

"Without a vision, the people will perish..."

Proverbs

Vision...



Safford First United Methodist Church Newsletter ◇ **June 2011**

Kairos weekend makes a difference as the love of Christ changes lives...

With your many prayers and generous support, Kairos team members from our church assisted in the conduct of a 3-day spiritual retreat at Red Rock Correctional Center in Eloy, May 5-8. Our church members contributed over \$700, made 380 dozen cookies, and provided countless hours of prayer support. You truly served as the hands and feet of Christ as He worked to change the lives of 30 inmate participants. 27 men completed the weekend and 25 returned on the following weekend for instruction in how to be part of the continuing growth of a Christian community behind prison walls.

One young man with the support of an older resident gave his life to Christ for the first time. Many testified that they were touched in life changing ways as they experienced the power of Christ's love and began a process of forgiveness and healing. Over and over again we heard the men talk about what it meant to be in a place where racial hatred, gang affiliations, and old hurts and anger could be set aside. Many of them for the first time felt what it was like to share freely with other men and to experience what it meant to be a child of God.



One inmate approached Dick Spining to share a conversation he had had with a friend on the outside: "You've changed," his friend said. "Yes, I have changed," the inmate replied. "Just ask my mother and she'll tell you that it is because I've found Christ." The inmate continued to say, "It may seem strange to say this being in prison, but for the first time in my life I feel truly free." The Holy Spirit truly works miracles and they occurred in Red Rock Correctional Center over the weekend.

Praise God for the willingness of our church to be a vital part of this ministry!

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Minerva G. Carcaño,
Resident Bishop
Mike Pearson, Superintendent

Bob Holliday, Pastor
Paul O'Dell, Office Manager
Monika Ragland, Vision Ed.

"Bad Girls of the Bible"

A new five week Women's Bible Study is starting on Thursday, June 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. It's not too late to join...just bring your Bible and be there!



United Methodist Women's June Luncheon

The UMW will meet on Thursday, June 9th at 11:30 a.m. at the Main Street Cafe (527 W. Main St., Safford). Come and enjoy a time of fellowship and fun with friends as we welcome summer. Choose your favorite salad, soup and/or sandwich from the menu at this no host luncheon. All women are invited!



Please keep the Bjorklund family in prayer. Pastor Bob passed away in September of 2010 and Margaret peacefully passed away in May, her memorial service was May 14 in Oklahoma. To send condolences to the Bjorklund family, 1916 NW 20th St. Oklahoma City, Ok. or thbjork@cox.net

BP and glucose checks will be done on June 19th (note date change!) Same time, same place.



Owen & Trish Jordahl are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Melody Jordahl, to Michael Iafrato. The wedding will take place in Flagstaff on Saturday, June 11th. We cordially invite our church family to attend a reception to be held in their honor on Friday, June 17th from 7 - 9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Safford.

Men's Group News

We had our last breakfast last week and we have secured camp A at Luna Lake for Labor Day week end. We have 24 signed up to go and the spot will hold 100 so there is plenty of room for more. There is no charge for camping. Plan ahead to end your summer with a fun , spiritual experience!



June JJR & JjR News

John's *junior* Ringers played their first scheduled anthem on Mother's Day, May 8. Eleven of twelve members were there and did a great job playing "*Jesus Loves Me*". They are now working on "*My Country 'Tis of Thee*" for July 31. JjR will continue to meet at 8:45 every Sunday morning throughout the summer, just prior to Sunday School.

John's Joyful Ringers played the introit on May 8, playing "*Holy, Holy, Holy*".

As we continue through our musical theory and symbols workbook, we are currently concentrating on "reading" music. This is a process by which musicians look over a new piece of music prior to playing it for the first time. In this process we note the key signature, time signature, dynamics, tempo, and endings.

This is also the time to mark your music. At the present time we are still marking our assigned notes with highlighter. Because each ringer is assigned a "family" of chimes, usually 3 to 4 chimes adjacent to each other, there may be places in the music that requires a rapid change of chimes. This will necessitate ringing a chime, "dropping" it, immediately picking up another one to ring and quickly back to the first chime. During this reading you can work out which hand will ring which chime at what time.

At this time we also mark measures with difficult counting. Difficult ringing patterns can be marked to show which hand will play which chime at that time. If you are playing through a page turn (playing just before and just after turning the page), notes played immediately after the page is turned can be noted on the page prior for a smoother turn. Anything that continues to be a problem can also be marked.

