

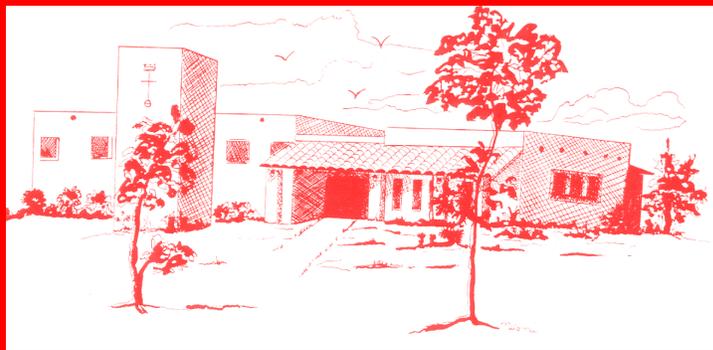
Good News from

The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ

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<http://www.TheGoodShepherdUCC.org>



February 2019

Our Mission Statement:

The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ welcomes all as we strive to be disciples, boldly living as God's witnesses and celebrating our intergenerational and multicultural life together. The Good Shepherd is an Open and Affirming Congregation.



Javarita Coffeehouse Presents

Tommy and Sandra O'Sullivan
Friday, February 8th, 7:00pm

Acclaimed as "one of the great contemporary folk voices of Ireland" and "a stellar guitarist", Tommy O'Sullivan and his wife Sandra have become one of the best examples of what Irish folk should be. They hail from Dingle, Ireland and own O'Sullivan's Courthouse Pub, considered Ireland's best traditional music pub, according to National Geographic, TripAdvisor, and Rick Steves. www.tommyandsandra.com
Tickets \$10.00

Inquirer's Class

Sunday February 3, 10:15

A number of Folks have been asking about learning more about the Good Shepherd and the United Church of Christ as well as ---How do we join the Church? On Sunday, Feb. 3rd between the two services we will meet in the Library and answer all of your questions. Folks will join the church at both services on **February 17th**. If you have any questions please contact Randy Mayer 520-625-1375 or biensbphrd@aol.com

Estate Sales Needs You!

The Good Shepherd Estate Sales service has a busy Winter/ Spring schedule and we need YOU!

HUGE sales are already scheduled for late January and March, and calls are pouring in. The schedule for the next sale is below. If you would like to volunteer, you can join our Volunteer Email List to get updates on our schedules and directions to the homes. Send an email to Nikki Harrison, halharrison@hotmail.com

Next sale:

Work Days:

M-W, Jan. 28-30, 8:30-Noon

Sale Days:

Th-F, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 7:00-Noon (Friday is early close)

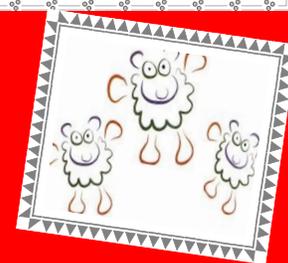
Directions: 1029 W. Bosch Drive in Las Campanas San Miguel hoa. Take Desert Bell to Artistica, bear right on Bosch.

Other ways to help:

Shop our sales! Join our Customer Email list and get ads for our sales. Send an email to Bev Travers, bevtra@aol.com

Lift up our estate sale service to your friends and neighbors — pick up brochures in the narthex.

Estate Sales commissions support The Good Shepherd and local charities!



**The Good Shepherd
United Church of Christ**

Senior Minister: **Rev. Randy J. Mayer**

Assistant Minister: **Edwin Andrade**

Director of Faith Formation for Children:

Anahi Herrera

CWS Immigration Organizer: **Rev. Noel Andersen**

Commissioned Minister of Faith & Money:

Nancy Ackley

Ministry Intern: **Rebecca McElfresh**

Music Director & Coordinators: **Jeff Vanderlee**

Lisa Otey-Van Deurzen

Diane Otey-Van Deurzen

Pianist: **Kay Jean Moore**

Custodian: **Severo Rivas**

Administrator: **Amy Dillemath**

Newsletter Editor: **Mary Chapman**

Newsletter Helpers:

