



The Spirit of St. Francis



**APRIL
2018**



In This Issue

[Jim's Easter Letter](#)

[Sunday Night at the Movies](#)

[Library News](#)

[Exploring Membership at St. Francis!](#)

[Save and Shop!](#)

[Powerful Teamwork!](#)

4625 E River Rd.

Tucson, AZ 85718

(520)299-9063

www.stfrancisumc.org

NUMBERS TO KNOW

Bulletin & Newsletter:
(520)299-9063, Ext.101

Contribution/Pledge
Questions:
(520)299-9063. Ext.102



A Word From Our Pastor



Flavor of the Week

Dear St. Francis Family,

A few years ago, a rock group, American Hi Fi, wrote a song called "Flavor of the Weak". It talks about a girlfriend and boyfriend who have radically different

views of their relationship. His view is very superficial and so he puts little effort into the relationship. She's just the flavor of the week and he will soon go onto someone else. On the other hand, "she knows all his favorite songs" and "he means everything to her". The relationship is important to her, but is that enough?

As human beings, we often live in fear that we have that sort of relationship with those around us. What if they don't love me as much as I love them? What if they're just pretending? What if I'm just the "flavor of the week"?

Actually, being hurt by another person in this way confirms these fears and that is a reality most of us face at sometime or other in our lifetime. It might be a spouse or a parent that hurts us. It could just as easily be a brother, a sister, a child or a friend. When it happens, it shakes the very foundation of our world.

What a comfort then, it is to have a God that has promised us, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20). We have been promised that no matter what the other relationships of our lives are like, God is a constant presence. We are loved deeper and longer than any love we give. When our world is shaking and everything seems so unsure, I find great strength in the fact that to God we are never the "Flavor of the Week" but a beloved child.

May you feel Spirit's love and blessings in your life.
Happy Easter!

Jim

Membership Information,
Prayer Requests:
(520)299-9063, Ext.101

Room Reservations:
(520)299-9063, Ext.101

International School for
Peace
(520)299-8908

FOR PASTORAL HELP
Reverend Jim Wiltbank
(520)299-9063, Ext.106



**The Desert
Southwest
Conference of the
UMC**

Resident Bishop
Bishop Robert Hoshibata
(602)266-6956

District Superintendent
Rev. Mark Conrad
(520)325-2775

South District Lay Leader
Maritza Velazquez
(520)285-6928

PERÚ

The St. Francis Youth continue to work hard to raise funds for their upcoming trip to the Refuge of Hope (Refugio de Esperanza) in Peru. Besides themselves and a small bag of personal items, each (hopefully) will be toting one to two extra suitcases filled with donations for the Refuge. Here is a list of items that are needed.

Medical Items

Tylenol, Aspirin, Ibuprofen
Antacids
Anti-Diarrhea medicine
Laxatives
Antibiotic ointment (Neosporin, etc.)
Antifungal Cream (Lamisil)
Ointment for rashes
Gauze/Ace Bandages/ Band Aids
Knee/ankle/wrist braces
Orthopedic Velcro strips
Freezable Ice Packs
Antibacterial hand gel or wipes
Multivitamins
Kits for repairing eyeglasses
Powerbars or Protein Granola bars

Children's School Supplies

USB "flash" drive (Helpful for the staff)
Batteries (AA and AAA)
Super Glue/Elmer's Glue
Hard candies
Pens/Pencils
Notebooks
Printer paper
Crayons/Colored Pencils
Scissors
Scotch Tape/Packing Tape/ Duct Tape
Small toys for prizes
Any craft supplies

**As always, thank you for your help
and generosity.**



1 Amy Marble
1 Robert Thompson, Jr.
2 John Eisele
2 Lana Holstein
2 Carolyn Kenney-Carter
3 Brad Siegel
4 Amy Fowler
4 Meg Pradelt
5 Mark Trommer
6 Randy Brauer
7 Mary Hidalgo
8 Marge Hefty
8 Belva Lackey
8 Katie Burrows
9 Andy Marble
11 Shelley Whitlatch
12 Judy Rubin
12 Mike Wilkinson
13 Gail Harris
14 Cassandra Leon
16 Ruth Cross
17 Grace Hartman
18 Pamela Bisson
19 Neill Marble
19 Dee O'Neill
19 Richard Snodgrass
19 Terry Donaldson
21 Paul Scott
21 Daniel Niksich
21 Gretchen Leavenworth-Keenberg
22 Megan Holehan
22 Thomas Wheeler
23 Scott Hamstra
23 Alice Weekley
25 Jim Burgbacher
25 Barbara Eisele
25 Art Evans
29 Jill Porterfield

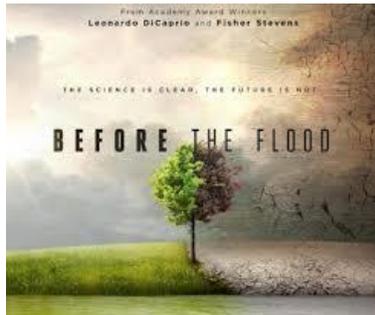


Sunday Night At The Movies

Sunday, April 8th
5:00 pm in the Community Center
(New summer hours!)

