

The Vision

Volume 16, Issue 6

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

June 2023

Food for the Body and Soul: A Year in Reflection By Pastor Ann

AS MY DAUGHTER prepares to graduate from high school, and the Desert Southwest Annual Conference prepares for our Annual Conference Session, I cannot help but notice that anniversaries and landmark events always seem to be a time for reflection. If you attended the grief classes, I'm sure you learned about how anniversaries and significant events can serve as reminders and as opportunities to take stock in how we are doing.

It was a year ago that I was attending the seminar on transitions and preparing for a new appointment here at Velda Rose and now it is Pastor Daniel's turn to attend the seminar and prepare for a new appointment.

It was also a year ago that my mother was recovering from a medical event (we still aren't 100% sure what happened), and I am thankful that she recovered fully.

It was just over a year ago that I was called upon to serve on a committee regarding a jurisdictional matter for The United Methodist Church and I am thankful that work is done.

In the past year, I have had the privilege to lead worship at Velda Rose UMC, to work with the wonderful leaders and volunteers of Velda Rose UMC, and to get to know members both at church and in their homes.

I have taught classes in prayer, music and angels.

I have been privileged to be part of special services

addressing grieving and sorrow during the holidays (Blue Christmas), Lenten services and a healing service.

I have cooked sloppy Joes, and served even more of them (thank you Doris McMahon for taking over the cooking of the sloppy Joes). I have prepared (or sometimes simply ordered) many Wednesday night dinners, often soup, and had the pleasure of eating amazing food prepared by Robert Richter. We have broken bread together on many occasions and I look forward to continuing to share in fellowship.

We have celebrated holidays and birthdays

and lives well lived.

We have mourned mistakes of the past, looked toward the future, and wondered aloud about what God might have in store for us.

It is good to periodically take stock of where we are. So, I ask, "Where are you?" Where are you in your walk with Jesus? Has the last year brought you closer to Jesus? If not, how can I help you in the year ahead? What is missing from your spiritual life? I would really like to know so we can work on bringing greater discipleship, and greater spiritual connection to everyone.

Consistent with my tradition of bringing you a recipe—here is one of my (and my husband's) favorite soup recipes. This soup is good for inflammation and stomach problems. Enjoy!





Pear, Leek, & Fennel Soup

INGREDIENTS

2 tablespoons olive oil or avocado oil
2 medium leeks, white and light green parts only, sliced
1 large fennel bulb, sliced into $\frac{1}{4}$ inch slices (remove the stems and fronds)
1 tsp salt
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp black pepper
2 pears, peeled, cored, and diced
3 cups vegetable broth or water (or chicken stock)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup raw cashews
2 cups packed raw spinach, washed
1 tablespoon white wine vinegar

Optional Garnishes: green tabasco, fried onion, microgreens.

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat the oil in a large Dutch oven or soup pot.
2. Sauté the leeks and fennel bulb until starting to soften. About 5 minutes on medium high.
3. Add the pears, salt and pepper, and sauté for another 3-5 minutes.
4. Add the vegetable broth and cashews, bring to a boil. Turn down to a simmer and simmer for about 5 minutes.
5. Stir in the spinach and vinegar.
6. Process until smooth in a blender or use an immersion blender. You may have to process it in batches.
7. Serve with a couple of dashes of green tabasco sauce, fried onion, and microgreens.

Note: Leeks can hide a lot of dirt. Be sure to wash them well.

TO A BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE,

As my final Newsletter article, I could write a letter filled with the words “thank you, thank you, thank you” over and over, just to express how I feel about the time I have spent here serving as your Associate Pastor.

What a privilege it has been to share the journey of faith with you. I count it among my deepest joys. We have known great victories, and yes, even a few heartaches along the way, but those times have simply helped to magnify the joyful times so much more! Our lives have been interwoven in the fabric of faithful service to our Lord and Savior.

As I write this, I am remembering the words from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8...



For everything that happens in life—there is a season, a right time for everything under heaven:

- A time to be born, a time to die; a time to plant, a time to collect the harvest;
- A time to kill, a time to heal; a time to tear down, a time to build up;
- A time to cry, a time to laugh; a time to mourn, a time to dance;
- A time to scatter stones, a time to pile them up;
- A time for a warm embrace, a time for keeping your distance;
- A time to search, a time to give up as lost; a time to keep, a time to throw out;
- A time to tear apart, a time to bind together; a time to be quiet, a time to speak up;
- A time to love, a time to hate; a time to go to war, a time to make peace.

