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*"Where God's Love Transforms Lives"*

It's Happening Here!

**Meetings This Week (if they are Zoom there will be a (click to join) after Meeting Title)**

July 10 - VBS. 9:00-11:30 a.m., Guthrie Building

July 11 - Worship Service (live stream, Facebook and church website) and VBS, 10:00 a.m.

July 11 - The Psalms (Bible Study), 2:00 p.m. - **cancelled until July 25**

July 12 - Boy Scout Troops 108, and 3226, 6:45 p.m.

July 12 - Men's Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. (click to join - see Art Brooks)

July 13 - Tuesday Women's Bible Study, 11:00 a.m., ([click to join](#))

July 14 - CITD Youth Group, 6:00 p.m., (click to join - contact Kevin Joy)

July 15 - Bookworms United, 10:00 a.m. ([click to join](#))

July 15 - Missions Committee Meeting,  
5:30 p.m. ([click to join](#))  
July 15 -Re-launching Meeting, 7:00 p.m.



Evelyn "Sue" Harlan

Born into life: October 20, 1934

Born into eternity: June 19, 2021

Celebration of Life

July 18, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Cross in the Desert United Methodist Church

12835 North 32nd Street

Phoenix, AZ 85032

There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall following the Celebration of Life.

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## In-Person Worship Services

As Cross in the Desert returns to in-person worship, we are discovering changes that need to be made: in equipment, in procedures, in routines. As a result, we are asking for help. First, we are creating a wish list for current and future needs. There are ministries that we have not done, or that stopped because of COVID that need to be developed. There has been some discussion about furniture and reorganizing some areas of the office and fellowship hall to make spaces easier to clean per pandemic standards as well as enhance work flow and aesthetics. We are having discussions about the need for wi-fi throughout our campus, for ourselves and for people in Outreach. Plans are underway to make changes to the media booth as the various people running the technology for the service, the live-stream, and recording cannot currently see and easily speak to each other. As you can tell, we need money, a variety of skilled and unskilled volunteers, creative ideas for improving our procedures and our physical plant, and, of course, lots of prayer.

Church leadership will be coming to you, we hope soon, with both a list of accomplishments as well as the wish list to enhance our future. These will involve ministry accomplishments and ideas as well as our physical plant and technology.

So please, start praying for our congregation right now, and ask God to give you a place in co-creating our future at Cross in the Desert.

It appears that over 80% of our congregation is fully vaccinated. Based on this, leaders at Cross in the Desert have decided to make some changes to our reopening plan.

First, we will continue to distance in the sanctuary and collect the offering at the exit doors. Please sit in an unmarked seat.

Next, we ask that those who are not fully vaccinated or who are immune system compromised continue to wear masks, but they will now be optional for those fully vaccinated. Of course, anyone is welcome to wear masks or join us online. We are continuing to work on our livestream for the benefit of all.

Based on this herd immunity, we believe we can return to singing in worship.

We have suspended using the reservation system until further notice. However, we ask you to complete an attendance card so that we can still do contact tracing if necessary. Attendance and prayer cards may be placed in the offering baskets.

We still ask you to covenant to keep each other safe, but we are modifying that covenant to allow for these changes. You don't have to sign a new covenant if you signed the original one.

It will take time to get worship and other ministries running smoothly. If you would like to help with this, please contact the church office. We need more people trained to run our new technology, as well as to help with a return to fellowship time, to children's church, etc.

If there is another surge of cases, we may return to current standards. If you do not agree with this, please join us online until we fully reopen our campus.

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## Help Needed:

In order to return to some activities, Cross in the Desert needs your help.

To provide special music for worship, please contact Jeff Bulkeley.

To become a prayer intercessor, please contact Ray Roop.

To help with the media booth, please contact Kevin Joy or the church office.

To help with fellowship time, please contact Arvilla Jungman.

To read scripture during worship services, please contact the church office to be a liturgist.