Jan Bennett, Darlene Clement, Carlos Henriquez, Judy Holcomb, Bill & Marge Kinkead, Nancy Linthicum, Marilyn and Tom Regnier, Carrie Scheufler

Executive Committee

Moderator: **Judy Bischoff**

Moderator elect: **Rex Crouse**

Treasurer: **Sam Dyer**

Council Secretary: **Leslie DeGrassi**

Administrative Area Facilitators

Facilities: **Terry Linthicum**

Finance: **Nancy Bowen**

Stewardship: **Hathaway Cornelius**

Program Area Facilitators

Welcome and Inclusion Team: **Mary Wilsted**

Intentional Caring Team: **Linda Redfield**

Mission Service and Justice Team:

Newsletter Deadline

MARCH ISSUE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

**Send items to Mary Chapman at
mchapman15@cox.net**

Good Shepherd Patio Sale

The Men's Fellowship 20th annual Patio sale is Friday and Saturday, March 1 & 2.

It's time to start early spring cleaning and save your donations. We have storage space, so please call Tom Buinicky (398-7178) or Bruce Moulton (625-9543) for items to be picked up.

Stewardship Message

With what shall I come before the Lord... what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:6-8)

Many of us recently made financial pledges of support for the church. You'll soon have a report, but the tallies have not been completed as I write.

Tallying up our pledges is useful for managing the church's budget. We want to be responsible and faithful managers. We want to provide sufficiently for the church that we love. Pledging is a way to recommit to our faith family in a tangible way and to state our intention to help fund the church's ministries.

Giving for God's purposes is about more than that, though. It's a reflection of our relationship with God and with the world around us.

The act of pledging can be a simple "thank you" for the chance to be part of something bigger, something valuable that the Spirit is birthing among us. A pledge may be a commitment to the justice work that we do together. A pledge can quietly affirm the many acts of mercy and kindness that flow from our community of faith into a hurting world. Filling out a pledge card can be a powerful statement: "Yes, Jesus, I'm following you."

If you have not yet returned your pledge form indicating an amount that you intend to give this year, it's never too late! Thank you to those who have pledged already. May our offerings be blessed for the good of all people, and of all creation!

2019 Progressive Theology Seminar

February 22-23, 2019

Diana Butler Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture.

She holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University and is the author of nine books, including *Grounded: Finding God in the World—A Spiritual Revolution* (HarperOne, 2015) and the widely influential *Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening* (HarperOne, 2012). Her latest book is *Gratitude: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*.

Diane writes at The Huffington Post and The Washington Post and comments on religion, politics, and culture in the media including USA TODAY, Time, Newsweek, CBS, CNN, FOX, PBS, and NPR.

From 1995 to 2000, she wrote a weekly column on American religion for the New York Times Syndicate. She is a contributing editor for Sojourners Magazine has written widely in the religious press, including Christian Century, Clergy Journal, and Congregations.

Dr. Butler Bass is the recipient of numerous grants and awards including the Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize of the American Society of Church History and an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from The General Theological Seminary in New York. She also serves on the board of Public Religion Research and is an advisor on the project for a National Museum of American Religion in Washington, D.C.

Additionally, Dr. Butler Bass has taught at Westmont College, the University of California at Santa Barbara, Macalester College, Rhodes College, and the Virginia Theological Seminary in subjects ranging from church history, American religious history, history of Christian thought, to religion and politics, religion and race, and congregational studies.

From your Nominating Committee

Ever belonged to a Co-Op? You know, a volunteer organization where all involved share in the governance and work of the organization. Nothing done - nothing accomplished. Well, our church is kind of like that. Sure, we have professional ministers, and some paid staff, but very much of the work gets done by folks like you and me.

There are about forty positions at the Good Shepherd, including the officers of the church, that are filled by our members and friends through the work of the Nominating Committee. These include the program teams 'Extravagant Welcome & Inclusion' and 'Mission, Service, & Justice', plus the administrative committees of Finance, Facilities, Stewardship, and Nominating. Candidates are elected by the congregation at our Annual Meeting, and serve for terms of (generally) three years.

