

The Vision

Volume 17, Issue 5

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

May 2024

A Virtuous Advocate By Rev. Chan Kim

I WILL INTRODUCE HOMER HULBERT, a missionary among the early missionaries in Korea, who was sent by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Hulbert entered Korea at the age of 23 without completing his theological studies after graduating from college. Fluent in seven languages, Hulbert became captivated by the charm of the Korean script, Hangul, which he praised as the most superior among the world's languages. He loved Hangul so much that he learned it diligently and was able to write a book in Hangul within three years. He strongly advocated for the use of Hangul over the more difficult Chinese characters, which were more commonly used by Koreans at the time.

At that time, Korea was a very poor and powerless country. It had a king, but almost all authority, including military, diplomatic, and economic powers, had been taken away by Japan, leading to Korea becoming a colony of Japan in 1910. Korea was disregarded and unrecognized by all nations. The missionaries present in Korea at the time were mostly conservative and fundamentally religious, focusing solely on preaching the Gospel while ignoring the Koreans' suffering and loss of national sovereignty. Most missionaries sided with Japan, the conqueror.

However, Hulbert was different. While most

missionaries tried to teach English to Koreans, an obvious and easy task since Koreans were eager to learn the language of a powerful nation and adopt its culture, Hulbert chose to learn Korean instead. He hired a personal tutor and, after three years, created a Korean language textbook, urging Koreans to use their simpler language instead of focusing on the difficult Chinese characters.



Image source: [Schlarpi](#) @ Wikipedia.org

Picture: The Homer Hulbert tomb at Yanghwajin Foreign Missionary Cemetery—a cemetery designated in 1890 as a site for foreign missionaries by King Gojong. Former President Kim Dae-jung had Hulbert's name inscribed in Korean on the tombstone in 1999.

Importantly, at that time, Korean did not have spacing in its writing, similar to Chinese and Japanese. Without spacing, the meanings of sentences can change significantly. Hulbert taught Koreans to use spacing in Korean as it is used in English. Ju Si-gyeong, an early Korean linguist who learned from Hulbert, further popularized this use of spacing, and that's why spacing is used in Korean today. Additionally, Hulbert introduced the use of commas and periods in Korean writing. Without commas, continuous reading could be exhausting—though, of course, no one actually died from it; they just paused as needed. Now, Koreans use these punctuation marks as Hulbert introduced.

While Hulbert preached the Gospel, he also understood and respected Korean language and culture with a heart full of love, unlike most missionaries who sided with Japan.

He supported the Korean independence fighters, helped materially, and appealed for support through diplomacy to the US and Europe. Therefore, Hulbert became one of the most beloved foreigners among Koreans.

A Note From Pastor Ann



ALTHOUGH I AM ON LEAVE, I left this article for Jessica to put in the May newsletter. We have several wonderful people who will be preaching and leading worship while I am on leave. They will bring you different perspectives on God's abundant grace. Just as I plan on sharing with you what I learn during my renewal, I am looking

forward to hearing from you about the wonderful things you have learned from our guest preachers.

Thank you for your support as I take this time to renew, refresh, and spend time connecting with God. It is my prayer that this time will feed me so I can come back and be the best pastor I can for the wonderful people of Velda Rose UMC and Mesa.

National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 2



invited to attend the service, watch it online, or honor the day by offering a prayer individually or with family and friends. Following the service a reception will be held for those who attend in person and who would like to have an opportunity to interact with others and learn about other faiths.

Easter Sunrise Service at Grace UMC



Pictured left to right: Rev. Dr. Khalif Smith, Conference Director of Connectional Ministries; Rev. Ann Lyter, Senior Pastor, Velda Rose UMC; Rev. Sharon Pajack, Grace UMC; Rev. Chan Kim, Associate Pastor, Velda Rose UMC

SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF MESA'S FAITH COALITION are hosting a service in recognition of the **National Day of Prayer** on Thursday, **May 2** at **7 pm**.

It will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Mesa, 161 N Mesa Drive. That evening, prayers and brief comments will be shared by several faith and community leaders in Mesa who represent a variety of religions and cultures. In addition, we will have the honor of hearing from Mayor Giles as he will share remarks and a proclamation as part of the program.

People of all ages, faiths and backgrounds are

United Women in Faith

VELDA ROSE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH READING PROGRAM FOR 2024:



The books found on the west wall of the Velda Rose Library are available for all to use and are marked as part of the Reading Program from 2019-2024. There are lots of

ways to get credit for the Reading Program. If you go to Mission u – you can count two credits in the Spiritual Growth Category. If you read Response Magazine for a year (six issues) you can count one credit for Nurturing for Community. Podcasts count for one credit in Education for Mission for two events. All are welcome to participate. Certificates of completion are awarded to those members completing one of 4 programs by December each year.