Several weeks ago each ringer was given a copy of new piece of music and note assignment. They marked their own music with few errors, but found this process takes time and now understand why

the director sometimes misses marking a note on their music.

Summer is a busy time with people on vacation. Reassigning to make sure all positions and chimes are covered also gives ringers the opportunity to play chimes in a position they don't usually play. Summer could also be the time for you to "try on" chimes ringing. Rehearsal continues to be on Wednesday at 5 PM in the sanctuary.



The Month in Scripture

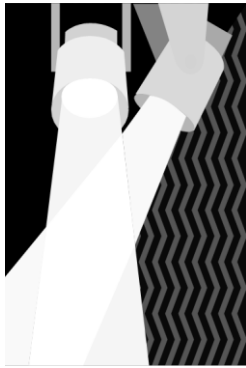
June 5: Acts 1: 1-11
Psalm 47
Ephesians 1: 15-23
Luke 24: 44-53

June 12: Acts 2: 1-21
Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13
John 7: 37-39

June 19: Genesis 1: 1- 2: 4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13: 11-13
Matthew 28: 16-20

June 26: Genesis 22: 1-14
Psalm 13
Romans 6: 12-23
Matthew 10: 40-42





SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS...

Mandy Evans and Joey Martinez joined our FUMC family on November 28, 2010, and have become valued members of our congregation.

Although they are new to our church family, they are not new to the Gila Valley. Mandy moved here 19 years ago from Albuquerque, and Joey moved here 20 years ago from Douglas.

Both Mandy and Joey have busy lives with work and leisure activities. Mandy is employed with a private construction company where she enjoys using many of her skills. Other interests and talents include swimming, working on cars, doing puzzles, watching movies, and caring for her dog Missy, described by Mandy as "a sort of yellow lab." She is a volunteer with Our Neighbors' Pantry and works there as often as her job allows.

Joey is a supervisor for Western Industrial and an administrator for Gila Outreach, which is connected to Freeport Mining Company. Therefore, he spends much of his time in Morenci. When he is not working the long hours required in those jobs, he enjoys fishing, hunting, restoring old cars with Mandy, and working with computers.

When asked what they enjoy about FUMC, they identified many qualities that they say make this a good place to worship. They specifically mention the choir as a valuable part of the worship service. They also appreciate Pastor Bob's thoughtful, organized messages with the on-screen references, the sharing of joys and concerns, and the caring relationships they have witnessed in the people with whom they worship. In fact, they say the people, especially those they met through Our Neighbors' Pantry, were instrumental in drawing them to our church family.

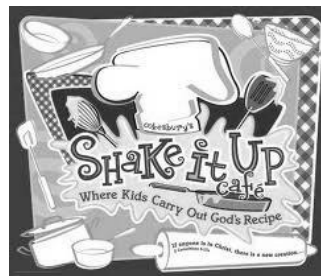
Their goals for the future include some traveling if possible. Mandy said she'd like to visit the Rainforest, and Joey would like to cruise to Alaska and the Caribbean. However, more importantly,

they are looking forward to living and raising their family here in the Gila Valley and in this congregation. Their thrilling news is that they are expecting a child soon, an exciting new adventure. We, their church family, are equally excited for them.

We welcome Mandy and Joey to our congregation and feel blessed that they have chosen to join us in our walk with Christ.

Juniors on a Mission

South District Jr. High Mission Trip is June 26-29 at St. Marks' UMC in Tucson. This year's Mission trip is called Good Sam's Club, and the theme is **Be** the Samaritan from the story on Luke 10: 25-37. The event begins with dinner, worship and games on Sunday and concludes with an afternoon at Breakers Water Park on Wednesday. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, teams of youth will be traveling to different parts of Tucson to be involved with a number of service projects. All youth who have completed the 6th through 8th grades this spring are eligible to participate. The cost is \$65 which includes meals, service projects, t-shirt and Breakers Water Park. Registration must be postmarked by June 15th so see Sherry for forms. Scholarships are available.



Keep July 18-22 on your calendars for this year's Vacation Bible School called "Shake it Up" where kids carry out God's

Recipes. Children must be

4 years old by July 18th and have completed the 6th grade. Adult and youth helpers will *definitely* be needed. Whether you've helped before or have never done it, you can fit right in and have a blast. Contact Sherry to see where you can be placed for ministry!

