

# The Jaunt



## Sierra Vista United Methodist Church Weekly Newsletter May 1, 2020

The Jaunt is a weekly newsletter that reports on upcoming events and highlights church activities.

For information on many of our programs, visit [sierravistamethodist.org](http://sierravistamethodist.org)

SVUMC Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaUnitedMethodistChurch>

### The Prayer Word: Mercy

Lord, may we share with others the same mercy you extend to us.

Love God. Love People. Spread the Love of Jesus.



— Upcoming Services ~ **Available on Facebook and Zoom** —

May 3: Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. Live stream.

The church office is closed until further notice but Nicole will still operate the Food Pantry from 10 to Noon and will accept donations during that time period. Sunday's worship service will be streamed each week on Facebook and Zoom at 10:30 and a video of the service will be available on Facebook thereafter.



**Residents advised to  
sign up  
for emergency alerts**



With fire season upon us, people are advised to sign up for the Cochise County's emergency alert system to stay updated on incidents that could impact them or their properties. This past weekend saw two wildfires in the St David and Benson areas, and with an increase in temperatures, the risk of fire is heightened.

It's easy to sign up to receive alerts, just go to:  
<https://public.alertsense.com/signup/?regionid=1341>



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10, and if you are in the habit of last-minute shopping, you should think again. Some stores are closed, others have shortened their hours, and deliveries from on-line retailers are running behind schedule. An I.O.U. on Mother's Days isn't the way to go. There is no time like the present to buy a present.



# Viewing Worship Service on Facebook and Zoom



SVUMC Sunday worship service is streamed live at 10:30 a.m. Services are recorded and stored on Facebook and can be accessed and viewed later. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can still watch the videos. Here's how:

1. Go to the church's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaUnitedMethodistChurch>
2. Select "Video" in the list of options on the left of your screen.
3. Clips of available videos with a title and date will be display.
4. Click on the video you want to watch and it will open and play.

*A Facebook account is not needed so there is no login or password required.*

Follow this link to watch the video through Zoom.

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/398498097>

OR

To just listen to the audio, dial this phone number on your telephone: 669-900-6833

When prompted enter this number as the meeting ID: 398498097

After entering that number you will be prompted to enter "#"

## Good Neighbor Alliance



### *Shelter from the Storms of Life*

In the previous edition of the Jaunt, there was a letter from Good Neighbor Alliance (GNA) explaining that their annual banquet - their largest fundraiser - had to be postponed and is now canceled. This leaves GNA seriously short of operating funds at a time of great need. They are doing a "virtual banquet" and ask for your support by contributing to GNA. Through your gifts, GNA will be able to continue to serve the homeless community in Sierra Vista and Cochise County. Please send your checks to: GNA, 420 N 7th St, Sierra Vista, AZ, 85635. Write "Banquet" on the memo line of the check.

*Thank you for your continued donations to the Food Pantry. Every item helps!*



**The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cochise County stands at 39**

# SVUMC Church Garden

## Great news!

John Marvin has offered to revive our SVUMC community garden project, and is looking for others who are willing to help. The first project will be attaching rain gutters to fill the water tank that is already waiting behind the education building. With the rainy season still two months away, this is a good time to complete that project.

In the meantime we can plan and construct the first of the above-ground garden plots, and get ready to plant a late summer garden. When completed, this project will help supplement our monthly POWWOW food distributions, and help some whose resources have been depleted by the pandemic. If you would like to help with this project, please contact John Marvin, or call Rev. Jeanne Festa at 520 271-1007.



## Face Masks



GIVE+ Church

New  
Giving App

### We have a new church giving app!

We are excited to share with you a new way to give to the church! GivePlus Church is a mobile giving app that enables you to make one-time or recurring gifts from your smartphone. Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church" to download the app for free and start donating today!

Thank you for supporting our mission.



Kathy Marvin is making masks for the Pandemic. They are available free for the asking as she has fabric and sewing materials on hand. They come in 2 sizes: men's and women's. The elastic on the Men's masks are slightly longer. If you are interested, let her know what color and which gender: male or female. You will be able to pick up the masks in the entry of Fellowship Hall in the church mailbox for UMW number 44 Monday through Friday from 10-12 pm.

If you are interested, there is no cost because Kathy is doing it as a mission to save lives during this pandemic. Call her at 803-6697 or email her at [kathleencrafts@gmail.com](mailto:kathleencrafts@gmail.com).



# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## \*\*\*IMPORTANT UPDATE\*\*\*

April 23, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of the Desert Southwest Conference,

I greet you in the name and spirit of Jesus, our Rock and Redeemer!