Showing this month:

Before the Flood
(2016, 96 minutes, PG)



Before the Flood, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. He goes on expeditions with scientists uncovering the reality of climate change, and meets with political leaders fighting against inaction. He also discovers a calculated disinformation campaign orchestrated by powerful special interests working to confuse the public about the urgency of the growing climate crisis. With unprecedented access to thought leaders around the world, DiCaprio searches for hope in a rising tide of catastrophic news.

We will start at 5:00 pm with a potluck dinner, so please bring a main dish, side dish or salad to share.

For more information, contact Nancy at
nancyp@nancymasland.com

In Concert at St. Francis -



***Dede Wyland
and
The Sonoran Dogs***



Friday, April 6th, 8:00 pm
in the Celebration Center

Doors open at 7:30 pm!

Advance Tickets:

General Admission: \$20.00
\$18.00 in advance for DBA,
KXCI and TFTM members.

Advance tickets available at
The Folk Shop
2525 N. Campbell Ave.
Antigone Books
411 N. 4th Avenue
Chicago Store
5646 E. Speedway

Door tickets:
\$23.00 general,
\$21.00 members

Tickets are also available at
www.inconcerttucson.com
(\$3.00 ticket fee applies)

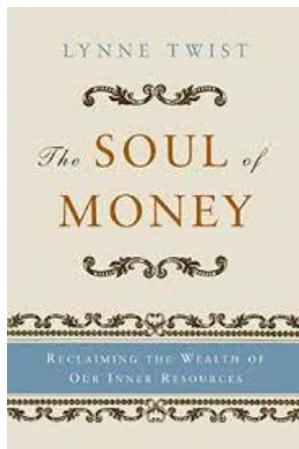
Library News



Recommended Reads

The Soul of Money by Lynne Twist

This is one of the most extraordinary books I have ever read. Through personal experiences and powerful stories, Lynne Twist demonstrates how we can transform our relationship with money. In so doing, we can replace feelings of scarcity, guilt and burden with experiences of sufficiency, freedom and purpose. Lynne is a global activist and fundraiser who has raised more than \$150 million in individual contributions for charitable causes. I highly recommend this book to anyone, especially those engaged in fundraising.



The book begins with a critical look at the destructive power money wields over us in our consumer society. Lynne points out that money is neither evil nor good. It can be used to affirm life and our core values; or it can be used to diminish and destroy life. In our society, all our systems - politics, government, health care, education, economics, including our money system, have been designed around scarcity. The prevailing belief is that there isn't enough for everyone. It's a you *or* me paradigm. But she shows us how we can participate in birthing a new world where we know that there is enough because we live in a context of sufficiency and prosperity for all - a paradigm of you *and* me.

In Concert at St. Francis -



presents

27th Annual Gala Spring Concert

Saturday, April 7th,
3:00 pm in the
Celebration Center

\$15.00 admission
Students free!

Pay online at

www.sonsoforpheus.org,

purchase tickets from a choir member, or pay at the door with cash, credit card or check made out to *Sons of Orpheus*.



Elder Circle . . .

The Wisdom Journey.
A safe, respectful place
to harvest your life

Friday, April 13th,
10:00 - 11:30 am
in Ravenscroft Hall

Elder Circle is a dialogue group that meets to discuss important topics that cultivate the value of

At the end of the book is a list of 58 organizations working to make this transformation possible. Each one has a description and specific contact information.

- Becky Wilson
Library Volunteer

Check us out - literally!

Library for Peace is open from 9:00 to 12:30 pm on Sunday mornings.
We are also available during the week.
Please call 299-9063 for availability.



St. Francis in the Foothills Exploring Membership Retreat

Saturday, April 21st

8:30 am - 2:00 pm in the Community Center

Join Pastor Jim Wiltbank and the Welcome Team as they host an enjoyable and enlightening Membership Class to answer questions about the history and mission of St. Francis in the Foothills.

A healthy light lunch will be served.

Please RSVP by April 11th by calling the Church Office at 299-9063.

Elders as mentors and wise council in our community.

It provides a safe, respectful place to share our stories, learn from each other and join together in the adventure of aging consciously.

Elder Circles is a project of the Center for Community Dialogue, Our Family Services.

All are welcome.



Endowment Fund Applications Now Being Accepted!

Twice a year, the St. Francis Endowment Fund Committee considers dispersing funds. Applications for funds will be considered in the following areas:

- *Mission
- *Scholarship
- *Property
- *Ministry
- *Special Need

Applications may be picked up in the church office and must be returned by April 15th.

The St. Francis Endowment Program was established in 2008 for the purpose of providing members and friends the opportunity to make charitable gifts to St. Francis in the Foothills that would become a permanent endowment of financial support and a living memorial.



Powerful Teamwork!

What do church members, a federal judge and former prisoners do when they get together?

They volunteer as team members to help non-profits in Tucson!

Please join with members of the four churches who are members of *Faith Community Connections*: St. Francis in the Foothills UMC, Our Savior's Lutheran, First Christian Disciples of Christ and Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church to help at

Community Food Bank,
Wednesday, April 25th, 9:00 am to noon

We will inspect and sort cans, load emergency food boxes for seniors, families, veterans and school pantries.