During our five years together, we have probably

experienced almost everything on the list. I remember the Lenten studies, Christmas parties, singing, praying, preaching, baptisms, weddings, funerals, potlucks, fellowship and friendship. I remember it all!

There was some tearing down of old ideas and planting of new ideas, some disagreements, and some resolutions, some remembering and some forgiving. We laughed and we cried, we mourned and we danced... and ate way too many desserts.

(Well, maybe just me! But then again, how can you say no more to Robert’s cakes?)

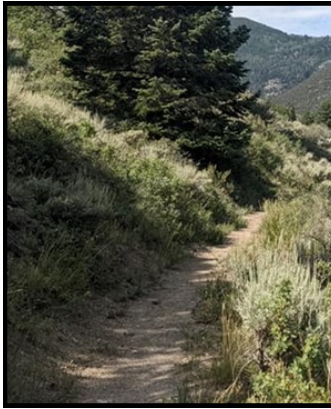
We have said goodbye to beloved members who moved or went to be with the Lord. And, we also have welcomed new people as well. Three years ago, none of us could have predicted Zoom meetings, or the

livestreaming of worship. We remained faithful and united, even in the midst of a pandemic. Indeed, all that we have accomplished together — took optimism and dedication, in which you generously shared.

I believe that a pastor is called to a particular place, for a particular time, with a particular purpose to a particular group of people in a particular community. Thank you for all of your patience, kindness, generosity and love that you have shown me! May you continue to grow in faith, hope and love, worshipping the Lord with your whole heart, mind, body and soul. And remember, continue to plan and work, for those who are not here yet!

Truly, you are a beautiful people. I wish you all the best in this new season that you are about to begin.

Summer Worship Series: The Path of the Disciple



The Path of the Disciple

A Summer Journey of Faith

Sundays at 9:30 am

THE STATED MISSION of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This won't happen by accident; we don't fall into discipleship. It requires effort and intention and a disciple-making plan.

Pastor Ann is inviting you to join us on this discipleship journey in the first half of this long Ordinary Time season, beginning June 18, 2023. We will reflect on the joys and the struggles of following Jesus as we live out our faith in this confused and confusing world. And through it all, we offer our fully engaged worship to God as we gather week by week, confessing and renewing and recommitting ourselves to being disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We begin the Path of the Disciple by looking at "The Weight of the Call." A disciple is a follower. That means there must be someone to follow and that someone wants followers. Considering that, in the gospel accounts, Jesus said "follow me" more often than he said, "believe in me," we can be confident that there is a call to follow laid upon anyone and everyone who seeks to draw closer to Christ. It could even be argued that the whole of the life of faith is wrestling with that call to follow him.

Yet even a cursory reading of the gospels will reveal that Jesus never undersold this call. He never tried to convince us that following was an easy or a simple thing. There is effort here; there is sacrifice demanded; struggle and lifelong commitment are needed. So, we begin our summer worship

contemplation with consideration of the weight of the call. What is being asked of us, we who seek to be disciples of Jesus Christ?

Throughout this series, we listen again to the call of the whole people of faith, when God called Abraham to be the beginning – the genesis – of a new nation. Then we lay this ancient call alongside the words and deeds of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew as he confirms and enhances and redirects the call to be the church at work in the world. But here in part one, we are especially mindful of the radical nature of the call to leave everything behind and to live into a new reality, only then to discover the added responsibility of inviting the whole world to come to know the one we follow. We are to live as witnesses, not hidden away tending to our own souls, safe and secure behind the walls of our sanctuaries. We aren't called to safety, but to a risky and transforming faith that leans into the kin-dom of God daily. Jump in as we consider the weight of the call and the path of the disciple.