Additionally, the programs of the church are served by several teams dedicated to their specific mission areas. Members of these groups are 'self-selected' by the teams themselves. These include (with a spokesperson for the group) Intentional Care (Linda Redfield), Spiritual Growth (Susan Hill), Estate Sales (Mary Ferland), Earthwise (Connie Aglione), Patio Sale (Tom Buinicky), Stephen Ministry (Linda Redfield), and Open & Affirming (Karen & Jack Kressley).

As we move toward our Annual Meeting on March 10 (and Patio Sale in mid-March), please give consideration as to how you personally can make governance and programs at The Good Shepherd work; there are plenty of opportunities to express your individual talents and interests! For the 'self selecting' teams identified above, please contact the spokesperson. For the elected teams and committees, please contact a member of the Nominating Team.

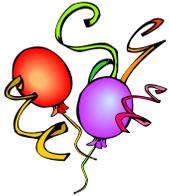
Our church looks forward to your offer to serve this coming year!

Your Nominating Committee: Liz Symington, Bonnie Sondrol, Lyn Nowakowski, Rex Crouse, Hathaway Cornelius, and Sara Busey



*Circle Of Friends
February Dinner*

Circle of Friends will be Tuesday, February 5th. Please sign up on the yellow tablet on the narthex bulletin board to be a host or guest. Questions: call Carrie, 393-1992



*Best Wishes for a
Happy Birthday!*

Hank Deutsch	02/01
Linda Gerber	02/01
Rebecca McElfresh	02/03
Susie Sanders	02/04
Sara Busey	02/09
Ann Cochran	02/12
Sue Woodward	02/16
Marilyn Regnier	02/16
Robert Lyngholm	02/21
Pat Seitz	02/22
Tom Buinicky	02/22
Rosemary Stoltenberg	02/22
Drew Mason	02/23
Heidi Geroux	02/25
David Carter	02/28
John Pestle	02/28



*Congratulations on Your
Anniversary*

Jim & Aleta Brown	02/01
Pat & John Seitz	02/01
Dick & Florence Mayer	02/06
Robert & Ruth Lyngholm	02/15
Stephen & Irene Little	02/24
Don & Jan Segraves	02/28

If you have not seen your special day (birthday/ anniversary) in the newsletter, please contact Amy if you would like to update your record.

All Aboard!

*San Carlos, Mexico Spanish Class Trip
Sign Up Deadline February 1*

Please join us on a trip led by Randy Mayer on February 18, 19, 20 and 21 to the beautiful coastal town of San Carlos, MX. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex. Deadline to hold a room is **February 1**. Call Dick, 406-459-6298 or Florence Mayer, 406-459-2749 if you want more information.

Mission Trip to Los Mochis in March

Pastor Randy Mayer is organizing and leading a mission trip to Los Mochis, Mexico the week of March 19-25. The purpose of the trip is to spend time with our sister church La Iglesia Congregacional de Los Mochis. Over the past 15 years our youth group has visited them three times, an adult group has been there once and The Good Shepherd has hosted a group from their church.

We will be renting a 15 passenger van and driving 10 hours to get there. We will stay in a local hotel and eat at the church and at local restaurants. During our time there we will do some physical work, build relationships, visit some projects and of course eat good seafood and spend a day or so at the beach. Total cost of the trip will be around \$500. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you are interested. If you have questions please contact: Randy Mayer 520-625-1375 or bienshphrd@aol.com



Taizé

February 13 at 5:00 marks the date for our next Taizé service. We even have the microphone working--we think! With all the events occurring at The Good Shepherd over the next few months, taking a deep breath becomes more and more important. Music, candlelight, scripture, a meditation and silence are the hallmarks of Taizé. It's a brief 45 minutes out of your busy month. Come try it if you haven't and bring a friend if you're a regular.

