

Pastor's Pen

Our Future Security

In 1987, Academy Award winner Michael Douglas made a speech in the movie *Wall Street*, in which he states, "*Greed, for lack of a better word, is good.*" I think that one of the phenomenal occurrences in my lifetime, has been the acceptance and the expectation of greed in our world. In other words, people believe that, *Greed is good.* Furthermore, we have come to expect the practice of greed taking place in our world.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus' most popular topic was money. *There are over 2300 Bible verses about money. This includes topics like wealth, possessions, greed, and investing (agapeinvests.com, March 15th, 2021).* As I Timothy 6:10 often reminds us, *(For) the love of money is the root (or the foundation) for all kinds of evil (NRSV).* You and I have seen enough *48 Hours & Dateline* episodes to know that *the love of money* causes people to retaliate, lie, cheat, steal, murder, or plot to murder. Greed causes abandonment, loneliness, and it creates enemies, jail time, and you can even lose your life and your soul, to greed.

Today's text is all about the reality of greed. Jesus gives all of this disciples a stark warning, *Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.* Jesus then tells a parable which has commonly known as, *The Parable of The Rich Fool.* Christ begins this parable by saying, *The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this, I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods."* Now there may be someone reading this document, saying, *What is wrong with wanting more than what you currently have?* I must confess, I do want more for my kids than what I am able to provide them. Couldn't we make the argument that he had a thriving, successful, agricultural business and he was doing well for himself?

The text continues, *And then I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many ample goods laid up for many years, relax, eat, drink and be merry.* I want to read, what I think is, a frightening statistic: *According to a Pew Charitable Trusts analysis of survey data less than 50% of the work force have a traditional pension (NGPF, 02-26-2017).* Couldn't we make the argument that this farmer with a successful business is simply setting aside funds for his future? Isn't this being a responsible worker, and, what we often reference as The American Dream?

So after this man fills his barns, and stores up for the future, God comes to him and says, *"You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you."* What strikes me about this statement is the fact that God called this man *a fool.* What was it that made this man a fool? What made wealthy man a fool is his inability to see beyond himself. Within this parable, the word *I, my, or me,* is used on eight occasions. There is never any acknowledgment of God's provision. Nor, is there any gratefulness toward God for that provision. There is no acknowledgment of others that served this man so he could climb the corporate ladder. There is no acknowledgment of using the funds which he has to help others who are less fortunate. His entire vocabulary is self-centered. One of the great dangers of wealth, is that our own wealth will take care of everything that we need. We don't need a Savior; wealth will save us! This is the danger of greed. My money and I can do it all on our own.

Jesus teaches us to give it up. Give your service to the needy. Give your financial gifts to those less fortunate. Give your time and your charitable gifts to the vulnerable.

Jesus came into this world in order to serve, and not to be served. Today, Jesus still calls us to give it up. What brings meaning to your life today? And, what will give your life meaning once you pass from this earth? What will be your meaningful, Christian legacy? Our only profound and meaningful future security, can only be our reliance upon the Lord. Our Creator is our future security.

---*David J. Harriss*

Announcements:

All are invited to Church Conference,

On Saturday, October 22nd, at 10 a.m., and it is vitally important that the 2022 Governing Board Committee attend this session. Please mark your calendars! A Church Conference allows anyone from the congregation to attend this session; however, only 2022 Governing Board members are allowed to vote on Church Conference issues. Normally at a Church Conference, we vote on the pastor's salary for 2023, vote on the 2023 slate of officers from the Lay Leadership (formerly Nominations) committee, hear a pastor's report that includes the state of the church, and hear from various committees about the year behind us and the year ahead

POTLUCK

The Potluck will be this coming Sunday, August 7, 2022 after worship. Please stay and share the good food and fellowship. Get to know your Gila Mountain UMC family.

Callaway Hall

Traffic through Callaway Hall is now being allowed. However, in our humble opinions, the hall is NOT ready for use for FAST and other groups, as the smell is still strong. The red doors into Callaway Hall will be unlocked from this point forward during business hours.

Meetings:

All meetings will be held in Room 8 until further notice due to the moving and storage of furniture while Learning Pad spruces up its physical plant this summer. Thank you for your cooperation.

F.A.S.T. (Foothills Adults Social Time)

FAST will be held in the narthex/gathering area, until further notice. Please enter through the glass doors on the side of the Sanctuary. If you enjoy playing cards or Mexican Train, you will love this group.

Church's Summer Missions

For the month of August:

We will be collecting cases of water for Crossroads Mission.