June Sunday and Wednesday Morning Services

June 4: Trinity Sunday

Sent on a Mission

Mt 28:16-20

Acts 10 (selected scriptures)

Pastor Ann

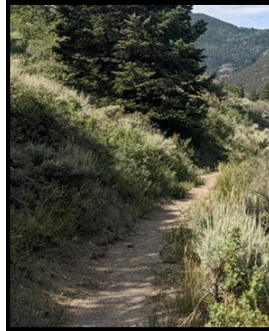
June 11

Church Life Can Be Messy

Acts 14:3-7

Pastor Daniel

Summer Worship Series Begins



June 18: FATHER'S DAY

*Is Anything Too Wonderful:
Wrestling, Engaging, Rising*

Gen 18:1-15;

Matt 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

Pastor Ann

June 25

Learning to Grow:

Tell in the Light

Gen 21:8-21;

Matt 10:24-39

Pastor Ann

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

6/7 James 2:21-26

6/14 Matt. 9:35-10:8

6/21 Matt 10: 9-23

6/28 TBD

Church Conference on June 4



Velda Rose UMC Church Conference

**SUNDAY, JUNE 4
10:45 AM
MOORE HALL**

ON JUNE 4, 2023, at approximately 10:45 am (after worship), Velda Rose UMC will hold a church conference. The purpose of this conference is to vote on a lease or part of our property to Village Mentors. All members are invited to attend and vote.

In preparation for the Church Conference, we will hold an informational meeting, and Memorial Day potluck, after worship on May 28, 2023. At that time, the founder of Village Mentors, Jermain Jordan, will share about the mission of Village Mentors, how they plan to use our buildings, and answer questions. Leaders of Velda Rose UMC will also be present to answer questions. For the potluck, Velda Rose UMC will provide hot dogs and bratwurst, along with buns and condiments, along with watermelon and beverages. We are asking those attending the meeting to bring a side dish to share.

United Women in Faith



United
Women
in Faith



Retreat in Payson, Arizona

ON APRIL 29, I attended a retreat in Payson that was sponsored by the Desert Southwest United Women in Faith Conference. The retreat was

facilitated by Chris Spencer, who served for 6 years as president of Justice For Our Neighbors, an organization that receives monetary support from the Velda Rose United Women in Faith unit.

The retreat provided a time to gather and visit and get acquainted with women from other UWF units in the conference. It was held at the Payson United Methodist Church amid the tall pine trees. The theme of the retreat was “You Are Powerful.” As the day progressed, Chris led us through different scripture readings, read insights from noted spiritual leaders, and followed it all with related questions that were discussed in smaller groups. Chris broke down the word “powerful” in the following way:

- P – Prayerful in Peace. Scripture reading from Philippians 1:9
- O – Open to others. Scripture reading from Matthew 25:35-40
- W – Worthy of God’s Word. Scripture reading from Ephesians 6:14-17
- E – Equipped with Enthusiasm. Scripture reading from 2 Timothy 1:6-7
- R – Ready to Respond. Scripture reading from 1 Samuel 3: 3-5
- F – Filled with Fire. Scripture reading from Micah 3:8
- U – Uplifted to Unleash. Scripture reading from Galatians 5:22-24
- L – Loved by the Lord. Scripture reading from 2 Timothy 1:7

Thus, we began the morning with the scripture reading from Philippians 1:9: “This is my prayer that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth and insight.”

And ended with the scripture reading from 2 Timothy 1:7: “For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”

I encourage you to read and reflect on the other scripture readings listed above. The retreat offered participants a day of spiritual renewal, and I met many new friends, especially women from the Payson church. By the end of the retreat, my soul was uplifted!

Response Magazine



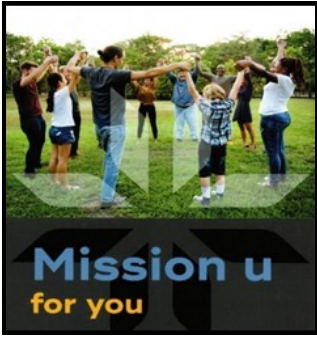
Tara Barnes, former editor of Response Magazine, wrote an article that appears in the May/June 2023 issue of Response Magazine entitled “*What’s Happening in The United Methodist Church?*” Ms. Barnes writes that misinformation about the future of The United

Methodist Church abounds as it addresses the church’s longtime and ongoing disagreement over the status of LGBTQ+ people in the life of the church. She explains how The United Methodist Church got to this point, dispels untruths that are currently circulating, and discusses the role of UWF members as we continue to let God perfect us in love. Copies of the May/June 2023 Response Magazine can be found in Fitch Library at Velda Rose UMC. The article can also be found on the United Women in Faith website at <https://uwfaith.org/news/latest-news/>.

Mission u

Mission u is designed to recharge and refocus your

United Women in Faith, continued



faith. 2023 Mission u explores an adult study by Riva Tabelisma wherein she provides fresh eyes to the Lord's Prayer found in Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV). Often learned by rote, the Lord's Prayer is a rich guide for how we can

live out God's kin-dom in our lives. For Jesus, the kin-dom was not simply something to talk about but something we could live and experience. Tabelisma invites participants in this study to step away from our automatic recitation of the prayer and dive deep into the meaning of each line.