View from the pulpit:

I always enjoy this time of year. The mornings are great, the days are longer and the evenings have become really comfortable. There are so many things that happen around this time of year that just astounds me. As we finished our confirmation class this year (as in years past), I encourage each young person to give some serious time to consider what it is they actually believe. After 18 different lessons and discussions over weeks of meeting, I ask each young person to write their own affirmation of faith. Since confirmation is that time when we remember the covenant made by their parents when they were baptized to teach them and set an example for them so they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly and to lead a Christian life; this affirmation of faith is a really important part of confirmation. As I read each of the young people's paper this year, I was really moved by the thought of their comments... let me share a few with you that I thought really showed they were thinking...

- "I believe in God, the creator of the universe, my father and one of my best friends..."
- "I believe no matter how hard we try, we can't get to heaven on our own, we need Jesus..."
- "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, who created all I see and don't see. Those existence is beyond any form of human comprehension..."
- I believe in the Holy spirit, who brings guidance and wisdom to those who are in need."
- I believe I am a child of God and my sins are forgiven through Jesus and that God will always be with me..."
- When I think of the Holy Spirit I think of God. Because when you think he isn't there he really is. Just because you can't see him doesn't mean

he isn't there. God is always going to be there no matter what!"

- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the comforter, the motivator, the helper. He is the one that helps us through hard situations, he gives us the strength to do almost anything, he is that warm fuzzy feeling when you read the bible or helping someone else..."

I hope you will continue to keep ALL the young people in our church in your thoughts and prayers as they continue on their faith journey and grow in their understanding of Jesus Christ.

See ya' in church...



Joplin Tornado Hits UM Churches, Members

A UMNS Report By Linda Bloom*
3:00 P.M. EST May 23, 2011

Several United Methodist churches in Joplin, Mo., were scrambling to provide shelter Monday morning for church members and others whose homes were damaged by a tornado the day before.



Tornado survivors walk down a road in Joplin, Mo. Missouri Bishop Robert Schnase asks for prayer and donations to help those affected by the twister.

At least two churches also suffered extensive damage. The Rev. Christopher Sloan, pastor of Christ's Community United Methodist Church, compared viewing the aftermath to looking at a "lunar landscape."

The devastation is so well defined, he added, that “when you get on a hill, you can see a path through the city.”

Sloan also serves as a fire department chaplain and had helped set up an emergency medical services response center after the tornado struck.

His church, which had power but no water, was open as a shelter and was receiving supplies and volunteers. A disaster-response team from the Missouri Annual (regional) Conference is expected to use the church as its headquarters for tornado response, he said.

“We’re finding out how many people in our congregations have lost their houses,” he said.

Sloan confirmed that the sanctuary of another church, St. Paul’s United Methodist, was destroyed by the tornado, although the rest of the structure remained standing. The conference also reported that St. James United Methodist Church was destroyed and the Southwest District office next to it damaged.

The Joplin Globe reported 89 deaths as a result of the tornado, which struck the city of 48,000 around 6 p.m. on May 22. A major hospital, St. John’s Regional Medical Center, took a direct hit from the tornado and has since been vacated. Two firehouses were destroyed.

Members of a church youth group at Byers Avenue United Methodist Church, which had minor damage, rode out the tornado in a Sunday school room. “We sang church songs, we prayed ... we tried not to get scared,” Ethan Hatfield, 16, told the Tulsa World.

At First United Methodist Church in Joplin, receptionist Sue Cowen spent Monday morning fielding calls of concern and inquiry from congregants, United Methodists from other parts of Missouri and even a few out-of-state churches.

The church — a 100-year-old stone building with a membership of 903 — was intact and open “to anyone who wants to get out of the rain,” she said. “We have many members with no home, no nothing anymore.”

Christ’s Community, which has more than 1,100 members, is a large facility with about 30 classrooms and plenty of room for those seeking shelter. “We’re just going to put people in classrooms,” Sloan said.

Missouri Bishop Robert Schnase invited United Methodists “to respond prayerfully, courageously and generously” to the Joplin disaster. “Our hearts and prayers go out to all those who grieve the loss of loved ones and who have suffered the destruction of homes and businesses following Sunday’s devastating tornado in Joplin,” he said in a May 23 statement.

