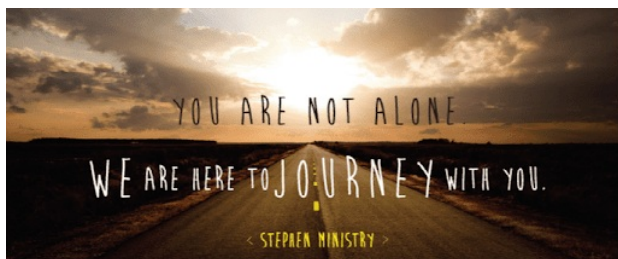




St. Francis In The Foothills UMC



Stephen Ministry: Love in Action

*Are you having a difficult time during COVID or
do you know someone who is?*

*Did you know we are a non-denominational group who serves
all people in our extended community?*

Stephen Ministers provide emotional and spiritual support and listening care to those dealing with a crisis or chronic situation, such as:

- Loss of a loved one (death or divorce)
- Hospitalization, chronic, or terminal illnesses
- Loneliness or discouragement
- Spiritual crisis
- Unemployment or job crisis

Stephen Ministers come under the supervision and care of Stephen Ministry Leaders and Pastor Jim who help to continue our caring education throughout our ministry. Qualified candidates have initially received 50 hours of group education in learning to provide confidential, emotional, and spiritual care.

*If you, or someone you know, might benefit from a Stephen Minister,
please contact Pastor Jim @ 520-299-9063 or
Joyce Leissring @ 520-404-1691.*



*Online Sunday Services:
9:00 am
on our website*

*Live "Talk Back" Session:
10:45 am
on our website
or call in.*

Numbers To Know

Contribution/Pledge Questions:
(520)299-9063. Ext. 101

Monthly Newsletter
(520)299-9063, Ext. 101

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

International School for Peace
(520)299-8908

For Pastoral Help

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

A Word From Our Pastor

Fallow Seasons

I grew up with a father who worked with beef cattle, which meant that spending time on farms and ranches was just a given in my upbringing...not always to my enjoyment. It doesn't take long working or being around agriculture to realize that you're not the one in control. Plants grow at the speed of the sun and the rain and the growing season. Animals, like people, have an individuality about their development that often befuddles our attempts to command them.



That doesn't mean that we are without abilities to make a difference. That, in fact, was my father's life work, to improve the productivity of the beef cattle industry. He kept a photo in his house of a young heifer surrounded by seven or eight young calves with the inscription "Dr. Jim's dream."

He did that work well because he knew a truth about agriculture – there are productive seasons and there are fallow seasons – and the work that can be done in those periods is vastly different. In fact, my father worked extremely hard to change the fallow times – those moments when the winter's chill has set in, when the growing can't occur, when life seems more about waiting than about producing – those were the moments that my dad tried to affect

Fallow seasons also happen in the rest of life – like during a pandemic. Much of how we have defined our life in the past is on hold, and that can be a cause of frustration...or for creating a different effort.

Steve has been hard at work taking care of overlooked parts of our campus...duties he is often unable to do well because of the groups that usually take his time.

Melissa continually amazes me with the tasks she takes on...and solves!...tasks that might remain undone except for a fallow season.

In a season like the one that surrounds us, plow blades are sharpened, seeds are stored and readied, pastures are replenished with depleted nutrients, and exhausted animals are fed and prepared. All in preparation...

A group of St. Franciscans is coming together to do one of these "fallow-season" tasks and you might want to join. They are planning to build a Zen Garden on campus. Do you have skills or knowledge that might prepare that ground?

What other tasks or relationships might need some of your loving work in



The Desert Southwest Conference of the UMC

Resident Bishop
Bishop Robert Hoshibata
(602)266-6956

District Superintendent
Rev. Matt Ashley
(520)539-0929

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



1 Eric Ordaz
3 Ronald Nason
3 Adrienne Smith
4 Rebecca Redelsheimer
7 Keith Vann
8 Manny Leon
9 Rachel Cushman
12 Joan Curry
13 Douglas Kayhart
13 Eric Schilling
14 Donald Black
15 E. Reid Gilbert
15 Inna Lehrer
16 Judy Mitchell
17 Roy DeBise-Loomis
18 Kelsey Ageton
20 Scott Blades
24 Lydia Hamstra
25 Kay Bauman
27 Carolyn Rivers

27 Chuck Adams
28 Richard Ostroski

this fallow season?

What else might be done around campus, or in our buildings? Bring us your ideas!

For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven – Ecclesiastes 3

Jim

As we are all aware, our staff is a tremendous blessing to us. It was a very difficult decision to furlough seven of our staff members at the end of March. We did this because knowing that as long as the church was closed there would be no work for them, we wanted them to be able to take advantage of the economic programs offered by the federal and state governments.

As a result, our remaining staff members - Jim, Melissa and Steve have been doing "double time" to get all the work done!

We want to ask everyone to please grant some grace and space to Jim, Melissa and Steve during these crazy and challenging times.

