

# RED MOUNTAIN MATTERS

A publication of Red Mountain United Methodist Church  
2936 N. Power Road Mesa, AZ 85215-9746

Red Mountain United Methodist Church connects people with God in order that they may grow in the  
**Spirit and Love of Christ.**

OCTOBER, 2009

VOLUME 28

No. 9

## RMUMC STAFF

Rev. Mary M. Bullis, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dorothy Saunders-Perez, Associate Pastor  
Peter Gutierrez, Membership/Bookkeeper Specialist  
Cris Bass, Administrative Assistant  
John Durkin, Youth Director  
Debbie Hollenbach, Director of Traditional Music  
and Christian Discipleship Coordinator  
Brock Walters, Contemporary Worship Leader  
Ken Winland, Organist  
Kathy Wooton, Handbell Choirs  
Phyllis Richardson, Children's Choirs Coordinator  
Erin Gray, Preschool Director  
Lloyd and Lorene Hungerford, Custodians  
Laura Lucas, Nursery Attendant

## OFFICE CONTACTS:

PHONE: 480-981-3833  
FAX: 480-807-8483  
E-MAIL: [rmumc@azwildblue.com](mailto:rmumc@azwildblue.com)  
WEB PAGE: [www.rmumc.com](http://www.rmumc.com)

## OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY – THURSDAY  
8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
FRIDAY  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

RED MOUNTAIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
2936 NORTH POWER ROAD  
MESA, AZ 85215-9746

*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MESA, AZ  
PERMIT #478

TIME DATED MATERIALS  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



October



# Red Mountain Matters

OCTOBER, 2009

VOLUME 28

NO. 9



If you attended worship last year on October 19, 2008, you may remember taking a survey at the end of each worship service. We were one of over 2,000 congregations who participated in

the U.S. Congregational Life Survey, which was conducted by Harris researchers and underwritten by a Lilly Endowment grant. Well, guess what? We finally got our results. We have copies of the raw data available to anyone who would like to look at the survey results. This data lists each question from the survey and the exact breakdown of how our worshippers answered each question.

We also received a large packet of interpretive data which determined our church's strengths and weaknesses by comparing our answers to those of all the other congregations who participated in the survey, as well as to congregations of similar size, and congregations of our same denomination. Designed and written by Herb Miller, a well-known expert on congregational health, the Congregational Strength Report is a tool for churches to use in reflecting on identified strengths, as well as on areas that may be hindering church growth and vitality.

While I might have personally written some of the questions differently and interpreted the results in another way, the information we received is quite interesting. The Congregational Strength Report condenses the data into 44 key areas, and then groups those 44 areas into ten strengths. The report states that these ten strengths are necessary for congregational vitality, no matter the size or type of church, or denominational affiliation.

Our own Congregational Strength Report contains good news and bad news. Of the ten strengths, we were rated above average in six and below average in four. Our top six strengths, beginning with the highest, are:

- **Supportive of Young People**
- **Welcoming of New Worshipers**
- **Caring for the Community**
- **Meaningful Worship**
- **Leaders Who Empower**
- **Vision for the Future**

The four church strengths where we were rated below average are:

- **Growing Spiritually**
- **Having a Sense of Belonging**
- **Sharing Faith with Others**
- **Active Participation in the Church**

The main factor that influenced our low scores in **Growing Spiritually** and in **Active Participation** is that very few people indicated that they participate in regular, weekly Sunday School classes, Prayer Groups, Bible Studies or Small Groups. The lack of small groups and small group participation also factored in to the low score in **Sense of Belonging**. A fairly high number of our worshippers (in comparison with other congregations) indicated that they had few close friends in the church. But as we know, one of the main ways we form friendships in a church is through small groups. A lack of emphasis on spiritual growth may also be influencing our uneasiness in sharing our faith with others.

But the good news that these results confirm is that we are a **welcoming congregation**, with **strong leaders**, **meaningful worship**, and **concern for our community**. Forty-six percent of our worshippers taking the survey had been attending the church for five years or less, and 63% for ten years or less. This was interpreted as being extremely positive, in that it shows we are very welcoming of new people. I found it just a bit ironic that we scored so high in being **Supportive of Young People** (and I agree that we are) and yet only 1% of our 216 people who took the survey were under 25 years old, and 55% were over 65. So while we say we are supportive of young people, we sure didn't have many in worship that day, or at least many who were willing to take the survey. ☺

What's the next step? I believe it's to continue to build on our strengths, and also work on emphasizing and encouraging participation in spiritual growth classes and small groups. But I'm very interested in hearing what you think . . .