## VBS Theme: Come to the Table

Saturday, July 10, 9 – 11:30 am:	Be Our Guest
Sunday, July 11, 10-11 am:	Jesus and the Giant Picnic
Sunday, July 18 <sup>th</sup> , 10-11 am:	Guess Who's Coming For Dinner
Sunday, July 25 <sup>th</sup> 10-11 am:	A Supper to Remember
Saturday, July 31 <sup>st</sup> 8-10 am:	Breakfast on the Beach (Water play outside)

## The Goals of Come to the Table are:

- Convey that all people are welcome at God's table
- Invite children to love God and follow in the way of Jesus
- Offer a vision of a world where everyone's needs are met
- Encourage children to joyfully receive and share the good things that God provides

Please contact Connie Bruhn if you have any questions.

## The Psalms: An Expression of Life - Cancelled until July 25

CITD's Sunday afternoon Zoom Bible Study is a study of Psalms. Pastor Galene will lead this study and supply notes to participants.

The Psalms are considered a reflection of our lives: our joys and sorrows, our doubts, fear, complaints and celebrations. They are needful expressions of our community's faith, as well as speaking to individuals.

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Bring your Bible, start a notebook of your own reflections on the Psalms, and join us on Zoom at 2:00 p.m. on Sundays. If you want to receive study notes, contact the church office with an email address where the notes can be sent. Also, please state if you need a PDF, or if Word format will work.

## **MISSION u - A United Methodist Women event**

Each year, United Methodist Women members prepare for faithful living and action by engaging in transformative educational experiences at MISSION u. The events and the curricula are centered around issues of national, spiritual and global concern.

These events are designed to motivate, inform and enrich our lives and our commitment to local and global ministries. Leaders are trained by United Methodist Women National Training Team. Events happening in our Desert Southwest Conference are scheduled for Friday evening and Saturday day.

Dates and Studies are as follows:

July 23-24 "Pushout: Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools"

August 13-14 "Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship"

For more information go to <https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/mission-u/> or contact Arvilla Jungman or Judy Smith.

## **Eagle Scout Court of Honor**

The Boy Scout Troops that our church sponsors will be having a Court of Honor for all boys who became Eagle Scouts during the COVID epidemic when they were unable to have a Court of Honor. The Court of Honor will be held on July 19, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary.

## **Food Collection for Paradise Valley Community Food Bank**

A challenge for the future: since have returned to in person worship, I challenge everyone to contribute to the grocery donation cart in the narthex! Shop the sales! When buying groceries buy at least one item to donate to the food bank! The need continues, as many are affected by the financial strains of the pandemic. We can reach out and help our neighbors. You can also contribute financially through the church by marking your contribution Missions-Food Bank. You will receive tax credit through the church, and help CITD reach "Top Donor" status.

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### **KNO: Summer Come-back!**

For the months of July and August, we'll have a slow roll-out leading to the fall. We'll be outside some, playing on the playground with water toys and occasionally watering down the equipment. We'll have splash pads and slip-n-slides. Be sure to have a change of clothes and a towel! Bathing suits are encouraged!

Dinner is not included. Snack will be provided.

Cost is \$5 per child

Dates: July 23; August 27

Time: 6:00 – 8:30(ish)

School Schedule (5:30 – 9:30 with dinner) will resume in September.

Stacey: [480-600-7238](tel:480-600-7238)

Covid Precautions:

1. All workers (besides youth) will be vaccinated.
2. Parents can request that their kids wear masks inside, otherwise we assume no masks.
3. All food/drink will be individually served, except for a jug of water on the playground. We will use single-serve small cups and an adult will fill cups.
4. Custodians use CDC guidelines to sanitize before and after.
6. Any other issues will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

### **Socks Needed**

Shoebox Ministry needs your help getting more pairs of new socks to put in their hygiene kits. Sock donations can be dropped off at their office located at 13645 North 32nd Street. Their office hours are Monday - Friday from 9am-3pm.

## Camping Ministry

### Save the Date



After a pause in 2020 a CITD camping trip is scheduled for August 13-15, 2021! Watch for registration information soon. Contact Karen B. at [ksbulkeley@gmail.com](mailto:ksbulkeley@gmail.com) for more information.

### **CITD's Giving 7/6/2021**

Total General Fund Giving: \$5,886.00



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