Dates/times of 2023 Mission u:

- In-person Mission u (Adult Study) at Prescott

UMC on July 21 & 22, 2023

- Registration link: <https://dscumc.org/secure/2023-mission-in-person-registration/>
- Virtual Mission u (Adult Study) on June 23rd 5-8 pm and June 24th 9-11:30 Break 12:00-2:00 pm
 - Registration link: <https://dscumc.org/secure/2023-mission-u-virtual-adults/>
- Virtual Mission u (Youth Study & Youth Leaders) on August 24 & 31, September 7 & 14, 2023 - 2 hours each session from 6pm to 8pm.
 - Registration link: <https://dscumc.org/secure/2023-mission-u-virtual-youth/>

We believe love in action can change the world!

Mary Killgrove, President of Velda Rose United Women in Faith

Student Scholarships Awarded

THE VELDA ROSE SCHOLARSHIP Committee met in May and awarded two students, Eli G. and Paige T. each \$11,247.77 for the academic year of 2023/2024. Congratulations to both on continuing their educational pursuits!

Paige T. will be attending NAU in Flagstaff, AZ to pursue an undergraduate degree in psychology. Her dream is to become a child and teen psychologist. Paige has skills in Japanese, conversational sign language, and piano. She is graduating this year from Saguaro High School, Scottsdale, Arizona. Her Honors include: "National Honor Society Scholar" (2023) and "Dean's Award" (2023).



Eli G. will be attending The University of Arizona in Tucson. Eli anticipates receiving his Bachelor of Science in Molecular & Cellular Biology, May 2023. An additional one-year program will grant Eli the opportunity to achieve both a teaching certificate and a master's degree in education. Eli has been described in one of his letters of recommendation as "a natural leader, who stands firm in his Christian faith."



The Scholarship Committee consisted of Billie Larime, Bonnie Baca, Ron Roberts and Pastor Daniel. There was consensus that these students were qualified for this financial award from the Velda Rose United Methodist Church of Mesa.

— Submitted by Billie Larime

United Methodist Men: Men. Ministry. Mission.



ON MAY 20, 2023 we continued our program called “Free Fresh Vegetables”, on that day we gave away approximately 350 pounds of fresh vegetables to needy families in the Mesa community.

On June 8, 2023 we are planning to have an “Ice Cream Social”. We will be doing this in Moore Hall at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is invited. The cost will be \$5.00 per person.



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 meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 11:30

A.M. 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.



Bruce D. Williams, President UMMM

Recycling at Velda Rose UMC

Recycle—don’t throw that away!

Recycle, cut down on landfills!

Recycle, save the planet!



Many of us are concerned about our planet and the amount of damage humans do and the pollution humans add to the earth. One way to help reduce pollution is to recycle. At Velda Rose UMC, we have good news and bad news on the recycling front. First the good news. Our Velda Rose United Men, Mission and Ministry (UMMM) are recycling aluminum soda cans. They have added shoots that make it much easier to drop off your cans. They earn money for every can we give them so save up all your soda cans, beer cans, or other beverage cans.

The money is used for mission. The UMMM also strip metals from old appliances and other broken or discarded items. The metals collected include copper and precious metals, and then the men sell the metal. They are already at almost their annual goal so they are doing wonderful work and working hard. Every bit of metal they strip out of old items is metal saved from a landfill, in addition to raising money to support mission.

The bad news. The company we used for our paper and cardboard recycling is going out of business. That means that we will not be able to recycle cardboard or paper for people and will have to pay to have our own paper recycled. The closest paper/ cardboard recycling we know of it at Red Mountain Branch of the Mesa Library on Power Road.



Immigration and the Bible—October 22-27, 2023

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” So wrote Lao Tzu in the 6th century B.C.E. This is a journey we have seen many times on our TV’s, as desperate migrants leave their homeland for safe haven elsewhere. Globally, some 200 million people are on the move. How do we understand this phenomenon, and what is ours to do.

For many American Christians, immigration requires another kind of a journey, not a physical one but a spiritual one. How do we move from ignorance to understanding, from judgment to empathy, from anger to compassion. When we look to scripture, what do we find, what do we remember. When we look to Jesus, and inside our own hearts, how do we respond as Christ-followers?