*Rev. Mary Bullis*



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**  
**OCTOBER 2009**

**Cover**

Pastor Bullis' Message

**Page 2**

Meditations from Pastor Dot

**Page 3**

Worship Schedule  
Jesus Is. . . Sermon Series  
Services on October 25

**Page 4**

Hospitalizations/Sympathies  
Memorial Fund  
The Preschool

**Page 5**

Standing on the Edge. . .  
E.D.G.E. Nights

**Page 6**

Calendar of Events

**Page 7**

Christian Education  
Lay Speaker Classes  
Musician Needed  
Neighborhood Groups

**Page 8**

UMW News and Circles

**Page 9**

Women of Faith  
Reading Program  
Service Project

**Page 10**

Treasurer's Report  
Circle of Promise

**Page 11**

Mission News  
Health Ministry

**Inserts**

October Calendar  
Birthdays and Anniversaries

*MEDITATIONS FROM PASTOR DOT...*



*Harvest*



Two years ago my family and I had the opportunity to go apple picking in up-state New York in the fall. It was a beautiful, cool, cloudy day. A light rain fell from time to time throughout the day and bright yellow buses brought school children to the orchard. Fragrant ripe fruit hung from every tree, weighing down the boughs and the branches. The apples were crisp and tasty, freshly picked from the tree. A sense of abundance was coupled with the sense that none should be wasted. Fallen fruit could be used for cider or butter. Bruised parts could be cut away and the rest of the fruit used for cobblers and pies. The apples didn't have to be perfect to be good and have a purpose.

What will we gather this harvest season? As we look over our spiritual lives, what kind of fruit do we find there? Is there a sense of abundance? Are there trees that have not yet borne fruit? Do we have some seeds that have not yet been planted? Perhaps there is some combination of these. We might find some fallen or bruised fruit that may not be as we had hoped but that still is good to be used for a purpose.

In addition to spiritual fruit, we may find there is also physical gathering to be done in our lives. As we continue to seek ways to live simply, perhaps we can find in our gathering a sense of abundance and a sense that none should be wasted. As we find things that can be reused and recycled, gathered and shared, I am reminded of the ways in which we as a church can care for one another. I thank God for all who gathered food and brought it to our food pantry to be shared. We can be thankful for the resourcefulness of a member with restaurant connections and one of our E.D.G.E. Nights meal teams who donated remaining food to a homeless shelter nearby.

As we gather, may we continue to find ways we can care for one another, the community, and the world, and to invite others to join us in ministries of caring. In this newsletter you will find an article about Neighborhood Groups that may help us come together for ministries of caring. May our gathering and our caring bear witness to the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the kingdom of God. May "the Lord of the harvest . . . send out laborers into his harvest" (*Matthew 9:38*).

*Grace and peace . . .*



## October/November Worship Schedule

7:45, 9:00 & 10:30 am

“Jesus is. . . .”

**Sunday, October 4**      **World Communion Sunday**  
“I am the Bread of Life”      John 6:48  
*Jesus sustains us and gives us all we need.*

**Sunday, October 11**  
“I am the Light of the World”      John 8:12  
*Jesus brings light and love into the darkness of our world.*

**Sunday, October 18**  
“I am the Gate”      John 10:9  
*Jesus opens the door and invites us in.*

**Sunday, October 25**      **Children’s Sabbath**  
“I am the Good Shepherd”      John 10:11  
*Jesus cares for us and watches over us.*  
(Note: *Worship in the Park* replaces the 7:45am  
Coffeeshouse Service)

**Sunday, November 1**      **All Saints Day**  
“I am the Resurrection and the Life”      John 11:25  
*Jesus brings us from death into eternal life.*

**Sunday, November 8**  
“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life”      John 14:6  
*Jesus leads us on the way to an abundant life.*

**Sunday, November 15**  
“I am the Vine”      John 15:5  
*Jesus nourishes us, the branches, to become unbelievably fruitful.*

**Sunday, November 22**  
**Thanksgiving & Consecration Sunday**  
“Called According to God’s Promises”      Romans 8:28  
*We are standing on the edge of tomorrow.*

### JESUS IS . . .

If you have read through all four gospels, you have noticed that the life and ministry of Jesus is portrayed differently in the gospel of John than it is in the other three gospels. The fourth gospel takes us “behind the scenes” of Jesus’ ministry, giving us a glimpse of the mystery of Jesus’ divine nature and origin.

While in the first three gospels, Jesus’ teaching is presented in short sayings and parables, in the fourth gospel, Jesus speaks in long discourses, each one focused around a particular theme. In these discourses, Jesus describes his nature and identity with “I am” statements, using metaphors from everyday life: bread, light, gate, shepherd, way, vine. Referring back to

God’s revelation of the divine name, “I AM,” to Moses at the burning bush, Jesus is saying that he is now the revelation of God in human flesh. Our worship services and sermons in October and November will be based on the seven “I am” statements of Jesus from the gospel of John. As we learn more about who Jesus is, we will reflect on what it means for each of us to lead a “Christ-like life,” and to have Christ live in us and us in him.

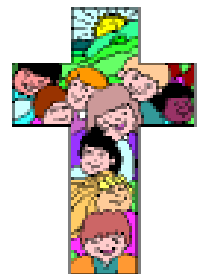
Jesus said, “I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly” (*John 10:10*). Are you ready to follow Jesus on the way, open to a life filled with abundance and a future transformed by the power of redeeming grace? As Gene Barnes says, “we are standing on the edge of tomorrow,” ready to embrace the promise and new life that Christ brings.