More than Missouri

The Rev. Tom Hazelwood, U.S. disaster response coordinator for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, said he expected he would be traveling to Joplin for an initial damage assessment. Hazelwood was to arrive in Missouri on May 23 for a previously scheduled meeting in Kansas City.

At least 14 of the denomination’s annual conferences have been affected by tornados or storms this spring, he noted, with the number of tornados in highly populated areas this year “more significant that we’ve had in a long time.”

United Methodists are also responding to deadly tornadoes that touched down over the weekend in Kansas and Minnesota. The twisters left at least one person dead in northern Minneapolis and killed another in Reading, a town of about 250 people in eastern Kansas.

Winds ripped off the roof of Reading United Methodist Church, and the building may be a total loss. About 20 homes in the town were destroyed.

To donate to Spring Storms 2011, please write check to UMCOR and use Advance # 3021326 in the memo field.

*Bloom is a United Methodist News Service multimedia reporter based in New York. Follow her at <http://twitter.com/umcscribe>.

June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		•5:30 pm - Pastor's Roundtable (FC) •6:15 pm - Church Meal (FH) •6:45 pm - Church Meetings (Various)			•3 pm - Michael & Melody (aftrato Wedding Reception (FH)	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Father's Day •7 am - Men's Discipleship Breakfast (FH)		•7 pm - Ad Council (FC)		2011 Desert Southwest Annual Conference (Glendale)		
	26	27	28	29	30	
DSW Conf Cont.						

Weekly Church Events

Sundays 8:15 am - Essentials Worship Service (S)
 9:15 am - Sunday School (Various)
 10:30 am - Liturgical Worship Service (S)
 6 pm - Youth Group (YR)

Wednesdays 5 pm - John's Joyful Ringers (S)
 5 pm - Prayer Meeting (VR)

Weekly Community Events

Mondays 6 pm - Cub Scouts (FH)
 6 pm - NA (L)
 7 pm - Boy Scouts (FH)
 7 pm - Webelos (FC)

Tuesdays 6 pm - CMA (L)
 6 pm - NA (L)

Wednesdays 6 pm - CMA (L)
 6 pm - NA (L)
 6:30 pm - Cadets (FC) - 1st & 3rd Wed's
 7:30 pm - AA (L)

Thursdays 5 pm - Brownies (FC)
 6 pm - CMA (L)

Fridays 6 pm - CMA (L)

Saturdays 12 pm - CMA (L)

June Birthdays

1- Trish Jordahl
 Cindy Woodman

2- Melissa Sherman

3- Mikeala Coppola
 Jared Decker

4- Barbie Spining
 Tom Worland

5- Aniken Aguilar
 Jean Evans

6- Lisa Angle
 Shirley Haralson

9- Haynes Moore

13- Andrea Haralson
 Mark Woods

15- Sydney Romero

17- Matthew Jordahl

18- Doneilleen Isaacs

23- Riley Metivier

26- Peter Provencio

27- Wil Hinton
 Dimple Wortham

28- Steve Haralson
 James Scott

June Anniversaries

1- Wil & Patti Hinton

2- Lowell & Priscilla Hinkins

5- Dennis & Shirley Haralson

9- David & Susan Decker

10- Troy & Delilah Lund

11- Owen & Trish Jordahl

15- Mark & Nancy Woods

16- Haynes & Susan Moore
 Bill & Kathy Nidiffer

20- Ed & Monika Ragland

21- James & Faith Capps

22- John & Sue Bonetas

23- Ed & Melissa Sherman

24- Duane & Laura Lee Spalsbury

26- Lance & Jayme Fite

29- James & Mary Girardot

(S) Sanctuary, (FH) Fellowship Hall, (L) Library, (FC) Friendship Classroom,
 (V) Vision Room, (W) Wesley Room

* Please let the church office know if a birthday or anniversary was missed

We support the church through our:

PRAYERS: Activate the prayer chain by phoning Judy Fisher at 428-6485, or the church office at 428-4211. You can also write special prayer requests on cards in the pew racks, and turn them in Sunday during worship. We also invite you to take time each Wednesday to pray for the ministry of the First United Methodist Church.

ATTENDANCE:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
April 24	237
May 1	136
May 8	137
May 15	134
May 22	167

SERVICE: Thank you to the Acolytes: Sierra, Jesse & Alexis Stone, Victor & Valeria Moya, Josh Romero, Alex Etter & Camille Delgado.

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Happy Father's Day!