

Dove Tales



August 2022
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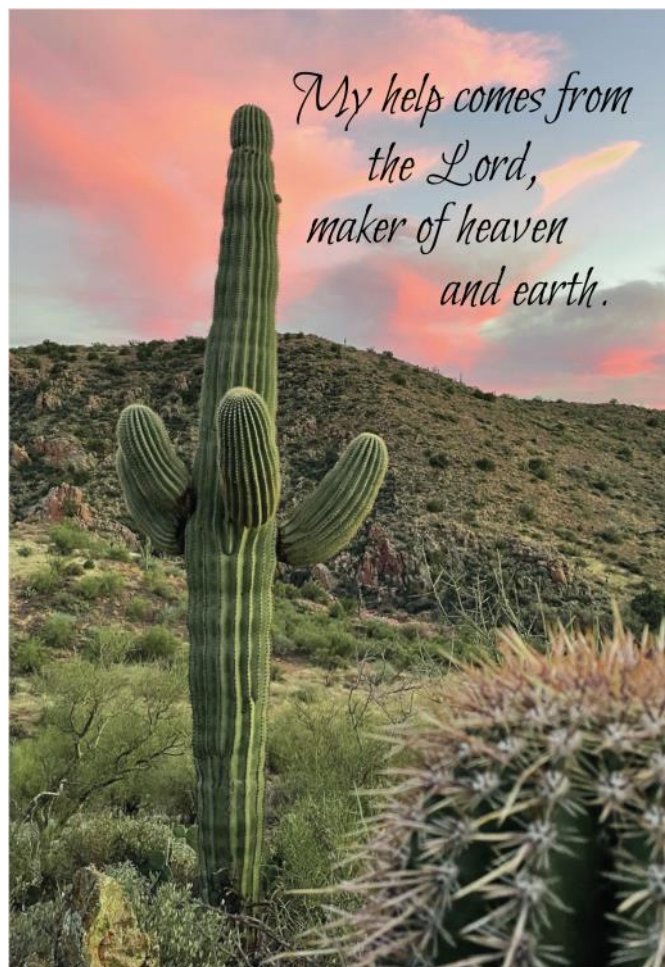
*"Increasing Love for God and Neighbor by Going Deeper, Reaching Farther,
Transforming Lives"*

Have you ever been lost? It's not the most fun experience. There's confusion, frustration, embarrassment, and maybe even a little fear that rises inside of us when we don't know where we are. I've been lost a few times (that I'm willing to publicly admit).

The first time I was lost was inside of a Price Club. It was a giant, "buy in bulk" type store, you know the type. I was only five or six, and I remember being in an aisle with my parents. I was playing/dancing/spinning while they were shopping. I must have played a little too intensely, because in the blink of an eye, I found I was occupying that row all by myself. I went one or two rows over, looking and calling out for my Mom and Dad. Soon, some employees came and wrangled me with a popsicle and put me in the manager's office until my parents realized what had happened. In less than fifteen minutes they found me, their faces a mixture of frustration and relief when I saw them come through the door. Even after all of that, I still got a hot dog.

All in all, not too bad of a "lost" situation. But whether in simple ways like my moment in the store, or in larger moments, being lost can be a life-freezing moment. Losing direction (literally or figuratively) can place incredible burdens on us. Life is admittedly full of moments where we can find ourselves lost.

- Being lost for words.
- Having lost a friend.
- When you've lost your job.
- When your spouse says they've lost you.
- When your child is lost in social media.
- A life that is lost.



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Dove of the Desert United Methodist Church

7201 W Beardsley Rd, Glendale AZ 85308

Phone: 623.572.7334 · www.doveofthedesert.com

Rev. David Wasson, Senior Pastor

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So, what does a Jesus follower do when they feel lost?

"And from His fullness we all have received grace upon grace." John 1:16

They trust the bubbles...

When a scuba diver is in deep, dark water it can become nearly impossible to avoid becoming disoriented. What a terrifying feeling...being underwater, unable to see your hands in front of your face, not knowing which way is up, with panic creeping in. What then?

I recently read how one SCUBA diver related this story to her faith:

"As a diver, I have been there. Muddy water in a lake at 90 feet down descending into the branches of a flooded pecan grove. The branches were hitting my body, face, pulling my mask off and my regulator out of my mouth. Absolutely terrifying. I told my husband that I was done and had to go up. He got the dive master who went up with me. I shined my flashlight at my bubbles, looked up and followed my bubbles to the safety stop. That experience cemented Psalm 121:1-2 for me."

The psalm she mentioned reads like this:

*I raise my eyes toward the mountains.
Where will my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.*

So, feel the bubbles. When it's pitch black and you have no idea which way to go, you reach up with your hand and feel the bubbles. The bubbles always drift to the surface. When you can't trust your feelings or judgment, you can always trust the bubbles to get you back to the top. God's grace is present, even in our moments when we feel completely lost. May we give ourselves the grace to accept this holy gift from God in our journey.