May I recommend the following: *Our Strangely Warmed Hearts: Coming into God's Call* by Karen P. Oliveto. This book includes first-person narratives of LGBTQ persons faithfully serving in the UMC, and how the process is deeply spiritual as one grows into an authentic, God-created, graced self. This is a good history lesson for all of us.

“OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH” is open to all women.

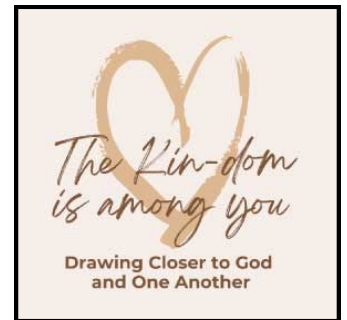
When: Friday, May 10th, 2024
Time: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Where: BJ's Restaurant & Brew House
6622 E. Superstition Blvd.
Mesa, AZ 85206

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Contact Karen Taylor or the church office.

Remember Mission u:

This year Mission u will be in Payson on June 21-22, which will be a cool respite from the late June weather in many parts of Arizona. Scholarships are available for all wishing to attend. Virtual

Mission u is on July 19th and 20th. Contact Billie Larime, Mission u Dean, for help. Register at <https://dscumc.org/blog/2024/03/15/mission-u-2024-registration-is-open>



Continue To Grow From Within: New experiences and new perspectives lead to opportunities for growth. Try something new or join a new group.

Written by Billie Larime, Membership Chair of United Women in Faith

May Sunday Services and Wednesday Devotions

MAY 5

Guest Preacher:
Rev. Albert Bolden
9:30 AM

MAY 19

Guest Preacher:
Tina Rees
9:30 AM

10:00 AM WEDNESDAY ONLINE DEVOTIONS:

We will rerun previous devotions during this time slot while Pastor Ann is on leave.

MAY 12

Guest Preacher:
Tina Rees
9:30 AM

MAY 26

Service led by
VRUMC United Methodist Men
9:30 AM

Wednesday Afternoon Study—on hiatus until late summer

WITH PASTOR ANN ON LEAVE, and so many of our winter residents, and even the year-round residents, heading for cooler climates, our Wednesday afternoon study will be on break until late summer/early fall. The next study topic and dates will be announced in late July/August, to start in mid-August at the earliest, or possibly in September.



United Methodist Men

Monthly Meeting: The next UMMM monthly meeting will be 6 May, 1130-1300, in the Library.



Ice Cream Social:
We will be hosting an ice cream social on 15 May, 6 - 8 PM, in the Library.

May Produce Giveaway:
Our next produce giveaway will be on 25 May, 9:00 - 11:00, in the covered parking area adjacent to the church office.



UMMM Members to Lead Memorial Day

Weekend Sunday Service:
UMMM members will lead the Memorial Day weekend Sunday services on 26 May.

Memorial Patio Renovation

Project: The Memorial Patio renovation project is well underway and may be completed this month!



Look for our Re-opening notices in the Sanctuary coffee area and the church bulletin board.

From the Archives

IN CELEBRATION OF VELDA ROSE UMC'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY, this year we will be sharing history from the archives in *The Vision* newsletter.

When the Sanctuary was completed in 1986, Velda Rose UMC held a "Service of Consecration". The program published for the occasion included letters from the current pastor, Kent Douglass, the resident bishop, Elias Galvan, and the district superintendent, Donald B. Cooke. It also included the order of service for the consecration ceremony; inserts of an updated map of the church campus; an illustrated image and explanation of the symbolism behind the art glass window; and a "Design Statement" from the architect, Raleigh Hall. An excerpt from Raleigh's statement is below.

"As worshippers enter the Sanctuary their attention is drawn to the altar and the art glass window. The play of light through the floors and design are symbols of the Velda Rose membership profile and their commitment to the community and the world. To the right is the pulpit from which the Word is spoken. To the left is the choir and the organ whose music enriches the worship experience. By the arranging of these two areas, a third space is created in the center of the chancel. The space for communion, the sharing of the elements as a family of God. This space is directly in front of the altar and the art glass window. The ceiling rise from the back to the front enforcing the visual impact of the center of worship. The colors selected were for warmth and richness adding to the friendly quality of the space."