Water and diapers are accepted anytime you wish to drop them off. We will ensure that the water gets delivered to Crossroads Mission as soon as possible. Also, we will make sure Jessie's Closet gets the supply of diapers right away. Thank you for the blessings you bestow upon our fellow citizens of Yuma County.

Water Day at Gila Mountain United Methodist Church

When? Saturday, August 20th, from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Cost: It is absolutely free!

Come spend a day in the sun at the church with our water inflatables and a dunk tank. Dunk the pastor and (hopefully) preschool staff members! We will also be serving hot dogs, water, and ice pops at this gathering. Everyone is invited!

What we still need: We need your financial gifts in order to make this event a success! Please feel free to write a check out to the church and ear mark it in the lower left-hand corner, "Water Day".

We also need hot dog buns. We have been blessed with a generous donation of 200 hot dogs, now we need 200 buns. The condiments for this event are also readily available for this day. Everyone is invited to this event! Invite your neighbors! This will be a great outing for the entire family. I look forward to seeing you there! ---**David J. Harriss**

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UMW)

United Women in Faith has their next meeting is this Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 11:30 am. This luncheon meeting will be at EAT Super Asian Buffet. The address is 1960 E. Palo Verde St., Yuma, AZ 85365. Directions: I-8 W; Avenue 3E exit. Left on exit; right on East Palo Verde St. Folks “in the know” say that it is close to the Walmart on Pacific Avenue. Please make your reservation with Judy Lindeman, no later than August 1, 2022. Thank you.

Summer projects for United Women in Faith

1. Jessie’s Closet: We are collecting children’s socks, underwear, diapers sizes 4 & 5, and any other item children need daily.
2. Blessings Bags: These bags include water, snacks, wash cloths, soap, chap sticks, toothbrush and toothpaste, comb, brush, disposable razors, and any other personal item needed daily. You will find boxes for Jessie’s Closet and the Blessings Bags in the narthex.

Covid Stats for Yuma County are:

New cases:

On July 24th - 167

On August 1st – 42

Deaths: The last death was April 12th.

United Women in Faith Circles

Rebecca Circle: Meets Mondays at 9:00 a.m. The group works on quilts that are donated to Crossroads Mission, Jessie's Closet, and other organizations. Meetings will resume on Monday, September 12th, 2022.
Naomi Circle: Meets Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. This is a crafting group. You can bring your own projects, and you can also help with their annual luncheon.

Abigail Circle: Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in Callaway Hall. These meetings will resume on September 20th, 2022.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoebox Ministry:

Total to Date; \$608.49 to ship 60 boxes. Our goal is 200 boxes in November @ \$10/box. Want to donate? Please put "OCC shoebox ministry" or "shoebox shipping" on your check or envelope. Thank-you everyone for your continued support of this children's outreach ministry. Have questions, please call or text Stephanie Kroll 541-409-6492.

Prickly Pairs

Upcoming dates and venues:

- August 3rd Los Manjares (around the corner from Sesame Kitchen) (Spanish for "The Delicacies")
- August 10th Cracker Barrel (meet at 3:15PM in church parking lot for ridesharing)
- August 17th Westwinds
- August 24th Sesame Kitchen
- August 31st Wheezies (Note: Fran Whiteman's birthday)
- September 7th Da Boyz Downtown (meet at 3:15PM in church parking lot for ridesharing)
- September 14th Applebee's (Note: Rose Moodie's birthday)

Lay Servant Ministry Classes

West District Summer/Fall Lay Servant Ministries Classes 2022

(July classes were moved to August) All classes cost \$15 person.

Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course

Introducción al Ministerio Laico – Curso BÁSICO (en español) - IN Person

August 6 and 20 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Maryvale Bridge UMC, lunch provided.

Taught by Rev. Efrain Zavala, Assisted by Pastor Joel Arvizu

“Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries/Basic Class” – IN Person

August 19 and 26, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. working lunch provided

Held at Willowbrook UMC Taught by Rev. Gary Kennedy

“For the Common Good – Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts” –

IN Person, August 27 and September 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at

Dove of the Desert UMC. Bring your own bag lunch and treats.

Taught by Certified Lay Speaker Jill Cristina-Krebs Limit 12 students

ZOOM “Afire with God” Stewardship for the 21st Century. Sept. 10 and 17,

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Taught by the Desert Southwest Conference UMC,

Treasurer, Randy Bowman Limit 15 students.

ZOOM “Leading Worship” September 10 and 17, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Taught by Rev. Fred Mast, Sedona UMC. Limit 15 students.

“Leading Public Prayer” – IN Person October 8 and 15 at Gila Mountain UMC,

Yuma, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Taught by Certified Lay Minister, Marilyn Hohnstein.