“A Mile in My Shoes: Immigration and the Bible” is a spiritual retreat and an immersion experience, an inward journey and a physical journey as we plunge into one of the most challenging issues of our day. Sponsored by the Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church, this event is open to lay and clergy leaders from any denomination who are committed to deepening their faith and engaging the world. The dates are October 22-27, 2023, at Redemptorist Renewal Center in Tucson (<http://desertrenewal.org>).

Adapting the Upper Room’s highly regarded Academy for Spiritual Formation model, this event includes two full days of immersion, visiting migrant shelters and the border wall, listening to asylum seekers and activists, reflecting on what we have seen and heard. First though we’ll study the scriptures with author and faculty presenter, Karen

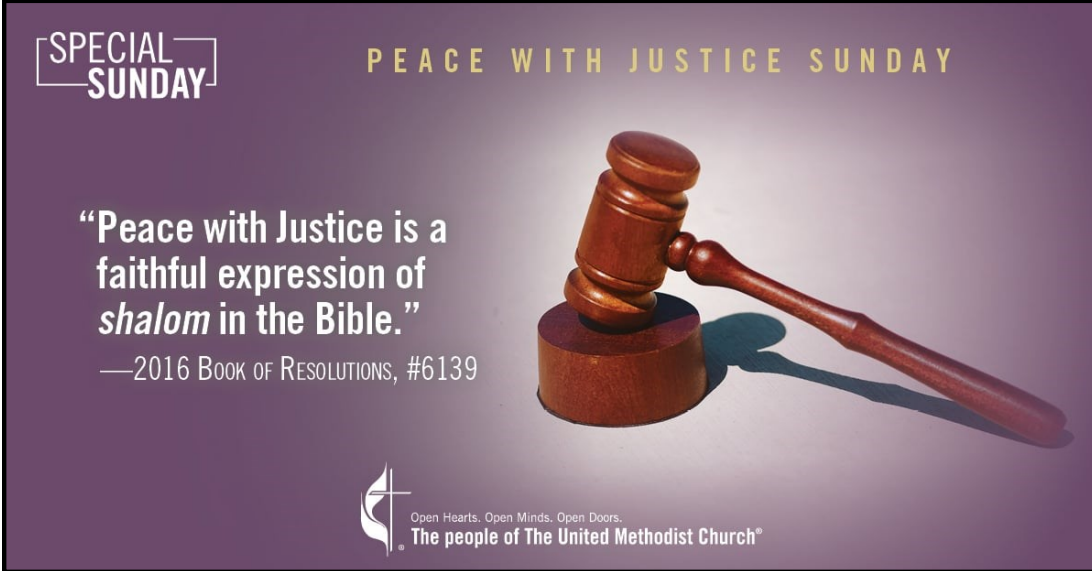
Gonzalez. Karen’s two books *The God Who Sees: Immigrants the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* (2019) and *Beyond Welcome: Centering Immigrants in our Christian Response to Immigration* (2022) tell her own compelling story, as she moved to the US from Guatemala with her family as a child. Encountering loss and alienation, prejudice and compassion, she found hope in scripture and in the church. Artfully and intimately woven into her narrative, her witness opens many places for dialogue and reorientation. Besides her own story, Karen includes insights from her work with immigrants in the nonprofit sector, offering a big picture perspective on immigration policy and practice that every reader will appreciate. Karen’s presentations will bookend our gathering, and her presence will be felt throughout the week.

To find out more about this retreat and to register, please visit <https://dscumc.org/arizona-five-day-academy/>.

The cost of the retreat, including lodging, faculty presentations and transportation to the various venues is \$925 (for single accommodations) and \$825 (for shared accommodations). Scholarships are available. First time participants are particularly welcome. This is the 15th Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation offered by the Desert Southwest Conference. The adaptation of the original model has been approved by The Upper Room’s Academy Director, Johnny Sears. More information about the Academy for Spiritual Formation can be found at their website <https://academy.upperroom.org/>. You can learn more about Karen Gonzalez from her website <https://www.karen-gonzalez.com/>.