From the back side of the art glass window insert:

"The large etched glass window above the altar indicates who we are and what we are. Reading from the bottom of the window, it says this: *We are people who dwell in the shadow of the*

Superstition Mountains. Above the Superstitions, the picture reminds us that we are people who have gathered here from the length and breadth of this land, attested to by the fields, hedgerow, river, waterfalls and mountains which are symbols of those areas from which we have come together from this place. The dark red 'flames' are symbolic of the Spirit of God that lives within us individually, that is a part of the fellowship of this church and that moves us to action in the world. Above that, of course, stands the cross, symbol of our faith indicating we are Christian people. The yellow circle appearing at the intersection of the arms of the cross are symbolic of the eternal God. The rays which emanate from the cross are more than just beautiful: they indicate that God's love reaches to the farthest end of the globe embracing us all, and they indicate too that the mission and the ministry of Velda Rose United Methodist Church reach far beyond ourselves to men and women, boys and girls around the globe."

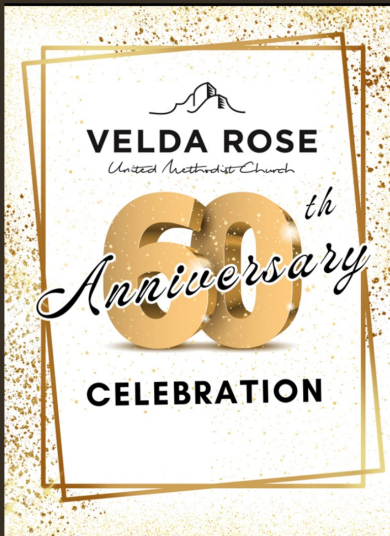


Rummage Donations Summer Hours

BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 6, the UWF Rummage Building will be open to receive donations Monday through Friday from 7 to 10 AM (excepting holidays).



VRUMC's 60th Anniversary Celebration



VRUMC's 60th Anniversary Celebration, continued



Resonance Vocal Ensemble Friday, May 3



FRIDAY, MAY 3 AT 7:00 PM *When Dreams Take Flight:* Reawaken your dreams and let them fly

as we sing A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes, A Million Dreams (from Greatest Showman), Dream a Little Dream of Me, I Wanna Be Like

You, Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland, Over the Rainbow, When You Wish upon a Star, and many more.

General Admission is \$7, Senior Admission is \$5 and Family Tickets are \$25. Purchase tickets at https://resonanceve.com/tickets.asp?evt_id=759.

May 26 is Peace With Justice Sunday

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY is one of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church. Peace with Justice Sunday enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs. The special offering benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conference and through the General Board of Church and Society.

You can give online to the Peace with Justice Sunday offering at any time at [UMC.org/SSGive](https://www.UMC.org/SSGive).

To give by mail, send checks to:

GCFA
P.O. Box 340029
Nashville, TN 37203
(Please put name of Sunday in note section)



Retirement Celebration for Pastor Michael Eaton

MICHAEL EATON IS RETIRING after 33 years of ministry in the Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church. (Pastor Michael was the associate pastor at Velda Rose UMC from 2003-2007.) YOU have been an important and beloved part of his journey. If you remember Pastor Michael and would like to be a part of his celebration, join Payson UMC Sunday, June 2, 2024 for Worship at 10:20am and a Celebration Program and Lunch at 12:00 noon.

Payson UMC | 414 N Easy ST | Payson, 85541
928-474-0485 | church.office@paysonumc.org

Can't join us? Send a card, message, or short video.

Thank you for helping us make this a special day for Pastor Michael.

Grace and Peace
Alane Eaton and the People of Payson UMC

The Green Team



TREES, TREES, BEAUTIFUL TREES...

How about some more tree facts to help us get ready for next year's Arbor Day on April 25th, 2025?

degrees. Just imagine the impact a tree lined Avenue can have on an entire community or even an entire park when the temperature reaches the triple digits.

Did you know that you as the average homeowner can save up to 20% on energy bills just by planting the right trees in the right place? Trees provide relief for our lungs by capturing dust, dirt and other particles to clean our air? Trees pull in carbon and pump out oxygen to give relief for our ozone and atmosphere.



Trees can bring potentially life saving shade to our urban concrete-caked cities.

Trees can create shade that can lower temperatures by 10



Tune in to the June issue for more info on trees, trees, beautiful trees...

Prayer

Prayer

NEED PRAYER? To be added to the United Women in Faith prayer chain, call Lynda Boysen or contact the church office.