Like many of us, I have missed the rhythms of the church: in-person worship, coffee and conversation, potlucks, hugs, Bible studies and fellowship. You may likewise be feeling lost, and displaced, living in a wilderness, wandering. Despite our efforts to adapt, we long for things to be back as they used to be.

At the same time, I have watched grim statistics of COVID-19 in Nevada and Arizona where the numbers are continuing to rise dramatically.

On March 24, in Nevada, 275 persons tested positive and 6 died. On that same day, Arizona had 329 cases and 6 deaths.

A month later, on April 23, Nevada's count was 4,208 cases, 189 deaths; and Arizona reported 5,769 cases, 249 deaths. On the same day, the numbers on the Navajo Nation reported 1,282 cases and 49 deaths.

We have not yet seen the worst of the ravages of the novel coronavirus (nCoV). Additionally, the medical community is warning us that a second occurrence is possible, especially when communities relax restrictions too soon. Therefore, I am directing that United Methodist churches continue the suspension of in-person worship and other gatherings of any size until further notice. I will be monitoring the situation and I will communicate each Wednesday on our website with an update about the suspension.

I wish I could more accurately predict when we can resume our activities. I know we won't be able to resume everything at once. It will be a gradual, careful process. It is also clear that we will not soon, if ever, return to being church exactly as we were before. This is difficult news to receive, but I pray you will not rush to resume church activities.

Your conference leadership is reading, consulting, praying daily, studying what experts are saying. We are monitoring:

- The recommendations from sources such as the CDC, state governments, and the medical and scientific communities;
- Criteria that must be met before relaxing the suspension. These criteria include the availability of more testing, the assurance that the healthcare system will be able to handle any possible influx of patients, and the assurance of protection for the vulnerable populations of our communities;
- Our preparedness to systematically initiate a phased approach to re-opening; and if necessary, to reinstitute restrictions quickly if the virus resurges;
- How we would safely re-open our churches and ministries in phases.

Our conference Connectional Ministries staff is compiling an important resource to assist you in planning for the re-opening of our physical buildings and a resumption of in-person ministry. The day of re-opening is not yet upon us, but it will come. Until then, let me restate my directive to the Desert Southwest Conference. Our United Methodist churches must continue the suspension of in-person worship and other gatherings of any size until further notice. I will be monitoring the situation and will communicate each Wednesday with an update about the suspension.

As Romans 12:12 admonishes, let's keep patient even in this perplexing time. Keep learning and experiencing new ways of being in ministry. Remember that your local church continues to have financial obligations it must fulfill, so please, if possible, continue your generous support of your local church through mail in or on-line giving. Care for one another with cards, letters, phone calls, emails, texts to share God's love and your caring with others. Do your best to keep yourself healthy and thereby protect the vulnerable among us.

As I hold you in prayer, I ask you to pray fervently for:

- Those who are battling or who have died of COVID-19 and their families and loved ones;
- First responders and healthcare workers; business owners; families, parents and children in the communities around us;
- Communities in Arizona and Southern Nevada without access to basic provisions like running water or adequate healthcare or community resources;
- Our congregations and our families and loved ones.

Let us hold one another in the spirit of Jesus the Christ as we rejoice in hope, remain patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer (from Romans 12:12).

Blessings,  
Bishop Bob

# Have you filled out your census form yet?



It is important for our state and community to have as many residents fill out the census as possible, which is why our Methodist conference is encouraging it.

*If your household does not submit a census form soon, a census worker will need to risk their health by making a personal visit to your home.*

To fill it out online: go to [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) and take a few minutes to answer a few questions. (If you don't have the ID number for your household which was mailed to you, there are alternative ways to identify your address.)

To use mail, fill out the printed form which was mailed to you, or will arrive soon. (Postage is free.)

By phone, you can call 1-844-330-2020 (toll-free).

Everyone living in the US should be counted, no matter their age, immigration status, whether they have a permanent home, the language they speak, etc. The census bureau does not make personally-identifiable information available to any other agency.

For more information, go to [azcensus2020.gov](https://azcensus2020.gov) or [www.census.gov](https://www.census.gov).

# Health & Exercise Classes

Strength Training classes are offered by Nancy Buttke in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays and Fridays as shown on the chart below.

There is no fee. Donations are accepted. For more info contact Nancy at 520-678-0172.

8:30 a.m.	Strength Class: Lifting weights using dumbbells and ankle weights (about 1 hour)
9:45 a.m.	Back/Abs Class: For people who want to strengthen their core (back and abs)
10:30 a.m.	Caregivers Class: For people who are caregivers
3:00 p.m.	30 minutes
4:00 p.m.	45-minute strength class

**- Classes Suspended Until Further Notice - Stay Safe!**

## Sierra Vista United Methodist Church

3225 St Andrews Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact us.

Our church office is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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