The Rev. Jerry P. Haas, Retreat Leader


June 4 is Peace With Justice Sunday



SPECIAL SUNDAY

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

“Peace with Justice is a faithful expression of *shalom* in the Bible.”
—2016 BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS, #6139

 Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

IN 2022, UNITED METHODISTS gave over \$302,000 to support programs and ministries to educate, equip and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities. Your donation provided funds for three different grants for United Methodist congregations and organizations that support Ethnic/Minority Local

Church ministries, and programs related to the Peace with Justice Sunday. Your generosity is transforming our social impact.

Donate [online](#) or mail your gift to:

GCFA, P.O. Box 340029, Nashville, TN 37203

Director of Music Arts

Mary Ellen Loose

FROM THE MUSIC STAFF...

A heartfelt **THANK YOU** ❤️ to all who participated in the Chancel Choir this spring. It greatly enhanced our services to have the choir be a part of them again.

The choir will take a break for the summer....but we will resume in the fall.

With love,
Rachelle Starr & Mary Ellen Loose

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FALL...

* The **Chancel Choir** will begin rehearsing and performing again. We will be planning our

Christmas music this summer.



* We plan to have our **Canterbury Bell Choir** start ringing again. If you are interested, please contact Mary Ellen.

* Our "**Music In Infinity Concert Series**" will begin again in the fall. Robert Richter is in the process of scheduling organists, choirs and soloists.

“We get nearer to the Lord through music than perhaps through any other thing except prayer.” ~ J. Reuben Clark Jr.

A Letter From Our District Superintendent, Melissa Rynders



East District

Desert Southwest Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GREETINGS!

You may have heard at some point in the last few

months that the Desert Southwest Conference is taking a group of 124 youth and their chaperones to Youth23.

Youth 2023 is a gathering of United Methodist Youth that happens every four years. It's a time of worship, learning, fellowship, and service. I have had the privilege of attending the quadrennial youth event since I was a youth myself in 1995, 1999, 2003, 2008, 2015, and 2019 as a youth, pastor, leader and a parent of young people, and am looking forward to attending again this year.

This year's event will be in Daytona, FL. The estimated cost per person for travel, hotel and registration is \$1,550. We have asked all participants to fund-raise \$1400 of the cost and are looking for

funds for the remaining amount. We know this will be a challenge for youth and or their leaders that may want to attend, and we as leaders in the UMC from the Desert Southwest Conference want to make this event available to as many youth as possible.

We are currently between \$3000-\$5000 short of our goal to make it possible for all 124 participants to attend. I am hoping that you will be able to make a donation in order to help support these youth as they develop their faith and represent the conference.

If you are able to make a donation please mail a check to Desert Southwest Conference with Youth23 written in the memo.

If you have any other questions, don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Rev. Melissa Rynders
East District Superintendent

About Youth 2023 | UMC YoungPeople

EVERY FOUR YEARS, youth from throughout The United Methodist Church have gathered for four days of discipleship, fun, and fellowship at the YOUTH event. The event is filled with interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service opportunities, and fellowship time. Adult leaders who bring youth to our event can expect inspiration, support, and chances to authentically experience what it means to be part of the Methodist and Wesleyan family.

YOUTH 2023 will be an especially important year... COVID-19 restrictions have limited youth ministry opportunities over the last two-plus years. YOUTH 2023 is a chance for our youth to again experience cutting-edge speakers, amazing artists, and broaden their understanding of what they and their church

are capable of!

This is also a unique time in the history of The United Methodist Church as it wrestles with itself and undergoes immense change. The youth who come to YOUTH 2023 can demonstrate to the adults of the church how worship, fellowship, and discipleship can build friendships and understanding that root us together in God's love, give us chances to live as Jesus lived, and inspire our actions through the Holy Spirit.

For more information on this year's workshops, speakers and more, go to www.umcyoungpeople.org/youth2023.

Story of Hope—VRUMC’s Summer Blood Drive is June 21



Kinzie Frey | Blood and Platelet Recipient

AFTER MONTHS OF vague symptoms and emergency room visits, 6-year-old Kinzie Frey was diagnosed with stage 4, high-risk neuroblastoma, a type of cancer that can grow into

tumors. Her tumor was collectively the size of a mini basketball, originating on her right adrenal gland and was tangled throughout her abdomen, wrapping around veins, arteries and organs from her heart to her pelvis. Kinzie’s doctor immediately began an aggressive treatment protocol to fight the cancer and prevent it from returning. After her second round of chemo, she had a procedure to remove some of her stem cells. The cells were preserved and given back to her during two stem cell transplants. Each transplant required a month in the hospital and strict precautions that prevented her from returning to school or going to public places. Kinzie developed a late complication from the stem cell transplant that caused her body to break down blood cells at an alarming rate and required numerous blood and platelet transfusions. Over 18 months, Kinzie received 46 red blood cell transfusions and 72 platelet transfusions. Her mother, Holly Bosse, says, “If it weren’t for the generosity of blood donors, Kinzie wouldn’t be here with us today. Those blood donations aren’t only a gift to Kinzie but to our family, friends and supporters.