Limit 15 students. Bring your own bag lunch and treats. Sign up as soon as possible.

“Called to Preach”- IN Person Nov. 7, 14 and 21, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Sunrise UMC. Taught by Rev. Donna Hughes. Bring your own bag lunch and treats.

“Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices” -IN Person Nov. 12 and 19, 9a.m. to 3 p.m. at Dove of the Desert UMC. Taught by Rev. George Cushman. Limit 15 students. Bring your own bag lunch & treats.

Questions? Please contact:

Betty Stewart, West District LSM Director

bettyboop491@cox.net NEW PHONE NUMBER: 480-272-1337

BIBLE STUDIES (ALL ARE WELCOME!)

Tuesdays

Next Class begins on Tuesday, July 26, 2022. Instructor: Rev. David Harriss

Every Tuesday at 12 noon. We meet at 11:30 a.m. and eat lunch before class starts (bring your own lunch.) Books will cost \$10 each and there will be 12 sessions.

Thursdays

This Bible study will resume in September 2022

Wrapped in Love

Meets every first Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. The following dates are:

August 6th September 3rd October 1st November 5th

Thank you to all who crochet, knit, weave, and sew the shawls, blankets, hats, bags, and other items donated to the patients at the Cancer Center, and nursing homes in the Yuma area. If you are not crafty but would like to help in this ministry, monetary donations are accepted for the purchase of yarn and liquid nutrition.

GriefShare

We completed the 13-week program or GriefShare. We will have another session in the fall. If you need grief support before then, please contact Mary Klawuhn,(pronounced claw-voon) or Marilyn (at the office). You can also visit griefshare.org for additional information and invaluable support. You can sign up for a year’s worth of daily emails that can guide you in your grieving moments. If you would like additional information, please call Mary Klawuhn at 928-580-4448.

GRIEF

“May there be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten.” Julie Hebert

Church Mice: What is a church mouse you ask? They are the ones who come in and work on things when no one is looking. It’s also a way to serve in the life of the church. We thank all the mice that work hard every day in the life of Gila Mt. UMC. You are a blessing to us and to the glory of God. Between Mondays and Thursdays, pens, envelopes, and welcome slips need to be replaced on the back of the chairs in the sanctuary. There are plenty of jobs in the office for which we can assign volunteers. On Thursday mornings we need bulletins folded (after 10 a.m.). If you have free time, we have work for you! You can call Carolyn or Marilyn in the office; (928) 342-0345. Thank you!

Gila Mt. UMC Tithes, Donations and Contributions for 2022

July 2022 tithes, donations, and contributions:

July 3rd \$ 4,563.00

July 10th \$ 3,954.00

July 17th \$ 2,008.00

July 24 th	\$ 1,908.00
July 31 st	<u>\$ 1,216.00</u>
July Total	\$13,649.00

January 2022 - July 2022 total: \$127,603.06 for 7 months.

Annual budget for the church is \$250,000.00; we should be at \$145,833.34. It is important to meet the budget to tend to all the bills and maintenance issues. If these are put off for too long, they cost more to repair later. If you are unable to join us on Sundays, and you want to send in your tithes and offerings, you may mail them to:

Gila Mountain UMC
12716 N. Frontage Road
Yuma, Arizona 85367

The Lord puts us first, let's do our best to return His share to him. Thank you for your gifts.

Prayer Requests

You have asked that we keep the following brothers and sisters in loving thoughts and prayers: Gary & Lanna Gosage; Judie Lindeman; Richard Burch; Greta and Lee Twominen; Marisol's family; Cheryl Close; Ned Bauer and all who are touched by cancer; Joyce Boyce; Ken Morten; Bonnie Burrer; All teachers & students

Traveling mercies for all who may be on the road, traveling to see family and friends.

The following friends are in care facilities:

Ativo Senior Living: Elaine Gridley (room #220)
Ativo Senior Living: Fran Whiteman (room #119)
Ativo Senior Living: Richard (Dick) Ware (room #123)
Copper Hills: Diann Fullerton (room #137)
Desert Rose: Bev Jepson (room #316)
Desert Rose: Barbara Walthers (room #323)
Desert Rose: Anna Jane Crouse (room #220)
Emerald Springs: Gail Smit (room #127)
River Valley Estates: Cliff Updike (room #234B)
River Valley Estates: Andy Anderson (Memory Unit)
YRMC REHAB: Gary Tomlinson

Recurring Small Group Calendar.

[You are welcome to attend all groups even if you don't attend church here. We do ask that you sign-in.](#)

Monday:

9:00 am Rebecca's circle – will resume 9/12/22

Tuesday:

8:00 am Men's prayer group – Meet at McDonald's
9:00 am Naomi circle, crafters, rm.9
Noon Bible Study – fellowship BYO lunch 11:30 am.