Join us for **Worship in the Park** on **Sunday, October 25**. We will gather at Red Mountain Park at the Mallard Ramada, beginning with breakfast at **7:00 am**, followed by worship and communion at **7:30 am**. Please bring a breakfast dish to share, your own coffee or drinks, table service, Bible and a lawn chair. There will also be picnic tables to sit at. Come and enjoy the cool morning air, the sun rising on the lake and the beauty of God’s creation (which includes many ducks!) as we eat, sing and worship together. The park is located at 7745 E. Brown Road (east of Power Road, past Red Mountain High School). Parking is free and is available in the Saguaro parking lot. *There will be no 7:45 am Coffeeshouse Worship service in Madsen Hall.*

### CHILDREN’S SABBATH

Children’s Sabbath, a day which lifts up issues of justice that affect children, will be celebrated on **Sunday, October 25**, during the 9:00 and 10:30 am worship services. The focus of this special service will be on children’s education. The congregation will be invited to bring donations of school supplies. More information regarding this day will be given in the worship services during the preceding Sundays in October. The children’s musical groups will be presenting music at both services.



### THANK YOU, COFFEEHOUSE TRIO!

We give thanks to God for the tremendous worship and music leadership that **Jim and Blair Moses and Barb Cooley** have provided for the 7:45 am Coffeeshouse worship service since its inception. Our whole church joins in saying to them, “**Well done, good and faithful servants!**” Jim, Blair and Barb are “retiring” from their musical leadership, but will continue to be an active part of the Coffeeshouse service. Kim Ramelli, who has been helping with the Coffeeshouse service, will step into the music leadership role. She will be assisted by Brock Walters, Debbie Hollenbach and additional musicians.



### Recently In the Hospital

**Linda Lease**  
**Dorothy Wolfe**  
**Del Fliear**  
**Ray Kreider**  
**Bill Cooley**

**Georgia Mills**  
**Hal Phillips**  
**Sarah Downin**  
**Willie Muhlenberg**



**Jan Vineyard--Death of her husband Bill**  
**Jim Lehman--Death of his brother George**

### MEMORIAL FUND ESTABLISHED

First UMC of Tucson has established a Memorial Fund for Pastor Diego Lopez, who was pastor of Fuente de Vida Methodist Church in Agua Prieta, where our church has served in mission, and his brother-in-law, Pastor Alberto Servin. Both Pastor Diego and Pastor Alberto tragically lost their lives in a single-vehicle accident while doing God's work. Persons wishing to make donations to this fund may do so by making their checks out to First UMC (Tucson) with a notation "For Agua Prieta Pastors Memorial Fund." Donations may be mailed to: First UMC Tucson, 915 E. 4th Street, Tucson, AZ 85719.

The Memorial Fund will remain open until **October 15, 2009**. The donations will be divided evenly among Pastor Diego's and Pastor Alberto's family. Thank you for any contribution you might make. For questions please contact Bill Sanford at 602-266-6956 x217.

### CHURCH MORTGAGE FUND

Contributions in 2009 to our church Mortgage Fund have not been as high as we had hoped they would be, resulting in a current shortfall in the Mortgage Fund of \$22,600. By the end of the year our shortfall is projected to be \$35,000.

Please help by praying for the financial health of the church, and if you are able, by making an additional contribution to this important fund. Our buildings are not just buildings; they are places where ministry happens! Mark any donation "Mortgage Fund". Thank you!

### HAVE YOU PEEKED IN THE PRESCHOOL?

The temperature doesn't quite feel like fall, but for our preschoolers it's back to school! We have 45 bright-eyed children that make their way to our campus each school day. They are enjoying their new friends and learning about the world around them and that they are loved by God and all of us. We have a wonderful staff and volunteers!



We want to thank our congregation for all the paper goods that were donated during the month of August. We are well stocked for the year. It makes a difference and we are so grateful. We are also blessed to have **Gene Barnes** heading up the scholarship fund drive and for all of those who give so very generously. Thank you! You make a difference too.

Thank you to our Trustees led by **Larry Coffelt** for getting the facilities and grounds ready for all the children and their families when they started back to school. Thank you to **Stewart Earl** and others who helped to prepare the playground and **Dan Miller** who helped tremendously with his speedy window and building washing and cleaning. Thanks to our custodian **Lloyd Hungerford** who cleaned and polished floors and shampooed carpets and to **John Durkin** and his crew for pulling weeds and trimming the bushes. Thank you to all who were under a sun hat or behind the scenes that we may have missed naming. Our grounds and facilities look outstanding because of your hard work!

A special thank you to the Preschool Committee who always put in extra hours at the beginning and end of each school year. There are always teachers to be thanked and welcomed, chairs to be washed, dolls to clean up, and trucks to polish before everyone arrives on that first day. Thank you to these hard-working committee members: **Sonja Coffelt, Judy Dunn, Lisa Knowles, Penny Gumser, Betty Rose, Cassie Sampson, Pastor Dot and our Director Erin Gray.**

If you haven't stopped by, or peeked in, or listened to the children on the playground, stop by, take a peek and see how wonderful our preschool ministry is!

