



Dove Tales

Vol. XXXIII Issue 4
February 2022

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



5	Church Work Day
6	Worship Services: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am with Communion
11	<i>Dove Tales Deadline</i>
12	Food Truck Night
13, 20, 27	Worship Services: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am
16	Prayer Bead Making
21	President's Day - <i>Dove Office Closed</i>
27	New Member Class



Like most of you, I've moved numerous times.

I've moved across town, across state, across country, and back to my hometown. Every one of those experiences was stressful in itself. Each time I moved I can recall specific difficulties, challenges, stressors, and anxieties I had about the move. I remember the night before I drove my first full-size UHaul that I had rented on my own to drive Katie and me from Salt Lake City to Phoenix during our second move as a married couple. I was so nervous about whether I could handle the big truck lumbering down the I-15 south towards Kanab, The Kaibab Reservation, through Flagstaff and eventually Phoenix. I remember driving slowly.

But in every circumstance, the moves were always accomplished. We made it to the other side, every single time. The transition, the move itself, was full of difficulties and stress, but it never ended in disaster (Well, once it didn't turn out great, but even with that, here I sit, typing in my chair to tell you I've survived it). Rarely do we look at times of transition as something to celebrate, but on the back side of these challenging moments can come new opportunities, new relationships, and new hope.

Dove is going through a season of transition. We are experiencing the process of saying goodbye to some familiar faces and saying hello to new ones. Every time we are blessed to welcome new members into our church, we experience a transition, as the composition of our community grows (the church's needs grow along with the growing and changing membership of the congregation and surrounding neighborhoods). Sometimes these changes are more pronounced than others, and sometimes they seem to happen slowly, gradually entering our periphery. These type of changes (both sudden and gradual) can cause a sense of disorientation, and disconnectedness. It's in these times that we can look to the text of scripture to see how people of faith handled transition while in the grip of God's grace.

Take Abram(Abraham), for example.

The Lord said to Abram, "Leave your land, your family, and your father's household for the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation and will bless you. I will make your name respected, and you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you,
those who curse you I will curse;
all the families of the earth
will be blessed because of you. Genesis 12:1-3 (CEB)

Did you pick up on the changes that Abraham was to face? God told him to leave his home country and go live in a foreign land that he didn't know.

Can you imagine what the pain involved in this change looked like?

- The fear of living in a different culture, language, traditions.
- The pain of leaving his relatives, his home, his friends behind for good.
- The risk of leaving the security of his home for the unknown place God was sending him to.

But, consider the other side of the blessing that God gave to Abraham upon journeying through a difficult season of transition

- His life would leave a legacy behind that God would redeem people through.
- God would give him many descendants, that would bless the world through love, compassion, and service.
- The world would be a better place through the faithful decisions that he continued to make.

Abraham considered the change and examined the pain and decided that the blessings were worth it. Today, the church sees Abraham as a father of all those who have faith, as Paul says in Galatians 3:7: "those who believe are the children of Abraham."

I write all of this to say I am grateful to be walking alongside you in this season of transition for the church. Perhaps you are finding yourself in a time of transition as well, in your personal life. My prayer is that you understand that whether you are driving a UHaul for the first time, or taking on a new career, or starting a new relationship, that you know that God is as near to you now as God has ever been. It is through these processes of change and refinement that we are made into the people that God desires for us to become. God is working on Dove, because God has a vision for who we can be.

I am excited for our future, and I hope you are too.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave



Pastor Jean

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters in Christ! Generations ago, it might have been that Moses – at the age of 80 – was considering “slowing down” when God basically said, “Not so fast!” While Moses might have been thinking of retirement, obviously God had other plans! With that said, why am I not surprised that God continues to do the unexpected? Two and a half years ago, I retired after 17 years of active ministry – pastoring being my third career! I was just getting comfortable with retirement when I sensed – as Moses did – God’s call to step out in a new direction. Thus, it is that I join with you in Dove’s new season of ministry as your Minister of Pastoral Care and Visitation.