You must be at least 16 years old, wear closed-toe shoes and shirts with sleeves.

To register to be part of this team, contact Diane Wilson at dlsWilson57@gmail.com

The St. Francis Endowment Fund is invested in the Desert Southwest United Methodist Fund. While the principal of the fund remains intact and untouched, the earnings of the Funds may be distributed at the discretion of the Endowment Fund Committee:

Karen Bliss (Chair), Jim Wiltbank, Chuck Adams, George Daranyi, David Daniell, Matt Lehrer, Linda Van Pelt.

Support the future of St. Francis by bequeathing funds or property to the Endowment Fund in your Will or Trust.

For more information, contact Karen Bliss at kbliss86@gmail.com



Produce on Wheels Without Waste

Saturday, April 28th
7:00 - 10:00 am
Celebration Center
Parking Lot

For a \$10.00 cash donation, you will get up to 60 lbs. of produce! We also need volunteers to work the produce line.

Volunteers get their produce FREE!

Contact Patricia Moore at musicaloverlord@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering, donating or if you have any questions.



The grand totals for the 2017 *Shop with Scrip* program are in, and through your gift card purchases, you have raised \$2935.00 extra dollars for the church!

This came from what you would normally spend at the grocery store, the pharmacy, for gasoline and at restaurants. All it takes is planning ahead and pre-ordering gift cards for places you frequently shop, dine and buy groceries. We can earn 2-18% back in rebates from all these merchants.

Our goal for this year is to have people start getting used to ordering cards from some of the other retailers in addition to the usual grocery retailers.

For the month of April, we are highlighting our Home Improvement Retailers such as *Home Depot, Lowe's and Ace Hardware*. Anyone purchasing a gift card from one of these retailers will be entered in a drawing for an Amazon gift card!

If you have questions about the *Shop with Scrip* program, stop by the Scrip table on Sunday mornings between the 9:00 and 10:30 am services, and talk to Lorelei. You'll be glad you did!

Weekly Breakfasts



**Sophia's Circle
Women's Breakfast Group**
Wednesdays 6:45 - 8:00 am
in Ravenscroft Hall



**Chrysalis
Men's Round Table**
Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:00 am
in Ravenscroft Hall

**Newcomers are
always welcome!**



**Upcoming Events
Refugee 101: Info Night**
Thursday, April 26th,
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Catholic Community Services
140 W. Speedway Blvd.,
Suite 130

This interactive workshop focuses on global, national and local aspects of refugee resettlement; ways in which Iskashitaa enhances our community through food-based programming; and how to become a volunteer.

RSVP to Micah at
harvesting@iskashitaa.org
or call 440-0100.



Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network

A Compassionate Response to HIV/AIDS

SWINGING @ AIDS



March 25th, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Monterey Court
505 W. Miracle Mile

Featuring: *The Ronstadt Brothers*

Tickets are \$20.00

(\$15.00 of ticket price goes to the AIDS organizations)

Tickets can be purchased online through
Eventbrite,
or by calling TIHAN at 520-299-6647
or Pat Fox at 520-850-9203.



Coming June 2nd!

www.tihan.org
or call 520-299-6647.



Awareness Through Movement

(Feldenkrais) Class
meets Monday evenings,
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Room 30/31

Facilitated by David Taylor

Find out how easy it is to feel
lighter and freer, yet more
grounded and connected doing
this form of gentle, almost
meditative non-exercise.
Wear comfortable clothing and
bring a mat to lie and move on.

Contact David
at davtay@aol.com



Joy & Wisdom on the St. Francis campus!

Joy & Wisdom is a small,
friendly group of diverse
individuals (both women and
men!) which meets on the
1st and 3rd Fridays of each
month from 1:00 until around
2:45 pm. Through our reading,
casual, non-judgmental
discussions, and synergistic
conversations, we explore
spiritual awareness; seeking the
active living out of Oneness and



From the Editor

I hope you've enjoyed this month's newsletter. I'm always interested in any submissions that have to do with the people, ministries and activities of St. Francis in the Foothills. If you have something you'd like to share, please contact mmitchell@stfrancisumc.org.

Please be aware that the cut-off date for accepting submissions for the May 2018 newsletter is April 20th.

Anything submitted after that date may not be included.



*Choose
Love*

spiritual awakening in our Creator/God. (We also laugh and have lots of fun!) You are invited to explore along with us! Call Joyce Leissring at 520-404-1691 for more information.



It is wonderful to see so many friendly faces every Sunday morning!

The Welcome Team would like to remind you that the responsibility for greeting and making our guests feel welcome doesn't stop with the ushers, greeters, or members of the Welcome Team.

Please take the initiative to greet people who look new, or that you don't know. Invite them to coffee fellowship, introduce them to other people.

Let's be the church everyone remembers as being the "most friendly and welcoming"!

It really does make a difference.

HAPPY SPRING!

Newsletter Editor: Melissa Mitchell
St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church
(520)299-9063, Ext. 101