*Blessings,
—Dave*



New Member Orientation

Are you interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church, and becoming a member of Dove of the Desert? Pastor Dave will be holding a new member orientation on Sunday, August 14 at 12:30 pm in Room 12 (Building B). Please contact the Dove office at 623-572-7334 or by email to attend this session.



Dove Youth Fellowship

**Welcome all 2022-2023 school year 7th–12 graders!
Dove Youth Fellowship Schedule—Beginning August 7, 2022**

On Sundays:

1. **Lunch in Rooms 5/6 from 12:00 - 12:25 pm.**
2. **Halos Youth Choir from 12:30 - 1:30 pm** in the Sanctuary. The Youth Choir will be led this year by Greg Ramsey, Hannah Abraham, and Cary Patonai. We will have an exciting year planned for all youth. No experience is needed. Both musical and tech opportunities are available.

Youth Fellowship August Events

- ◆ **Sunday, August 7—Party at Bowlero Glendale**
Please meet at Dove at 1:30 pm to carpool to our fabulous Bowling Event. We'll be at Bowlero from 2:00-3:30 pm. Please invite your friends to attend. The cost is only \$10.00, including unlimited bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and drinks. Bowlero Glendale is located at 17210 N 59th Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85308. Parents, the youth will be ready for pick-up from Bowlero at 3:30 pm.
- ◆ **Sunday, August 14—Party at TopGolf in Glendale**
Please meet at Dove at 1:30 pm to carpool to our sensational TopGolf Event. TopGolf is located at 6101 N 99th Ave, Glendale, AZ 85305. We will be there from 2:00-4:00 pm. Cost is \$10, which includes one food item and a drink. Please bring extra money if you would like to order additional food or drink. Parents, the youth will be ready for pick-up from TopGolf at 4:00 pm.
- ◆ **Sunday, August 21—Party at Escape Room in Westgate**
Please meet at Dove at 1:30 pm to carpool to our Cool Escape Room Party, located at 6751 N Sunset Blvd. Suite E-108 Glendale, AZ 85305. We will be at Escape Westgate from 2:00–3:15 pm. Parents, the youth will be ready for pick-up from Escape Westgate at 3:15 pm.
- ◆ **Saturday, August 27— Youth Service Project at St. Mary's Food Bank**
Please meet at St. Mary's at 11:45 am. We will work from 12:00–2:00 pm. This event will be as awesome as it always is! St. Mary's Food Bank is located at 2831 N 31st Ave in Phoenix.
- ◆ **Sunday, August 28—Youth Surprise Party TBA.** Please meet at the church at 1:30 pm.

Peace and Blessings!

—Greg Ramsey (gr@gopiano.com; 623-203-0250)



Care Ministry

With the full heat of our Arizona summer upon us, many of Dove's members have fled to cooler climates. However, the Care Ministry Team continues their work to provide services to our members in need.

We will be delivering flower arrangements to six homebound members this month. Don't forget that altar flowers donated to Care Ministry Team provide at least three vases of flowers for our homebound recipients. Just indicate your desire to donate at the time of ordering.

We are providing transportation to church services for two members and will be adding one additional member. We are providing transportation to medical appointments for homebound members.

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Blessing of the Backpacks

Blessing of the Backpacks (and Diaper Bags)

All age groups are invited to bring their empty backpacks or diaper bags to church on Sunday, August 7 (all services), so they can be blessed for the upcoming 2022-23 school year! This has been a great activity in the past and we are excited for the new year.

Bibles for Third-Graders

We will be presenting the third graders with their Bibles on Sunday, August 14 at each of the services. It is a milestone in your child's life to receive a Bible as a gift from their church family. We are requesting that you call the church office 623-572-7334 before August 7, to inform us which service, 8:00, 9:30 or 11:00, your son/daughter will be attending to receive their Bible.



There will be a Bible Blast fun time, on Saturday, August 20 from 9:00–10:30 am, led by Jan Ramsey and Debi Ports, to help the children become acquainted with their Bibles. Please let the office know if your child will be attending. Thank you!



Teachers and Helpers Needed for Sunday School

The beginning of a new year is exciting! As we begin the new school year, we need volunteers that are able and willing to help for Sunday School (during the 9:30 am worship service). All lessons are planned in advance, and materials are gathered for you. I will meet with you prior to the Sunday you will be teaching/helping and go over all aspects, as well as answer any questions you may have. Please contact me for more information and to volunteer. You are a blessing!

—Jan Ramsey (602-705-1315, jcranseydove@gmail.com)



A great big thank you!

It was a very fun and exciting week at Vacation Bible School! We met Beacon!