*Lisa Knowles, Preschool Committee Co-Chair*

### ALL CHURCH CAMP--THANKS!

Many thanks to all who helped to make our all-church camp a success! A special thank you to our planning team, activity leaders, registrars, publicity coordinator, and all who pitched in to lead worship and in many other ways during the weekend. We thank God for everyone who participated and made this event possible.

# STANDING ON THE EDGE OF TOMORROW

*Standing on the Edge of Tomorrow is more than a theme for Stewardship, it is our hopes and dreams for the future. Continued from last month....verse 2...*

*Standing on the edge of adventure,  
God is calling us to be resolved  
Calling us to share our time and talent, ministries  
where we can be involved  
Sensing power from the Holy Spirit,  
gifted by the Spirit, we receive  
Time to give our lives in God's service,  
talents that express what we believe*

Imagine how the theme of this song will resonate over the next few weeks, as you hear and see people who are using their time and talents as a part of the ministry of our congregation. You will hear their witness of how their lives are being inspired and transformed by serving in the life of our church and in the name of Jesus Christ. Most likely, you have already been affected by their ministry or you will be soon.

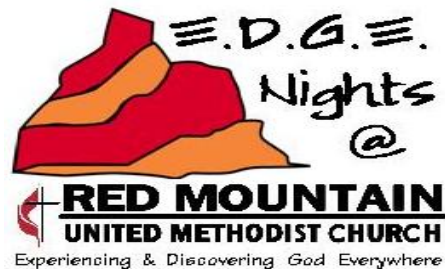
Imagine how the ministries of our congregation could be strengthened and multiplied if more of us committed to discerning and discovering the ways in which our time and talent could expand the ministries of loving service. You will be given opportunity to explore the variety of ministries through media, personal stories, illustrative brochures, preaching and liturgy. As Paul writes to the Corinthians: *"There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit, varieties of service, but the same Lord, and varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one."* 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Imagine the *spiritual dynamic* of more and more of us being open to and prayerfully pondering the possibilities. What is God calling me to do with my talents and spiritual gifts?

*Sensing power from the Holy Spirit,  
gifted by the Spirit, we receive  
Time to give our lives in God's service,  
talents that express what we believe*

*Gene Barnes*

# STANDING ON THE EDGE OF TOMORROW



## **E.D.G.E. Nights Second Session Begins October 21 for 5 weeks! Don't miss out!**

E.D.G.E. Nights, our Wednesday evenings of fun, fellowship, and education, begins a second session of five-week classes and activities on **Wednesday, October 21**. The evenings begin at **5:15 pm** with a buffet supper in Madsen Hall – yum! And just think – no worries about what to cook for Wednesday night dinner! Ya gotta love that!

Classes and studies for all ages begin at **6:00 and 7:00 pm**. If you can't make it to dinner, then come for a class. It's a very casual atmosphere. There are music related classes, faith development, support groups, and classes to just come and enjoy for an hour in your busy week. Some of our classes are continuing through the second five weeks due to their content and length of study.

The new classes beginning in the second session include "World Religions", a five-week series exploring four major world religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism) and comparing the beliefs of each with those of Christianity. This study will be led by Pastor Mary Bullis at the 6:00 hour. Another offering is "Save Your Life: One Story At a Time", a writing-your-memoirs class, led by Dana Tramba, at 7:00 pm. Dana will lead you through writing your life story in some short, easy and fun steps.

Watch for new class additions and descriptions with all the details to be distributed soon on Sundays and on our website at [www.RMUMC.com](http://www.RMUMC.com). Registration begins for the second session on **Sunday, October 4**.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**



### **CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION**

Confirmation Orientation for confirmands and their families will take place on **Sunday, October 4, at 12 noon** in Madsen Hall. All are welcome to come for the fellowship lunch in Madsen Hall after the Third service, then come and find out more about the opportunity to grow in faith through Confirmation!

*Calendar  
these  
Events!*




**FLU CLINIC COMING**

Mollen Immunization Clinic will be on our campus again this fall to administer the flu vaccine. Look for them to be set up on **Sunday, October 4, from 8:30 am until**

**Noon on the patio** (if not raining). Cost for the shot is \$25. Bring your insurance card and/or cash or check. Don't take chances this year with the flu. Get immunized!

**MAMMOGRAPHY CLINIC**

The Mammography Clinic has been rescheduled for January 30. More information will follow.



**SIMPLE SURPRISES--  
SEEKING GOD**

**October 9--11 at  
Mingus Mountain**

There are still some openings for the spiritual retreat

taking place this month in the northern, cool air of Mingus Mountain. Take a break from the city and contact Sue Killebrew at 480-985-8303 so you won't miss out on the opportunity to grow deeper in your faith in God.

**THE CLASSICS**

*Everywhere we go-o,  
people want to know-o,  
who we a-re, so we tell them, We are  
the CLASSICS, mighty, mighty  
CLASSICS.....* OK - so who are "THE CLASSICS" really? The Classics is a group for all adults!