“Hosting a blood drive coincides with Velda Rose UMC’s core values of giving back to the community,” said Pastor Ann. “With a simple blood donation, we have the ability to help save the life of someone who could be a coworker, loved one or neighbor.”

Blood is routinely transfused to patients with cancer and other diseases, premature babies, organ transplant recipients and trauma victims, according to the Red Cross.

“The short amount of time it takes to donate can mean a lifetime to a patient with a serious medical

condition. We urge eligible donors to join us in the selfless act of giving blood.”

Donors of all blood types are needed, especially those with types O negative, B negative and A negative. According to the Red Cross, type O negative is the universal blood type that can be safely transfused to anyone, and is often used to treat trauma patients.

Our drive will be June 21, from 8-1 pm. You can sign up online at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=veldarose>. The church office can also help schedule your donation.

- Be a part of something big this summer. Schedule an appointment, then hike into a blood drive to make a life-changing donation for patients across the country.
- Donors are needed in June to ensure there’s enough blood available throughout the busy summer months.
- Type O donors are especially needed right now. Type O positive is the most common blood type, and type O negative can be received by patients of all blood types. It’s important to ensure a steady supply of these critical blood types.

In thanks for doing good, all who give blood June 1-30 will receive a \$10 gift card by email to a merchant of their choice. PLUS, they’ll also be automatically entered for a chance to win a backyard theater package including a laser wireless projector and screen, projector tripod, smokeless firepit, Adirondack chair set with four chairs and two tables and a movie night snack package. It takes less time to donate blood than to watch a classic summer camp movie. Remember those nostalgic story lines with the thrill of adventure, new friendships and the great outdoors? Channel that excitement and those I-can-do-anything feelings to help save lives: Kick off summer with a blood, platelet or plasma donation!

The Green Team

THE GREEN TEAM would like to thank everyone who attended our Earth Day Celebration on Sunday April 23rd. As they say “a good time was had by all”. We hope you enjoyed all of the displays and the refreshments. This was the first celebration we have been able to have in 3 years, due to unforeseen problems. But we hope each and every one of you learned at least one thing about the environment.

We would also like to send out a special thanks to all of you who lent a helping hand, Jeff, you were so helpful in helping us set up the displays and also thanks to Smurff for all of your help. We also appreciated the donations some of you made to help our cause. (All donations are greatly accepted).

The Green team would also like to extend an invitation for anyone who would like to join us.

Since we are now back in action we are planning many new projects. Starting in October once the summer break is over. Including a new date for the next Earth Day Celebration. Our theme in 2024 will be... Let’s get ready for Earth Day!

We hope you all will have a wonderful, healthy and safe summer wherever you may be. See you in October.



Mesa Seeks Volunteers for AT&T Fiber Arizona Celebration of Freedom



MESA, AZ – Mesa seeks volunteers for the AT&T Fiber Arizona Celebration of Freedom, the coolest independence festival in the

state! There are multiple times and shifts available including kids’ zone, splash zone, entertainment and information booths.

Volunteers will receive a commemorative t-shirt (while supplies last), plenty of snacks and cold drinks during their shift and are entered into a raffle for awesome prizes. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or 14 if accompanied by a parent or guardian. [Sign up to volunteer.](#)

The AT&T Fiber Arizona Celebration of Freedom is

Tuesday, July 4, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Mesa Convention Center and Mesa Amphitheatre, 263 N. Center St. The

biggest and best free patriotic event in Arizona includes live music, a classic car show, BMX stunt riders, a Revolutionary War reenactment and family fun. The event culminates with a Salute to America and spectacular fireworks show. Watch for more details at azcelebrationoffreedom.com.

The 2023 AT&T Fiber Arizona Celebration of Freedom is sponsored by the City of Mesa; Mesa Convention Center; Mesa Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities; Sertoma Club; Visit Mesa; Downtown Mesa Association; Arizona Car Show LLC; Mesa Recycles; Mesa Water Resources; Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport; United Food Bank; Nesbitt Contracting; Willmeng; Prensa Arizona and VCA Animal Hospitals.