Volunteering is a Work of Heart

Would you like to get to know more about your community, develop new skills, enhance your resume, and make a difference? A new year is a great time to get more involved. We have opportunities for many volunteer roles within TIHAN, including:

- "Treasures for TIHAN" Auction Planning Team Member
- Operations Assistant (front desk receptionist)
- Database Entry Team Member
- Community Ambassador (staffing info table at community events)
- Link Specialist Volunteer, especially Spanish-speaking
- Finance Committee Team Member
- "Treasures for TIHAN" Auction Item Solicitor
- "Swinging@AIDS" Golf Tournament Volunteer



You can also find the complete list of our current volunteer openings by going to TIHAN.org, clicking on "Volunteer," then on "Volunteer Opportunities." One of these might be just right for you! If you have additional questions, please contact Maggie McCann, Operations Manager, at 299-6647 ext 204 or OperationsManager@tihan.org

Back by Popular Demand:

Resistance Bible Study

Starting February 26, 2019

Our recently concluded study: Resistance Bible Study will be repeated starting February 26. Tuesdays 3:30-5 pm at the church. It is a ten-week study. Two books will drive our study: *On Tyranny*, by Timothy Snyder and the Bible by many authors.

Register by February 15 by emailing Susan Hill, at susanhill429@gmail.com

Alternative Gift Fair a Success!

The Mission Team would like to thank all who participated in our 2018 Alternative Gift program. We raised a total of \$11,445 from 65 folks who made contributions. Checks were mailed at the end of December to the 6 organizations we'd sponsored.

If you have suggestions of organizations you would like to be considered at the end of this year, please drop by or send to the church office a note addressed to "Mission Team".

Again, thank you for your generosity!



Good Shepherd Quilters

The quilting group is meeting the 2nd and 4th Tues of each month. Our goal this year is to contribute 94 quilts to the Linus org. This sum is to honor the many years that Helen Clarkson has led our group. New quilters are always needed and welcomed.

Call if you have questions 648-2869.

Donna Murphy



BookWorms

Bookworms, the evening women's book group, meets on the third Monday evening of every month. Our February 18 discussion will be *Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens. Our March 18 discussion will be March 18, *Leaving Before the Rains Come*, by Alexandra Fuller. Our April 15 discussion will be April 15, *Educated: A Memoir*, by Tara Westover. We meet at 7 pm, in the Lantana Room, on the third floor of La Vista, at La Posada. For information, contact Sandra Rooney, srooney1935@gmail.com or 648-4264.

Celebrating Sophia: A Retreat for Women

You are invited to register for this event where you will experience a weekend of comfort, camaraderie and private time designed to inspire mindfulness and evoke playful spirits as we encounter the divine feminine within.

Gail Frank, Carol St. John, and Rebecca McElfresh will lead this retreat on March 15th through the 17th at the historic Kenyon Ranch in Tubac. This beautiful location, with 360 degree views will enhance our experiences together.

The \$425 cost of the retreat includes 2 nights lodging, 6 meals, all programming and supplies.

Brochures are available on the table in the narthex or you can contact Gail at (503) 801-1238, Carol at (520) 398-8574, or Rebecca at (440) 376-6651

The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ Administrative Team Meeting Tuesday, December 18, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Judy Bischoff, Rex Crouse, Leslie DeGrassi, Sam Dyer, Nancy Bowen, Terry Linthicum, Randy Mayer

Absent: Susie Sanders

Visiting: Hathaway Cornelius

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

1. Opening Prayer: Randy Mayer

2. Stewardship: Hathaway Cornelius

- 2018-19 Stewardship Team: Clyde Clement, Nancy Ackley, Sandy Lindahl, Pam Irvin, Curt Ackley, Hathaway Cornelius
- The 2019 Stewardship Goal (based on dream budget): 82%-84% total budget; estimated to be about \$330K.
- 2018 pledges were \$284,627 (people only); 142 pledge units; average = \$2,063; median = \$1,310; assume 2% increase = \$290K
- Based on past performance, expect 95%-98% fulfillment.
- 2018 non-pledged consistent giving: > \$24,000
- 2019 stewardship theme: Micah 6:6-8 "With what shall I come before the Lord? And what does the Lord require of me?" "To act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God." Snappy version: "What shall we bring?"
- Celebration Sunday: January 20. Stewardship sermons: January 13 (Curt Ackley), January 20 (Randy)
- "Moment for Stewardship": January 6 (Clyde Clement), plus two more, January 13 and 20.