They meet once a month, generally on the second Saturday of each month. Activities vary each month and are hosted by members within the group. Usually food is included in any event that the Classics have....from potlucks and games at the church to riding the light rail to Phoenix (for food naturally)! And it will be no different in October. . . .

So, mark your calendars **NOW** and join us on **Saturday, October 24, at 5:30 pm** in Madsen Hall for a Mexican Fiesta! Cost is \$5.00 for the dinner and you can sign up on the patio between services in October. The Fiesta evening will include some mysterious and haunting and fun games. Since the date is close to Halloween, costumes are optional. We hope to see **YOU** there! If you aren't a classic yet, become one!

**CENTRAL EAST DISTRICT  
ANNUAL MEETING**

Central East District will hold its annual meeting on **Saturday, October 3, from 9:00 am until Noon** at Scottsdale United Methodist Church, 4140 N. Miller Road in Scottsdale. This meeting will focus on issues of stewardship—the earth, our time, and our financial resources—and we will explore how easy it is to be “green”. No pre-registration is necessary and childcare is available by reservation. For more information or to reserve childcare, contact the CED office at 480-854-1217 or [april@desertsw.org](mailto:april@desertsw.org).



**FALL WORKDAY**

The Trustees will be cleaning up the church campus this fall. Plan to help them with jobs such as tree and bush trimming, trash pick-

up, planting new bushes, replacing old light bulbs, and the list goes on. Date is to be determined, but you can contact Larry Coffelt to offer your help now.



**THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE  
AND BAKE SALE**

**Saturday, November 7 -- 8:00 am – 3:00 pm**

The Red Mountain Crafters have been meeting throughout the year to make this year's boutique the best ever!! Shoppers will find great gift ideas! Some of the handmade items include many unique holiday decorations, aprons, quilts, blankets, jewelry and useful household items. The United Methodist Women will also be holding their annual bake sale, offering up some wonderfully delicious baked goods and candies!

Anyone who would like to help make items for the fourth annual Holiday Boutique is invited attend workshops **every Thursday at 7:00 pm through October 29** at Penny Gumser's home, 1924 Leisure World. Penny promises that you do not have to be an experienced crafter to participate and the fellowship is great! For directions or questions, call Penny at 480-981-1458.

*Save the Date!*  
**Saturday, November 14**  
**ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE**



### RECOGNITION OF OUR TEACHERS

On September 27 our teachers were honored at a special luncheon for their faithful volunteer service on Sunday mornings and during the week leading various Bible studies. A big “Thank You” to these persons:

*Adult Classes: Gene Barnes, Paul Bullis, Barb Cooley, Stewart Earl, Jeff Ferm, Bob Gradle, Paul and Lynn Martin, Dr. Larry Norris*

*Children’s Classes: Jennifer Baptist, Barbara Byas, Jo Ann Epperson, Ann Griffin, Laura Ann Fransen, Amber McCall, Elizabeth Rose, Megan White-Oxford*

*Youth Classes: Lori Blankenship, Charlotte Cummings, John Durkin, Trena Payne, John and Karla Groenenboom, Timothy VanLuven*

*Substitutes: Bill Cooley, Teresa Kolton, Suzanne Taylor, Margi Woodyard*

*Nursery Class: Laura Lucas*

*Children’s Exploration: Carolyn Ball, Zell Collum, Charlotte Cummings, Marilyn Krouse, Anne Mason, David Peterson, Phyllis Richardson, Kathleen Shubert, Gina VanLuven*

*Mid-Week Classes: Wally Abraham, Joyce Davis, Phil Hartley*



Basic and Advanced Lay Speaking classes will be held on **Friday, November 20-21**, at Chandler UMC, 450 E. Chandler Heights Road, in Chandler. The Basic Class, led by Mary Ellen Boyer of White Mountain UMC in Showlow, is for anyone interested in lay speaking. The Advanced Class will focus on “Lay Speakers Grow Spiritually” and is led by Bob McCartney of Chandler UMC. The basic course is \$30 and the advanced course \$20. Cost includes all materials and three meals. Deadline to register is **November 10**. Contact Mary Ellen Boyer with questions regarding these classes at 928-367-0975 or at [wrmeboyer@frontiernet.net](mailto:wrmeboyer@frontiernet.net).