As you and I may not have met as yet because I’ve been keeping a “low profile” because of the pandemic, Pastor Dave suggested I take this opportunity to share with you a little about myself. First off – I’m a follower of Christ and a Child of God’s. Second, I’m a mother, a grandmother, and a great-grandmother. I have been a junior high and high school teacher, a secretary for a tour and transportation company, a customer service associate for a department store, and a pastor. Since hearing God’s call to the ministry when I went on the spiritual retreat known as the Walk to Emmaus, I’ve served congregations in the Phoenix area; in Henderson, Nevada; and most recently, Sun Lakes which is close to Chandler.

When I first retired, I entered into what I called my “crocheting season”! I crocheted several afghans and countless holiday dishcloths. The past few months, I’ve been busy making Christmas ornaments for my family and cross stitching various projects including an apron for my daughter which I finished just before dinner on Christmas Eve! I love to read and have just started a new mystery series.

At a time when I questioned if there was more I should be doing, I am humbled by God’s call to be in service here at Dove. Prayer has been and continues to be an integral part of my life. Over the years through life’s challenges and celebrations, I have held onto the apostle Paul’s instructions to the Thessalonians: “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thes. 5:16-18).”

God’s blessings be yours for a Healthy and Happy New Year!

In the grip of His grace, I am!
Pastor Jean



Lay Leader Lines

Hello to the People of Dove,

My name is Jill Cristina-Krebs and I am honored to be nominated as your next Lay Leader. The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ through the transformation of the world and my hope is to do this work together with all of you. Dove is a busy congregation, and I know many of you through various committees we serve on together. But, if we have not connected yet, I hope to soon. My goal is to be a “Line” of communication and connection in our Church. I go to various church services and activities so you can likely find me chatting in the narthex or on the patio. I admit social distancing is challenging, however I can be reached by email at jillllar@yahoo.com, by text or a phone call, feel free to look me up in the Church Directory.

Aside from working in the Public School System, I spend some time following the news of the United Methodist Church and other various faith based topics, and my hope is to share with you all, the people of Dove, to inspire new conversations among us. Most recently, I listened to the United Methodist Women’s first podcast for 2022 titled: Including Persons with Disabilities. This was an insightful and thoughtful discussion focusing on the importance of making space for persons with disabilities, including persons who are neurodiverse. Once the recording is posted it can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/UMWomen>, or on the website: <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>

If you get the chance to listen to this podcast, I would love to know your thoughts on this. So often disability can be invisible and unseen, but it touches many of our lives in different ways. In addition, if you come across some news or information that touches you, feel free to share with me so we can chat about it - there is always room in my email inbox! So Friends, in closing, I want you to know that “I am here to hear you” whether it be in person, phone call, text or email there is a line to reach me!

With Love & Peace, Jill



Youth Ministry

DOVE YOUTH GROUP EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2022

Hello Dove Youth,
Greetings to all!! What a great blessing it is to have the opportunity to fellowship and serve together. Here is our February calendar of events. Please do review them and invite a friend!

In Christ,
Greg Ramsey Youth and Music Director, Dove of the Desert UMC, 623-203-0250

Saturday, February 5, 2022 1:45 - 4 p.m.

Meet at **TopGolf** located at 6101 N. 99th Ave. Glendale, AZ. Cost is \$8 per person. This includes Golf, Food, and Soft Drinks.

Sunday, February 13, 2022 4 – 6 p.m.

Superbowl Watch Party at home to be determined. Pizza, Soft Drinks, and Dessert, and Board Games.

Saturday, February 19, 2022 12 – 2 p.m.

Work at the St. Mary's Food Bank. Please meet at the Food Bank located at 2831 N. 31st Avenue, Phoenix, 85009.

Sunday, February 27, 2022 5 – 6 p.m.