VRUMC Trip to Butterfly Wonderland

THE BUTTERFLY WONDERLAND trip was an enriching experience where we learned about the life of butterflies. From the chrysalis up to a mature butterfly, we immersed ourselves in what it is like as a butterfly.



Irene G. and Nisi K. share a seat with a butterfly.

When we arrived at Butterfly Wonderland, our tour guide greeted us and gave us some background about the exhibit. Then we entered a room that was full of chrysalises and cocoons.

Some butterflies hatched earlier that day from their chrysalises and were waiting for their wings to dry. We were fortunate to wish them a happy birthday!

After this, we entered the butterfly conservatory. If you were lucky enough, a butterfly would land on you and give you a “butterfly kiss”!

The conservatory had a variety of plants commonly found in tropical climates, and a relaxing koi fish

pond. Not to mention; the humidity, which we Arizonans weren’t used to!

Once we passed through the conservatory, we entered a rainforest and aquarium exhibit. There we saw various rainforest animals, like Red-eyed tree frogs, and unique types of aquatic life, like sting rays!

We ended the tour with a 3D movie about the Monarch butterfly and the great distances they travel to survive.

We finished the trip with a delicious lunch at Johnny Rockets, and took the bus back to Velda Rose. Thanks for driving the bus, Marcus!

— Submitted by Nisi K.



Pastor Ann, Rhoda B., Don & Kari S., Angie D., Peggy S., Maureen R., Nisi K., & Anna B.

Monthly Prayer for Churches

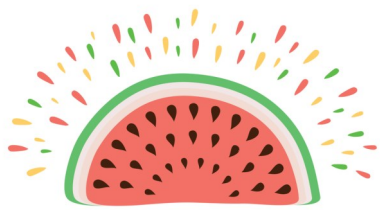


- Wesley & Golden Gates Community Centers, Phoenix
- Wesley Foundation at ASU, Tempe
- UMOM New Day Center, Phoenix
- Justa Center, Phoenix

United Women in Faith Prayer Chain

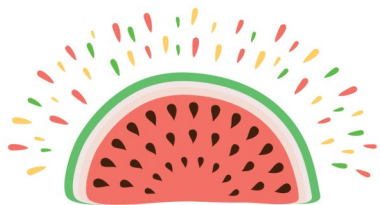
Prayer

NEED PRAYER? Call the church office and leave a message for Karen Taylor.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Barbara Tucker	6/1	Alfred Beck	6/13
Dorothy Francis	6/2	Tom Chaney	6/15
Andrew Walsh	6/2	Glenda Veborg	6/15
Robert Blaney	6/3	Judy Melling	6/16
Ben Clover	6/3	Jean Corkill	6/17
Bill Irving	6/3	Walt Gustin	6/17
Tish Roberts	6/4	Tangesi Maumatapule	6/21
Lester Taylor	6/5	Connie McDonough	6/21
Lorrie Roberts	6/8	Bruce Williams	6/23
Pauline Benway	6/10	Bev Jackson	6/24
Paul Borneman	6/12	Doris Christiansen	6/27
Marilyn Kunde	6/12	Mary Killgrove	6/28
Helen Pierce	6/12	Duane Clark	6/29
Tobby Baca	6/13		



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Bruce & Carmen Williams	6/1	Larry & Beverly Jackson	6/11
Charles & Donna Foust	6/7	Boyd & Sheila Arnold	6/13
Robert & Dorothy Lane	6/7	Karl & Beverly Wilhelm	6/27
Robert & Donna Bargman	6/8	Bill & Barbara Irving	6/29
Roger & Doris Christiansen	6/8	Bill & Dorothy Coble	6/30
William & Gladys Hunt	6/11		



VELDA ROSE

United Methodist Church

5540 East Main Street
Mesa, Arizona 85205-8720
(480) 832-2111
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 AM to 2:00 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. Daniel Gómez, Associate Pastor
- Ministers, Every Member of the Congregation

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday Morning Devotions

10:00 AM

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

Sunday Morning Services

9:30 AM

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



Velda Rose UMC Church Conference

SUNDAY, JUNE 4
10:45 AM
MOORE HALL

NEXT ISSUE

Items considered for the July Vision must be submitted to Jessica at officeadmin@veldarose.org by **Tuesday, June 13, 2023.**