Next study begins on the Book of Luke on Tuesday, July 26, 2022. See details above.

Wednesday:

10:00 am Caregiver's support group, rm.9
4:00 pm Prickly Pairs & Singles at various restaurants; see details above.
6:00 pm AA & Al-anon meetings – will resume 10/22

Thursday:

9:00 am Thursday Bible Study – will resume 9/22
9:30 am United Women in Faith (UMW) – 11:30 AM on 8/4/22 at EAT restaurant. See details

above.

Friday:

9:00 am F.A.S.T. (Foothills Adult Social Time) Narthex
Office closed.

Saturday:

10:00 am Wrapped in Love – August 6,2022 - Narthex

Sunday:

9:30 am Coffee & fellowship
10:30 am Worship
10:30 am Youth worship - Bible based w/Stephanie Kroll
11:30 am Next Potluck is August 7th, 2022 – after worship

Want to watch our recorded worship service?

To watch the recorded worship: copy & paste this link:

<http://www.galacticchurch.org/GMUMC/video/Y2022/>

It will take you to the page you need for the message on any Sunday message you may want to hear.

Liturgist & Prayers

July 7th:

Liturgist: Pasty Schwope

Prayer: Judy Zauner

JULY & AUGUST 2022 USHER AND GREETERS SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 31, 2022:

Front Door Greeter: Allan Mercer;
Front Door Sign In Table: Fran Whiteman;
Door 1 (West Sanctuary:) door closed;
Door 2 (Middle Sanctuary:) Rose Moodie: - Offering 1-2
Elaine Kirby; Offering 3
Door 3 (East Sanctuary) Lois Young; offering row 5
Barbara Mercer;
East Entry Door: Bob Siekel-offering row 4;
Blessing of offering basket Rose Moodie;
Back Ups: Marilyn Hohnstein; Judy Zauner; Mary Klawuhn; Toni Olsen

Sunday, August 7, 2022

Front Door Greeter	Bob Siekel	Del gone
Front Door Sign In Table	Fran Whiteman	
Door 1 (West Sanctuary)	doors closed	
Door 2 (Middle Sanctuary)	Rose Moodie- offering 2	Elaine Kirby-offering 3
Door 3 (East Sanctuary)	Allan Mercer	Barbara Mercer
East Entry Door	Lois Young-offering 4	Marilyn Hohnstein-offering 5
Blessing of offering	Rose Moodie	
Del and Linda Gower-gone		

Sunday, August 14, 2022

Front Door Greeter	Bob Seikel	Del Gower
Front Door Sign In Table	Fran Whiteman	
Door 1 (West Sanctuary)	doors closed	doors closed

Door 2 (Middle Sanctuary)	Rose Moodie- offering row 1-2	Elaine Kirby-offering row 3
Door 3 (East Sanctuary)	Allan Mercer	Barbara Mercer
East Entry Door	Lois Young-offering row 4	Linda Gower-offering row 5
Blessing of offering basket	Elaine Kirby	

Sunday, August 21, 2022

Front Door Greeter	Bob Seikel	
Front Door Sign In Table	Fran Whiteman	
Door 1 (West Sanctuary)	doors closed	doors closed
Door 2 (Middle Sanctuary)	Rose Moodie- offering row 1-2	Elaine Kirby-offering row 3
Door 3 (East Sanctuary)	Allan Mercer	Barbara Mercer
East Entry Door	Lois Young-offering row 4	Linda Gower-offering row 5
Blessing of offering basket	Lois Young	

Sunday, August 28, 2022

Front Door Greeter	Bob Seikel	
Front Door Sign In Table	Fran Whiteman	
Door 1 (West Sanctuary)	doors closed	doors closed
Door 2 (Middle Sanctuary)	Rose Moodie- offering row 1-2	Elaine Kirby-offering row 3
Door 3 (East Sanctuary)	Allan Mercer	Barbara Mercer
East Entry Door	Lois Young-offering row 4	Linda Gower-offering row 5

Blessing of offering basket	Linda Gower	
Back Ups:	Toni Olsen	Mary Klawuhn
	Judy Zauner	Patsy Schwope
	Chuck Lodge	Marilyn Hohnstein

Linda Gower/Del Gower gone 7/31; and 8/7/22

*Yours in Grace & Peace,
 Pastor David, Marilyn, Carolyn, and Lorna
 Gila Mountain United Methodist Church
 12716 N. Frontage Road
 Yuma, AZ85367
 Office number (928) 342-0345
 Office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm*