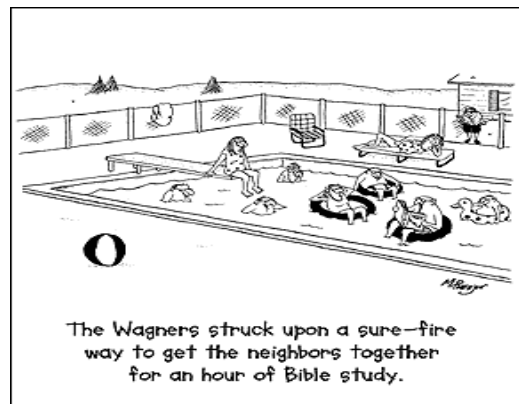


We are fortunate to have wonderful musical talents that are shared in all three of our Sunday morning worship services. If you attend the 7:45 am Coffeehouse Worship Service you enjoy a warm and casual atmosphere with praise and worship music accompanied by keyboard and guitar. At the 9:00 am Traditional Service you experience majestic and powerful hymns lead by our chancel choir, piano, organ and on special occasions other instruments. At "The Third" (10:30 am) you participate in praise led by our contemporary band and vocal team. We appreciate the talent and time that is given each week by all of our singers and instrumentalists! If **YOU** have the gift of song, whether it be through singing or playing an instrument, we encourage you to speak up...step up.... and join one of our musical teams. **YOU** are needed! Contact Kim Ramelli, Debbie Hollenbach or Brock Walters **NOW** and get plugged-in to one of our music groups! Call the church office or leave them an e-mail message at: [k.ramelli@usa.net](mailto:k.ramelli@usa.net), [dhollenbach@azwildblue.com](mailto:dhollenbach@azwildblue.com), [brockwalters@mac.com](mailto:brockwalters@mac.com). You will also find further information by visiting the church web site at [www.rmumc.com](http://www.rmumc.com).

### NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

Neighborhood Groups help people get to know others from our church who live in their neighborhood or nearby. Possible ways to connect with other Red Mountain UMC families within your neighborhood may include meeting for a meal, study, or another event together. Groups may begin simply by praying for one another.

Additional information about Neighborhood Groups will be available soon. We would welcome your ideas about possibilities for this ministry. If you would like to help, or if you have questions, ideas, or other suggestions, please contact Doris Broschat or Pastor Dot. Please be in prayer about this ministry and the ways in which we might grow as disciples together with our neighbors!





**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**  
**(UMW)**

*(Articles submitted by Sue Killebrew)*

**OUR PURPOSE**

*The organized unit of United Methodist Women is a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.*



*All women are invited to attend any UMW event.*

**UMW UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

- October 3** – Unit Executive Board Meeting – **9:00 am** in Madsen Hall
- October 8** – Fall Unit Meeting – **7:00 pm** in Madsen Hall  
Program: Paul Bullis speaking on Consumer Fraud.  
Doves Circle will be hosting
- October 10** – Central East District Annual Meeting at Sun Lakes UMC.
- October 24** – Desert Southwest Conference Annual UMW Meeting at Calvary UMC in Phoenix
- November 6** – Church Women United sponsored World Community Day in Madsen Hall
- December 5** – Christmas Luncheon – **11:30 am** in Madsen Hall. Program: Hands of Joy Signing Choir  
Irene and Rebecca Circles hosting

**RED CANVAS BAGS**



This month the UMW will be selling red canvas bags with the church logo imprinted on one side. They are great bags that can be used for groceries or all the necessary items you shop for.

Look for UMW members on **Sundays, October 18 and 25**, on the patio. The bags will sell for only \$3. This may be more than you pay at the grocery store for one of their bags, but *this* bag will have the RMUMC logo on it and you can be a walking advertisement of our church by using it wherever you go. Plus, the money you pay will stay within the church to support the church through UMW projects.

**WHAT ARE CIRCLES?**

United Methodist Women strive to follow Christ in acts of love, justice, mercy and faith by joining together as a community of women and fulfilling “Our Purpose” (printed on this page). Circles are subgroups within the UMW which allow women to focus on special mission interests by using a smaller group setting. Circles are organized to accomplish the purpose of UMW through avenues of inviting new members, doing projects and community service, and pursuing special interests, studies, etc. Circles are the working arm of our United Methodist Women.

Red Mountain UMC has five existing Circles (**Faith, Irene, Doves, Rebecca and Hope**). Last month a new Tuesday evening circle began meeting at the church with eight women in attendance. After some discussion, the name “Grace” was decided as the name for this new circle. This circle, as well as the other circles, are open to new members at any time. Feel free to contact the church if you would be interested in joining a community of friends in any of these circles.

**OCTOBER CIRCLE MEETINGS**

- Grace Circle:** **October 13 -- 6:30 pm** --Room 203/204
- Hope Circle:** **October 15 – 9:15 am** – Madsen Hall
- Doves Circle:** **October 15-- 1:00 pm** – Evy Hartley’s
- Irene Circle:** **October 21 – 9:30 am** – Doris Broschat’s
- Rebecca Circle:** **October 22 –9:30 am** --Verna Berndt’s
- Faith Circle:** **October 24 (Saturday) --5:00 p.m.** – Dana Tramba’s



**CAMPBELL'S LABELS**

UMW is supporting the Wesley Community Center by collecting Campbell's soup labels, Prego, V-8 Juices, Pepperidge Farm,

Franco-American and any other Campbell product. The BARCODE is all you need to submit, but we will accept the entire label. You will find collection boxes in the kitchen and on the patio. Just look for a container with the soup label on it. Thanks to **Gladys Stricker** who cuts, sorts value points, and prepares the labels for mailing to the Wesley Community Center. The Center has been able to purchase items such as computers by using this “Labels for Education Program”. Check out the Campbell's website for many more products that count at [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com).