Olympic Game Night Challenge and Devotional



Food Truck Night

Food Truck Night

**Saturday - February 12
5:00 – 8:00 pm**

**Dove of the Desert UMC
7201 W. Beardsley Rd, Glendale**

Pizza & ThrowdownWing



**FREE TO PARK * FREE TO ENTER
* LIVE MUSIC * KIDS ACTIVITIES**





Meditations from Curtis

Prayers for Dove of the Desert and Her People: Blessed is he who considers the poor; the Lord will deliver him in times of trouble. –Psalm 41:1

“To think about the poor and let them lie on our hearts is a Christian’s duty; for Jesus said, ‘The poor will always be with you.’

Many give their money to the poor in a hurry, without thought; and many more give nothing at all. This precious promise belongs to those who ‘consider’ the poor, devise plans for their benefit, and considerately carry them out. We can do more by care than by cash and most with the two together. To those who consider the poor, The Lord promises His own consideration in times of distress.

We shall have a time of trouble, however generous we may be: but if we are charitable, we may put a claim for peculiar deliverance, and the Lord will not deny His own word and bond. As you have done unto others, so will the Lord do unto you. Empty your pockets.”

With automatic direct deposits, our giving may seem to be without thought, but we did give some thought as we decided to give weekly, monthly or annually and the amount. I think that when I give to the church I am giving to my place of worship, I am helping to fund God’s work in this world. We may not write out a separate check to the poor, but when we support Dove’s Fifth Sunday Food and Pet Supply Drive, we are giving to the poor. Our recent Coat and Jacket Drive was another opportunity to give to the poor. As we give to the Good Samaritan Fund, or to the Justa Center, or support Family Promise, we give to the poor. Our church, Dove of the Desert UMC, gives us many opportunities to give to the poor and we can be thankful for these opportunities. As we give, we can give thoughtfully, to consider the poor, and be thankful that we are able to give.

Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus our Savior, Help us to consider the poor. We thank you for Dove of the Desert. We thank you for our Pastors. We thank you for the church staff. We thank you for our Church Council. We thank you for the people of Dove with whom we worship You. Help us be the people you want us to be, help us to become better disciples. Amen

Curtis Gipson, Your Brother in Christ

(I have been writing these meditations for over ten years on a weekly basis, if you would like me to add you to my E-mail list, please let me know by emailing me your E-mail address to cgipson308@gmail.com.)



New Member Class



Are you or anyone you know interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church and/or membership in Dove of the Desert UMC?

You are invited to join us for a new member class (in person or on zoom) Sunday, February 27 at 12:30 pm, in Building B, Room 12. Contact the church office at **623-572-7334** for more information or to register.



Work Day

Thank you to those who volunteered time at the church workday on January 8, 2022.

We had 10 volunteers and were able to accomplish all tasks on the monthly list. It was a productive day! Volunteers Joyce Lyon, Mary Patterson, Roger Peckham, Grayson Oswald, David Krebs, Carson Sheppard, Jonathan Flusche, Dennis Albert, Bonnie Quartermain

Jane Oswald – Work Day Organizer for January



Prayer Beads

“You are Invited”

WHO: Everyone of all ages

WHAT: Prayer Bead Making

WHEN: Wednesday, February 16, 2022

WHERE: Dove Sanctuary

TIME: 6:00 PM

Please RSVP by February 13 to:

Debi Ports 623-451-7472

Jan Ramsey 602-705-1315



Prayer Line

Dove of the Desert

Please send prayer requests to:

Rev. Jean Newell
CarePastor@doveofthedesert.com



Missions

Fifth Sunday

Fill the Shelves Food Drive for
AZ hope for the Hungry
Pet Food & Supply Drive

On-Going
Justa Center
UMOM Donations



Care Ministry

Happy New Year, Dove! The New Year ushers in renewed opportunities of sharing and service. Each of us has talents that we could utilize in making a difference in the lives of those in less fortunate circumstances in ways both large and small.