- Appeal letter mailed on about January 10 will contain pie chart showing what money comes in to support certain programs, in order to demonstrate the difference between the operating budget and the totality of giving which includes separate giving for programs and special offerings.
- Follow-up stewardship letters mailed approximately two weeks after the first one.

3. Minutes of the last meeting: Leslie DeGrassi

MOTION: (Sam/Nancy) The minutes of the November 20, 2018, meeting were approved as corrected.

4. Treasurer's Report: Sam Dyer

- Work on the 2019 budget has begun.
- November expenses were over budget by \$2000. Income fell short. November is traditionally not an exceptionally giving month.

5. Facilities: Terry Linthicum

- Nothing to report.

6. Program: Susie Sanders

- The Alternative Gift Fair was very successful! Proceeds = \$10,980
- The first Movie and Pizza night will be January 25 at 5:30 p.m.

7. Sahuarita Food Bank: Leslie DeGrassi

- The new executive director, Carlos Valles, will start work on January 2 and will report to Penny, on behalf of the officers of the SFB. His background includes business and nonprofit leadership roles, he is bilingual in Spanish and English, and his military background includes logistics. Ann will become a member of the SFB-CRC board and will continue as a key volunteer.
- The SFB now has received its IRS determination letter and is an official non-profit organization. Transition of funds will happen soon. SFB can now be an Arizona Tax-Credit Qualifying Charitable Organization that will allow up to \$800 for a couple (\$400 for an individual) in tax credits for their donation to us, once the certification is received in January.
- Carrie Scheufler has agreed to take over from Anna Dethmers in coordinating our early literacy program / story time during the winter season.
- With many pledges pending, our Capital Campaign donations and pledges have reached \$767,000 of our goal of \$2.2 million, one-third of the way there.

8. Estate Sales: Rex Crouse

- Mary Chapman and Barb Hodges are retiring from managing our estate sales. To date, no one has stepped up to take over.
- The Women's Fellowship is pursuing different organization possibilities for the sales.
- Recognition of Mary Chapman and Barb Hodges at the annual meeting is planned.

9. Updates

• **Church Security**

- * There were no incidents at the Southern Poverty Law Center event November 30-December 1.
- * Arlyne Ostlund has volunteered to pursue obtaining another AED device for the classroom area. Training for members will be held.
- * Sam recommended that we add a line item of \$1000 to the 2019 budget for emergency/ security expenses.

- **Security for Common Ground**

- * Randy said it would be good to have a couple of people there on the Saturday of Common Ground/Border Issues Fair.

- **Use of Church Directory**

- * Permission requested for photography company Lifetouch to use the church directory for contacting people before the photo shoots for new church photo directory.
- * Admin Team does not want to release members' and friends' phone numbers to the pictorial directory company, without the authorization of the individuals.
- * It was suggested that Liz Wright, who is heading up the directory team, get more information about how the company plans to use the data

10. Other

- A discussion about changing the locks on exterior church doors was begun.
- A lot of people have keys. Many have the combination to the lockbox; should we change it?
- The topic was tabled until more information is obtained.

11. Pastor's Report: Randy

- Grants received, totaling \$5000: asylum grant, grant for \$3000 for immersion groups. Nathan has been doing some of this work with helping host the immigration groups.
- TGS is hosting a table at General Synod table again this year.
- Randy has been traveling to the shelters in Nogales, SON about once a week.
- One of our Honduran families should probably go to another state for hearing of their asylum cases.
- The Woodwards are working on the stage in the courtyard.
- The registrations for Common Ground on the Border look good so far.
- A UCC "Called to Care" training was presented by Bill Lyons at TGS earlier this month.
- There is discussion around changing the model for Stephen Minister training.
- Randy has been supervising Edwin and Anahi as they begin their new roles.
- It was suggested that TGS could host the Southwest Conference annual meeting in April 2020.
MOTION: It was moved and seconded (Nancy/Judy) that TGS host the 2020 Conference Annual meeting. The motion passed.

10. Closing Prayer: Randy Mayer

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie DeGrassi, Administrative Team Secretary