The Focus for United Methodist Women this past year has been the theme: “*Women of Faith.*” Since January we have focused on many women, past and present, that have been able to say

“Use me, God”. They have heard the call of God and been able to turn a difficult circumstance into a positive one or were used in ministry either in their home country or abroad. Many wrote the words and/or music to hymns that are loved by all. This month we look at the hymn writer, Civilla D. Martin.

**Civilla D. Martin, Hymn Writer -1866-1948**

*“Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father.”-- Matthew 10:29 NIV*

“How can you be so joyful?” Civilla Martin asked her friends, Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle. In spite of being confined to wheelchairs, the couple ran a successful business and overflowed with contagious joy and courage. “His eye is on the sparrow and He watches me,” Mrs. Doolittle replied matter-of-factly. Her friend's remark blessed Civilla, and she used it as the theme for the poem, “His Eye Is on the Sparrow.” Charles H. Gabriel wrote music for the words, and later Ethel Waters made the song popular when she sang it in the Billy Graham Crusades:

*Why should I feel discouraged,  
why should the shadows come,  
Why should my heart be lonely  
and long for heav'n and home  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant friend is He:  
His eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know He watches me.*

Sparrows abound and are worth only a few cents each. Yet, if even one falls from his perch, God knows about it. You are of much more value to God than any bird! You may feel insignificant, but your friend Jesus cares and He's watching out for you!



**KITCHEN RENOVATION**

Stop by the kitchen in Madsen Hall and see the beginning of this year's UMW project with

the brand new center island counter top recently installed by **Jimmy Payne**. It is a beautiful addition to the kitchen and the UMW thanks you, Jimmy, for your hard work. The UMW will continue throughout this year and the next to complete the kitchen renovation project.

**HAVE YOU READ AN INSPIRATIONAL BOOK LATELY?**



Located on a book cart inside the church library is a selection of books purchased as a part of the **UMW Reading Program**. The program is open to all women. The diverse range of books are chosen with the idea of enhancing our exposure to many different concepts so that we may be knowledgeable and caring Christians. Reading just four books from the 2005-2009 reading list, available in the library, qualifies you as a participant of the reading program. Fill out the form on the library cart by December for qualification. Here is a synopsis of one of the book choices:

**William Wilberforce – A Biography  
By Stephen Tomkins**

This biography of William Wilberforce transports you back to a dramatic age of conflict and upheaval. In the 1780's, almost 40,000 people were taken from Africa in British ships, through the notorious Middle Passage to the Caribbean. In 1787 William Wilberforce was urged by William Pitt, the British Prime Minister, to introduce a parliamentary bill outlawing the slave trade. Neither man imagined the twenty-year political campaign that would consume the rest of Wilberforce's life.

**UMW SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT**

Do you have some old tennis shoes lying in your closet or garage? Isn't it time for you to recycle some of that old footwear? Bring your tired and old (but clean) tennis shoes (any brand) to the church and place them in the box on the patio on Sunday mornings. UMW is supporting the **NIKE SHOE RECYCLING** program by collecting old tennis shoes and taking them to collection points located in Tempe. These shoes are then broken down and ground into rubber to be used for future athletic tracks. Do you want to see how it works? Check out the website at [www.nikereuseashoe.com](http://www.nikereuseashoe.com) and watch the video to see how your tennis shoes are being used. Then bring those old tennis shoes to the church to recycle!



*Please remember...*

**When you change your mailing address, your phone number or your e-mail address, please notify the church office. Also, let us know of births, deaths, marriages, hospitalizations or omissions of birthdays or anniversaries. Call the church office at 480-981-3833 so we can keep our database current.**



*Phil Hartley, Treasurer*

Our income was up a little from last year as you can see from the chart below. There was a significant increase in the “non-pledged giving”. This is monies that are from persons that have not made a pledge, so this money is very difficult to estimate and fluctuates from month to month. Both funds (General Ministries and Mortgage) are getting deeper in the red. This is not unusual, but the magnitude of the deficit is something that the committee is deeply concerned about. If things don’t turn around shortly, we’ll have to take special measures to assure that we don’t end the year in this position.

**General Ministries Fund**

	<u>Aug '09</u>	<u>Aug '08</u>	<u>Total to date '09</u>	<u>Total to date '08</u>
INCOME:	\$ 39,505	\$ 39,111	\$356,247	\$348,069
EXPENSES:	\$ 44,485	\$ 38,778	\$369,142	\$348,012
CHANGE:	(\$ 4,980)	\$ 333	(\$ 12,895)	\$ 57

From the chart below, the Mortgage Fund is also going further into a negative balance. We must pay our mortgage bill of \$13,270 every month and our income is averaging around \$10,000 per month. The Finance Committee has seen this trend and is working to address this situation. We would appreciate any suggestions.