**Our LOVE prayer focus:
North Scottsdale United Methodist**



Wesley & Golden Gates Community Centers, Phoenix

Wesley Foundation at ASU, Tempe

UMOM New Day Center, Phoenix

Justa Center, Phoenix

Annual Conference Mission Project 2024: Crisis on the Border



We first shared information about this year's Desert Southwest Annual Conference Mission Project in the March 2024 Vision. The following is an update from Billie K. Fidlin, Director of Outreach & Justice for the Desert Southwest Conference.

AS YOU MIGHT REMEMBER, the first part of this year's Annual Conference Mission Project is monetary donations to support the **Asylum Aid and Border Ministries Fund**. This fund provides financial support to our churches who are engaged in asylum and border mission work, helping people who come from all over the world to the United States, seeking asylum and safety from human predators. <https://dscumc.org/blog/2024/02/07/annual-conference-2024-mission-project-announced/>



We are delighted to share that **The Inn** has been selected to receive item donations. This ministry provides care for migrants passing through the U.S. / Mexico border. From their [website](#):

*Ordinary people responded to an extraordinary need in December 2016. Thousands of asylum seekers at the AZ border had no safe place after release from detention by Immigration Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.). The **Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church** pledged to help. A courageous church opened its doors, volunteers pitched in, and **The Inn** began. Unlike the experience of Mary and Joseph who had been turned away at an inn, those needing rest and understanding would be welcome here."*

*We receive families who have gone through U.S. Customs and Border Protection (C.B.P.), or I.C.E., and are released to continue the immigration process. Our volunteers provide temporary shelter, hospitality, food, clothing, showers, and compassion for these vulnerable families, giving them a safe place to stay while they transition to the next part of their journey. Since its beginnings in December of 2016, **The Inn** has served more than **56,000** people."*

Director Gretchen Lopez shares that the following items are needed:

- Toddler & Children's t-shirts (2T-16)
- Toddler & Children's pants/shorts (2T-16)
- NEW Children's underwear (XS, S, M, L, XL)
- NEW Children's Socks
- Women's leggings or stretch pants (S, M)
- Women's t-shirts, long and short sleeves (S, M)
- NEW Women's underwear (Size 5 & 6)
- Women's Bras (sports bras – S/M/L but not XL)
- NEW Women's socks
- Men's jeans/sweatpants (28-32" waist highest demand, but need all sizes 28-38")
- Men's t-shirts, long and short sleeves (S, M, L)
- NEW Men's underwear (S, M, L)
- Men's belts (S, M, L)
- NEW Men's socks
- Flip Flops (for showers)
- Diapers (Size 4, 5, 6, 7)
- Baby Wipes (individual packs)

Director Lopez will happily accept gift cards as well. Should you wish to purchase gift cards: Walmart, Amazon or Visa will be GREAT!

If you would like to participate in the Desert Southwest Annual Conference's Mission Project, please bring your donations to Velda Rose UMC by Wednesday, June 5.



Joan Most
 Marcus Bentley
 Barbara Squier
 Jan Leith
 Arlene Oisten
 Moki Liku
 Donna Collins
 Betty Sayers
 Marj Troute
 William Hunt
 Karen Oakes
 Alan Bergman
 Becky Blodgett-Knight
 Steve Schmuki
 Barbara Bomgaars
 Terry Manley
 John Inglebright
 Paula Kaipelea

May 01
 May 06
 May 07
 May 08
 May 09
 May 10
 May 12
 May 13
 May 15
 May 16
 May 16
 May 23
 May 24
 May 25
 May 27
 May 28
 May 29
 May 30



Howard & Cori Orr May 03
 Richard & Ellen Stanart May 06
 Paul & Cynthia Borneman May 29

*in loving
 memory*

John Clemenshaw April 6, 2024



VELDA ROSE

United Methodist Church

5540 East Main Street
Mesa, Arizona 85205-8720
(480) 832-2111

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Stay connected at veldarose.org
or on Facebook at 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

Sunday Morning Services

9:30 AM

Online at facebook.com/veldaroseumc
& in-person in the Sanctuary



Our Food Pantry currently needs:

Spaghetti noodles & sauce, Spam, Vienna sausages, canned chicken or tuna, Mac-n-cheese, canned meals, jelly / jam, peanut butter, pancake mix & syrup, fruit / applesauce / pudding cups, canned peas / corn / green beans / diced tomatoes, canned fruit cocktail, pears / peaches, canned

pinto, black, or pork & beans, canned soup (tomato, chicken noodle, beef vegetable), granola bars



Donations are received at the Food Pantry Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

Items considered for the June Vision must be submitted to officeadmin@veldarose.org by **Tuesday, May 14, 2024.**