors, issues have been raised about whether the buildings will require modifications to meet their needs, particularly around concerns of accessibility. We

continue to be hopeful that the buildings will be leased in the near future by Village Mentors. In the meantime, we are pursuing other possibilities as well.



## Men's Vocal Ensemble

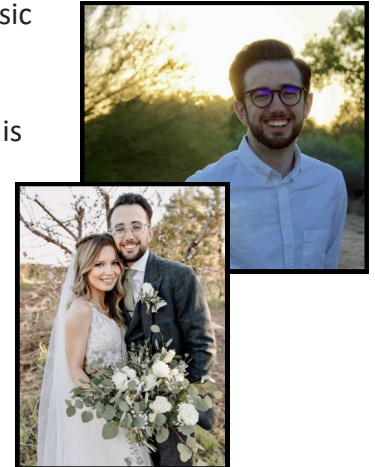
## Mary Ellen Loose

FOR MANY MONTHS, we have been blessed by the beautiful voices of these talented young men. I thought you would like to know a little about each one of them. The group began when Logan Hendrix asked if a men's group could be formed at Chandler-Gilbert Community College. A class was created and I was asked to be the instructor. They performed for many concerts at the college and other events. They asked if they could sing at Velda Rose...and the rest is history!

**LOGAN HENDRIX** studied Business at CGCC and ASU. You've heard his beautiful piano compositions. He enjoys running marathons. He is a Spanish Teacher at American Leadership Academy in Gilbert and thoroughly enjoys it!



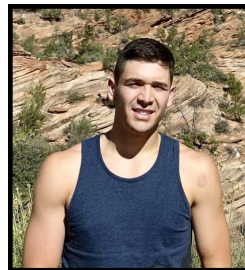
**MATT FALLON** studied music at CGCC and ASU. Accounting has become his profession. This past March he got married to a wonderful young woman, Olivia. They make their home in Chandler.



**TYLER DURFEE** has been involved in many music classes at CGCC. He has composed many jazz piano pieces. For the past year and a half, he has been the Set Designer for the productions at CGCC.



**NOAH HANCOCK** studied Business at CGCC and ASU. Accounting is his profession. He can be seen performing in local musical theatre productions.



**ALEX BERNAL** has been studying music and biology at CGCC the past two years. He will soon be attending ASU where he will study to become a Physician's Assistant. He is a lifeguard and has enjoyed being a swim coach at Gilbert High School.

## The Green Team



### WHAT??? NO MORE CARDBOARD RECYCLE??? SAY IT ISN'T SO!

FIRST WATER BOTTLES and now cardboard recycle. What's a person to do? Well, for starters I heard that there is a place at the Red Mountain Library in Mesa where you can recycle cardboard. However, I have checked it out and could not find a single sign or place where this would be possible. Still working on that with a few phone calls, etc. and will keep you posted. In the meantime, here is a suggestion to help us along the way... One of my

favorite go to places is Earths911.com. They have a wealth of information available for you to explore. The other is a new site I have recently found: [info@plasticmakers.org](mailto:info@plasticmakers.org). They have a lot of info on how new technology is reusing plastic to make all kinds of things. Speaking of reusing, that is something I'm sure we could all improve on. Better yet, let's reduce what we use. It's a win/win for everyone.

Bye for now, talk to you again next month. After that it will soon be time for our new season start up. Excitement is in the works!



# Pastor Ann's Flourless Cake Recipe

## Ingredients:

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup white sugar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water (or coffee)  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt  
20 ounces bittersweet chocolate baking chips (Ghirardelli), reserve 2 oz for the topping  
1 cup unsalted butter, cut into pieces (I like Amish butter or European-style butter because it has more flavor)  
6 eggs  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  C heavy cream  
Raspberry sauce (optional)

## Pastor Ann's Flourless Chocolate Cake



## Directions:

1. Heat oven to 300°F. Grease a 10-inch round springform cake pan; line the bottom with parchment; set aside. You will also need a larger pan with sides almost as tall as your cake pan (can be taller), that your cake pan can fit into, with room around it, to create a water bath. Boil water so it will be hot and readily reach boiling again when needed.
2. Combine sugar, water/coffee, and salt in a small saucepan over medium heat. Stir until completely dissolved; set aside.
3. Melt 18 oz bittersweet chocolate in a microwave-safe glass or ceramic bowl in 15-second intervals, stirring after each interval, until just melted, 1 to 3 minutes. Pour chocolate into the bowl of an electric mixer, scraping to get all of the chocolate.
4. Add butter, one piece at a time, into chocolate until combined, mixing on medium low. Beat in hot sugar mixture. Slowly beat in eggs, one at a time.
5. Pour batter into the prepared cake pan. Place the larger pan on the oven rack. Put the cake pan in the larger pan and fill the larger pan with boiling water halfway up the sides of the cake pan.
6. Bake cake in the water bath in the preheated oven for 45 minutes. The center will still look wet. Remove from the water bath. Allow cake to cool to room temperature and then place cake in the refrigerator until thoroughly chilled, 8 hours to overnight.
7. To unmold, dip the bottom of the cake pan in hot water for 10 seconds, open the springform and remove the sides. To remove the bottom pan, invert onto a plate, remove the parchment, and re-invert on a serving plate.
8. To top with ganache: If you are using block chocolate, cut into small pieces. Place the cream and reserved chocolate in a microwave-safe glass bowl and heat in 15-30 second intervals, stirring after each, until the chocolate melts. You do not want the cream to boil. You are simply getting it hot enough to melt the chocolate. Mix them together well and pour on the top of the cake, spreading it to the edges.



## Birthdays

Dan Griffiths	7/1	Betty Ghormley	7/23
Howard Orr	7/3	Gene Osborne	7/24
Sharon Soboski	7/8	Jill Prather	7/24
Fran McCollough	7/11	Eunese Roberg	7/25
Roma Montgomery	7/11	Anita Miller	7/28
Pat Goss	7/16	Norma Newman	7/31
Lois Jackson	7/20		
Dorothy Coble	7/21		



## Anniversaries

Moki & Ana Liku	7/8
Steve Schmuki & Billie Larime	7/8
Jim & Arlene Oisten	7/24



# VELDA ROSE

*United Methodist Church*

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Stay connected at [veldarose.org](http://veldarose.org)  
or on Facebook at [facebook.com/veldaroseumc](https://facebook.com/veldaroseumc)

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### Staff Leadership

Rev. Carlo A. Rapanut, Bishop  
Rev. Melissa Rynders, East District Superintendent  
Rev. Ann Lyter, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Chan Kim, Associate Pastor  
Ministers, Every Member of the Congregation

## WORSHIP

SCHEDULE

### Wednesday Morning Devotions

10:00 AM

online at [facebook.com/veldaroseumc](https://facebook.com/veldaroseumc)

### Sunday Morning Services

9:30 AM

online at [facebook.com/veldaroseumc](https://facebook.com/veldaroseumc)  
& in-person in the Sanctuary

## facts & frozen custard



Museum Admission:  
\$5 for seniors

7.27.23

Items considered for the August Vision must be submitted to Jessica  
at [officeadmin@veldarose.org](mailto:officeadmin@veldarose.org) by **Tuesday, July 11, 2023.**