Thank you so much for the support in making this a very successful time at Dove. We could not do it without you!

Bless you!
Jan Ramsey and Debi Ports

Fellowship Opportunities

Little Doves Social Club

Do you have kids elementary aged or younger? The Little Doves Social Club is for you! We meet one Saturday per month for kids' games and activities. Our next meeting is Saturday, September 10 when we will have a water day on the lawn. Mark your calendar and join us!

Questions? Please contact Jen Centner at 480-818-1645 or Patrick Centner at 602-214-7836.

Quilt Group

The quilters are on summer break, but will start up again in the fall, on October 14. The group meets on Friday afternoons in Rooms 15/16 in Building D. If you'd like more information about our quilting group, please contact the church office at 623-572-7334.

Other Fellowship Opportunities

Many opportunities exist for fellowship at Dove, including Adult Sunday School classes, Bible Studies, and Dove's musical groups such as the Celebration Singers, Folk Group, and the Bell Choir. Please check the calendar found on the Dove website, www.doveofthedesert.com.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 9:00 to 10:00 am in Room 7. The group knits or crochets shawls, baby blankets, lap blankets, prayer squares, and other items to be given to Dove members and others in need of comfort.

For information, please call **Mimi Griffiths at 602.762.6709 or at mimig7852@gmail.com**. New people welcome! Please join us.

The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch meets the first Thursday of every month at a local restaurant; our next Lunch Bunch is Thursday, August 4. If you'd like to join in, contact Steve and Rita Snyder at ridinzfun@aol.com or (703) 980-7673 (leave a message if no answer) to RSVP. It is important to RSVP, so we can reserve our space at the various restaurants.

August 2022 Church Calendar

- 2.....Election Day (voting at Dove)
- 4..... Lunch Bunch
- 6..... Church Work Day
- 7.....Blessing of Backpacks
(8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship)
- 7..... Sunday School Begins
- 7..... Sunday Youth Fellowship Begins
- 12..... Dove Tales Deadline
- 14..... Sunday Worship
(8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship)
- 14.....Third Graders Receive Bibles (all services)
- 14..... New Member Orientation Session
- 20..... Bible Blast for Third Graders
- 21..... Sunday Worship
(8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship)
- 27..... Youth Service Project at St. Mary's
- 28..... Sunday Worship
(8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am Worship)



Music Ministry

All of our Dove Music Groups are now starting for the 2022-2023 school year. We would love to have you be part of our music program! Below is a list of groups by the day of the week they rehearse.

Sundays

- **Dove Children's Choir.** This choir practices in the building F Library at 9:30 a.m.
- The **Halos Youth Choir** will be kicking-off each Sunday from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This year the choir will be led by Greg Ramsey, Cary Patonai, and Hannah Abraham. Come experience the excitement of Music! No experience is necessary. The Halos Youth Choir is for youth grades 7–12.

Mondays

Dove Bells – our Handbell Choir – will meet in Rooms 15/16 at 6:00 pm

Wednesdays

The **Celebration Singers** will be coming together again for another season. This will be magnificent. This group of adult singers will rehearse from 6:30 – 8:00pm in the Sanctuary. This choir shares music at the 11:00 am services on Sundays. The choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, August 24th.

Thursdays

The **Folk Group** will be rehearsing at 7:00 pm at the home of the Grant and Karen Freeland.

Saturdays

Our **Praise Team** rehearses in the in Sanctuary. The praise team anchors our Sunday 9:30 am service.

For information on any or all of these groups, please contact Greg Ramsey, Dove's Director of Music, at 623-203-0250, or gr@gopiano.com.



Care Ministry (cont)

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Please contact Velma and Don Trotter at (623) 376-9506 if you are willing to provide a ride to church on Sundays or for medical appointments as needed.

Our Communion for Homebound coordinator, Peter Mather, now has a group of nine receiving communion at Freedom Plaza each month as well as three other individuals at other locations. Please contact him at (602) 547-1909 if you know of any homebound members who would like to receive communion.

Our Prayer Shawl group has received a generous donation of several bags of yarn and four boxes of granny squares, which we are crocheting together to make gorgeous lap blankets to be given to ill members and assisted living residents. Come and spend an hour with us on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 9:00 am in the Parlor to help with these worthy projects, or work on your own pattern. Don't know how to crochet? We will teach you! Contact Mimi Griffiths at (602) 762-6709 if you have any questions.

And, finally, after the heat has cooled off a bit, there will be a "Walk to End Alzheimer's" on October 15, being coordinated by Anita Burnett. Save the date!

These are just a few of the ongoing ministries of Care Ministry Team. Many of our team continue to provide their ministries quietly, without fanfare, month after month. Take the time to thank them for their selfless service. They are listed on the bulletin board in the hall at Dove.