**Mortgage Fund**

	<u>Aug '09</u>	
Received:	\$ 10,508	Fund Balance:
Dispersed:		(\$ 22,637)
Interest:	\$ 5,822	Total Mortgage
Principal:	\$ 7,448	Principal: \$1,159,916
Monthly Mortgage:	\$ 13,270	
Excess (shortage)	(\$ 2,762)	

Your Finance Committee works hard all year to see that the church has enough money to carry out the programs and budget items that were approved by the membership. That is good stewardship. When there is a shortage of income to do this, something has to be reduced in the expense category. Some things can’t be reduced like the mortgage payment, payroll and utilities. Some things can be reduced by just not spending the money, as with education and missions. But these come with a significant long-term cost. We have new and exciting programs and classes that are underway. We have new people each

Sunday attending our services to check us out. The Bible says that God “spits out the lukewarm and desires those who are excited”. There are plenty of offerings here at Red Mountain UMC to excite nearly everyone. Come and bring a friend, neighbor or coworker and say a prayer. **Lean Forward, Reach Out, Grow With God.**



**CIRCLE OF PROMISE**

**THE BIBLE’S PERSPECTIVE**

When it comes to your giving and our asking, here are some thoughts on a biblical perspective that we try to follow:

- God owns it all (1 Chronicles 29:14)**  
God has provided us with all of our time, wealth, possessions and resources. God owns everything. These resources are His gifts to us, which God will use to accomplish wonderful things for his kingdom.
- We are to manage God’s resources (1 Peter 4:10)**  
Since God owns everything, Christians are called to be managers or stewards of all that God entrusts to them, to honor and glorify Him.
- Our giving is to God (Romans 12:1; Philippians 4:17)**  
Giving then, is a worshipful act of returning to God from what He has provided. Your giving should be directed to God and His work, not to an organization. Therefore, giving is a spiritual decision.
- God is the fundraiser (1 Chronicles 29:9; 2 Corinthians 9:7)**  
When needs are shared, the response is from the heart. God is the only one who stirs hearts and moves spirits.
- What is RMUMC’s role? (1 Chronicles 29:9; Exodus 35:21; 2 Corinthians 8-9)**  
Examples from David, Moses and Paul suggest that our responsibility is to share the need, provide opportunities for stewards to respond, and allow God the opportunity to stir hearts and move spirits.

*Submitted by Roy Schlessman*



**MISSION MOMENTS**  
*(submitted by Carolyn Ball)*

God did not forget nor forsake the smoldering wick of the United Methodist Church in Latvia, as she re-emerged in 1992 after the collapsed of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Today she has 13 congregations -- 11 Latvian speaking, two Russian speaking -- many consisting of the lost and the least in Latvian society.

**Courtney and Dan Randall**  
*Missionaries in Riga, Latvia*

With the end of the civil war, the new government in Liberia, headed by the first female African president, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, has made rapid strides in rebuilding the collapsed infrastructure in Liberia. For the first time in years electricity and piped water have returned to parts of Monrovia, the capital city. However, we still rely on generators for electricity and bore holes for water at the mission compound. It will take some time before the entire city of Monrovia is fully functional again. However, we are thankful that under the inspired leadership of Ellen, a United Methodist, much has been achieved in a relatively short period of time.

**George and Nancy Caren**  
*Missionaries in Monrovia, Liberia*

**ARIZONA MILLION MEAL EVENT**

Love of Christ Lutheran Church at 1525 N. Power Road in Mesa will be the local church hosting "A Million Meals" from **November 17—21**. The goal is to pack one million meals for Feed My Starving Children in just one week. That is enough to feed over 2700 children for a year! Three other churches in Phoenix, Scottsdale and Peoria will also host the event. \$170,000 will need to be raised to pay for the cost of the food and thousands of volunteers are needed to pack these meals. For more information or to offer your assistance, contact Janine Skinner at [tableofhope@gmail.com](mailto:tableofhope@gmail.com) or 480-706-1381.



Habitat for  
Humanity

There is no East Valley Habitat for Humanity project this fall on the drawing boards. However, the situation could change at a later time. If anyone

wishes to help at a Habitat for Humanity site, contact Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona's website at [www.\\*habitat\\*caz.org](http://www.*habitat*caz.org).



**CANCER AWARENESS**  
**OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER**  
**AWARENESS MONTH**

*(Judy Dunn for Health and Wellness Committee)*

A breast cancer diagnosis may come out of the blue-- detected with a mammogram, during a routine visit to your doctor, or through a breast self examination. Finding breast cancer early may make a big difference. Almost half of American women over the age of 40 do not follow the recommended guidelines for early detection. Many don't have a doctor or they are too afraid of the results.

More than 200,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and almost 40,000 will die from the disease. The older a woman is, the more likely she will be to develop breast cancer. But women under 40 are still at risk. Please talk with your doctor today about your own personal risk.

I, and many others, will be walking the 60 mile breast cancer three-day event again this year. This is 60 miles of inspirational laughter and tears. I walk because I believe I can make a difference to someone who may not have health insurance and cannot afford it. I walk also because I have several dear friends who are going through cancer treatment.

Be a hero! Tell as many women as possible about the life-saving benefits of early detection and treatment of breast cancer. And, if you have not done so, be sure to schedule your own breast cancer screening **TODAY**.

**Keep up with your church--**

**Visit Our Web Page!**  
**www.RUMUC.COM**

- **View the church calendar**
- **Read the church newsletter**
- **Find a class or study group**
- **Link to the Daily Devotional**