I would urge each of you to prayerfully evaluate your talents and determine where you might contribute in some way. Perhaps you enjoy cooking, ranging from baking a tray of brownies to preparing entire meals. You might volunteer to help Casserole Brigade or Family Promise. Perhaps your talents lie in needlework. You could make a shawl or lap blanket for Prayer Shawl, either at home or with the Prayer Shawl group in their bi-monthly meetings. Perhaps you are a people person and love to visit others. You could volunteer to call or visit our many older members who are in nursing homes or homebound in their homes. Do you drive? Perhaps you could occasionally volunteer to deliver flowers to our homebound members or help with transportation or run errands for someone unable to drive. How about sending cards or writing notes or any of the myriad ways that we can show others they are not alone and that we care.

Presently, a small group of Dove members are providing these services. As with any endeavor, the more hands involved, the easier the task. And I assure you that you will reap far more benefit than you sow when you volunteer to help others. If, after prayerful consideration, you are moved to be of more service to others in the New Year, call Doreen Borgmann at (602) 859-0136, and we will find a place for your talents.



Board of Church & Society

The Board of Church and Society has been active at Dove since 2011. Over the years we have highlighted social justice issues, such as income inequality, criminal justice, climate change, education, free and fair elections and many others. Some of these have been major problems for many years, others have developed more recently.

As we make decisions in the new year about where to focus both our individual and our combined efforts to love our neighbors and positively impact our community and our world, let us remember Christ's lesson in Matthew 25:36-40, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. . . What you [do] for the least of these my brothers, you [do] for me."

Watch for opportunities in 2022 to learn about how we can directly help "the least of these" around us and promote positive change in the many social justice issues we see.



Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study ~ Steel Magnolias meets weekly on Zoom.

We have a time of fellowship from 9:30 to 10 am, study begins at 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Join us as we dive into timely, relevant, scripture based book studies of *1 & 2 Timothy and Titus* by Max Lucado followed by *It's All Under Control* by Jennifer Dukes Lee.

If you are interested, please call Nannette Carr at (602) 621-1665 for instructions on how to join the group and be added to the Zoom link.



To my Dove Family,

Thank you all for the prayers, cards, calls, and check-ins during my hospitalization and eventual discharge home. I felt all the prayers and that sustained and supported me as I worked to recover. I have been making great progress on my recovery journey largely due to these prayers and support!!

Thanks also for supporting my husband Mike through this. It has been a scary time for both of us and we appreciate the support and caring concern.

Hopefully my recovery journey will continue to progress as it has and I look forward to joining you all in worship and thanking you all "in person" soon!

Debbie Przybylka

Condolences to:

Dee May and family on the death of her mother, Anita Melton

Angie Chase and family of the death of her husband, Ted.

The Gladden family on the death of Joy's father, Jack Parren

Robin Lemkuil and family on the deaths of her father, Wesley Krahn and aunt, Eleanor Stern

For these churches:

Christ Community UMC, Avondale
City Square UMF, Phoenix
Community Church of Buckeye

To my Dove Family,

Thank you, for all your thoughts, cards and prayers for me and my family. It has been a very emotional few weeks with making the decision to accept another position at another church and the passing of my dad and my aunt. I have felt your prayers continually as they gave me strength and courage to get me through the difficult days and his Celebration of Life. You are an amazing group of compassionate people, and your prayers are felt deeply. Thank you, again, so much! I will miss being a part of your lives here at Dove! Robin Lemkuil 🍀



The Finance Committee update for this month pertains to Dove's financial performance through December 2021. The final results for 2021 reflect the continued blessings that our Dove community has sustained throughout the entire year. Our final figures for 2021 show income exceeding expenses by \$27,293. Income for the year was \$630,679 vs. expenses of \$603,386.

As a further update from last month, we are still continuing to receive pledge commitments for 2022 which is greatly appreciated. In this regard, 2022 begins with a total of 123 pledge commitments in excess of \$413,824. Pledge commitments are an important part of Dove's financial planning to help determine the necessary stewardship and allocation of resources to support current and future programs. Dove is blessed for these commitments as well as the additional faithful giving provided that comes from the entire Dove community. You are an amazing and giving church!! Thank you!!

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



**United Methodist Church
7201 W. Beardsley Road
Glendale, AZ 85308**

Return Service Requested

Sending February Blessings to:



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