Until our next Dove Tales article, try to stay cool and comfortable, and do consider what you can do to support Care Ministries Team in their various ministries.

—Doreen Borgmann, Co-Chair, Care Ministries Team (602) 859-0136

Dove of the Desert UMC
7201 W. Beardsley Road
Glendale, AZ 85308

Rev. David Wasson, Sr Pastor
SrPastor@doveofthedesert.com

Director of Music: Greg Ramsey
gr@gopiano.com

Choral Director: Mark Amsden
Choirs@doveofthedesert.com

Bell Choirs Director: Brent Fike
bfike2@cox.net

Children & Family Director: Jan Ramsey
jcramseydove@gmail.com

Dove Tales Editor: Colleen Centner
4dovetalesumc@gmail.com

Office Manager: Rebecca Curless
DoveAdmin@doveofthedesert.com

Administrative Assistant: Marti Betts
MartiBetts@doveofthedesert.com

Phone: 623.572.7334, Fax: 623.572.8973
www.doveofthedesert.com
www.facebook.com/doveofthedesert
Instagram: doveumc
Twitter: @DoveUMC

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-3:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Dove Tales is a monthly publication of
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The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all
items submitted for publication.



Calling all craft makers and craft lovers!

Dove's annual craft sale is coming November 12! So start finishing up the items you've been making (or planning to make) and/or circle it on your calendar as a shopping day. Tell your friends, because the sale is open to the public this year. If you have questions, or want to donate or volunteer, or if you are interested in joining a no-experience-required group for fun and fellowship making crafts for the sale, please contact Barb or Brent Fike at bfike2@cox.net.



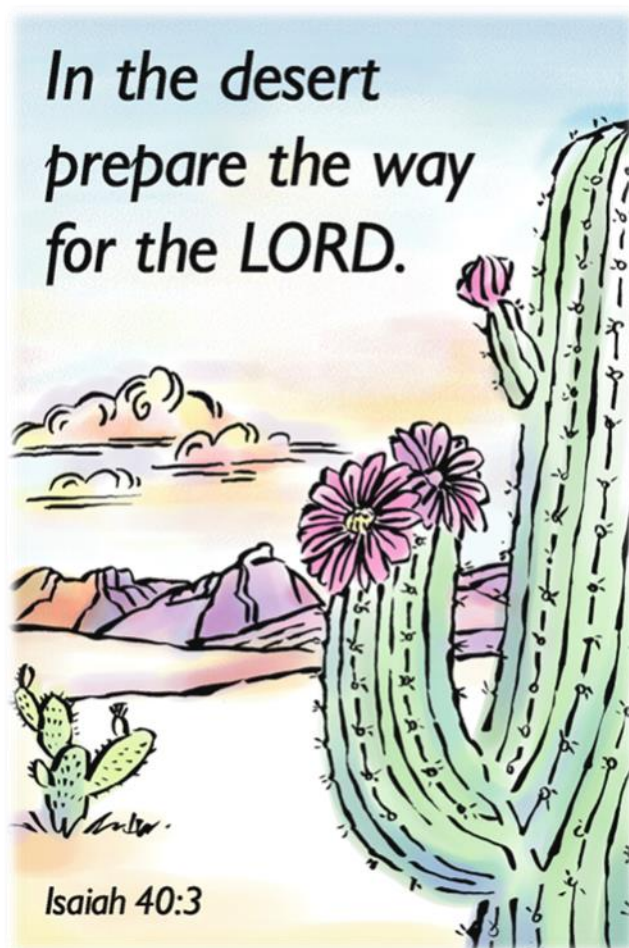
Condolences:

- ✎ Jan & Greg Ramsey and family on the death of Jan's mother, Shirley Threlfall
- ✎ Valerie & Dave Kelly and family on the death of Valerie's mother, Shirley Threlfall
- ✎ JB Littrell and family on the death of his wife, Diane
- ✎ Nancy & George Cushman on the death of her father, Donald Swartwout

Church Prayers:

Each year, we pray for all the churches in the West District. In August, please pray for:

- New Song UMC, Surprise (TBS)
- Prescott UMC (Rev. Dan Hurlbert, Rev. Efrain Zavala, Rev. Patti Blackwood)
- Prescott Valley UMC (Rev. Amanda Corella)



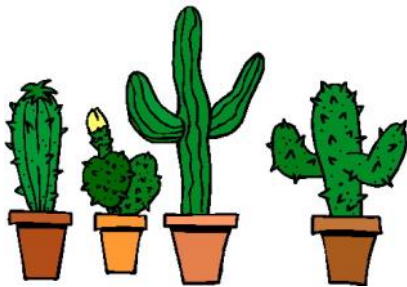


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**United Methodist Church
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Return Service Requested

Sending August Blessings to:



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