There have been some complaints that the phones aren't being answered when people call. Please understand that Melissa is the only one answering phones - and often times the only one in the office. Sometimes she may be unavailable when you call. She could be dealing with a vendor, doing financial work, on another line or even in another building on the campus. Remember that the office is technically closed. But she has asked us to assure you that she will answer emails and phone calls as soon as she can.

Steve is usually the only Facilities person on campus, and he is working hard to prepare for the day when our Bishop gives the "OK" to re-open buildings. There is a long list of requirements from the CDC, the State, and the Conference office that must be done before the doors can be re-opened. So you can bet he is keeping busy.

And of course Jim is working his usual 24/7 times two to fulfill the responsibilities of a pastor. However he is available through email and his cell phone if someone needs to reach him.

The folks on SPRC have reminded these three to please take some time off to rest, relax and refresh. They all have vacation time piled up that they have not used. So hopefully they will be able to do so.

The committee commends our three for the tremendous job they have



29 Nancy Kayhart
30 Donna Downey
30 Stephanie Poe
30 Arnold Cohen
30 Ademar Montoya

ECO TIP

Think globally, act locally!

A shocking 90% of our meat is produced by transnational corporations, mainly on factory farms. Support local farmers, clean air and water, rural communities, and even your own health, by seeking out meat from a nearby rancher at localharvest.org. Since many are eating less often in restaurants these days, it's an ideal time to make room in the food budget for high quality meat, eggs and poultry that align with one's faith and values.

from the St. Francis Green Team



Huge thanks to all those who showed up to help at our September Spruce Up Day -

Patty Bowers
Kathy Miller
Stewart & Sandy Chan
Tom Bossert
Adrienne Smith
Al Cox
Adolf Whitten
Kay Bauman
Lana Holstein

And don't forget to join us at our upcoming

Spruce Up Day

Saturday, November 21st
8:00 am - noon

(Any time you can give would be a huge help!)

been doing. Please continue to send them positive energy and prayers, and include their families as well.

The St. Francis Staff Parish Relations Committee

Sue Gemoets (Chair), Chuck Adams, Don Black, Lana Holstein, Marilyn Keefer, Wendy Kreider, Pam Simon, Lee Vought

St. Francis plans to sponsor the *Great Decisions* program again for the 2021 season. Since we are all still living in a world held hostage by Covid-19, and this will probably also be the case in January, the Great Decisions board is planning for each of our groups to meet virtually using Zoom. I will have specific information on the starting date later this year, but we will most likely continue to meet on Thursday evenings beginning near the end of January.



At this time, I need to get an estimate of how many people would be interested in joining our group so I can order the required number of books. I have attached the list of topics being planned for 2021. If you think you would like to participate, please send me an email (aldaglp@aol.com) conveying your intentions. Thanks. Art Aldag

Great Decisions 2021

Global supply chains and national security

The shutdown of global supply chains due to the Covid-19 pandemic brought to the fore an issue with the high level of global economic interdependence: what happens when one country is the main source for an item, say face masks, and then can no longer supply the item? Countries suddenly unable to meet the demand for certain supplies are faced with growing calls for economic nationalism. What are some of the lasting effects that the pandemic could have on global supply chains and trade? How would this affect national security?

Persian Gulf security issues

The Persian Gulf remains tense as the rivalry between the regional powers of Saudi Arabia and Iran continues. Tensions escalated in early 2020 as the United States began to intervene in the Gulf, launching an airstrike that killed two Iranian military commanders. What are the historical influences that have led to these tensions? What role, if any, should the United States play? Is using military force a viable foreign policy option for 2021 and beyond?

Brexit and the European Union

With the "Brexit transition period" coming to an end this year, the United Kingdom will formally leave the European Union at the start of 2021. With negotiations between the two entities continuing to stall, what does the future of Europe and the UK look like? Will the UK survive a possible Scottish vote to leave? Who will step up/ command of Europe without Angela Merkel ?

a huge help)

For more information,
contact Steve at
299-9063, ext. 103
or email
facilities@stfrancisumc.org



Thanksgiving and the holidays in general usually stand out as a season of plenty - even excess. So sometimes it's hard to conceive of the fact that people in our own community, many of them children and senior citizens, won't have enough to eat.

For the months of November and December, we are asking - in addition to our usual Food Pantry needs - for donations of holiday foods and treats. It truly is a time to be reminded of all we have, of our many blessings - even when things seem bleak - and that we are all connected.

Holiday Treat Suggestions:

- *Boxed or Bagged Stuffing mix
- *Canned Yams
- *Boxed Potatoes (Mashed, Scalloped, Au Gratin)
- *Boxed Baking Goods (Cake mixes, cookie mixes, pie crust mix, brownies)
- *Envelopes, cans or jars of gravy (Turkey, chicken)
- *Cans of fruit filling for pies (Apple, Cherry, etc.)
- *Canned vegetables (Green Beans, Corn, Peas)

To drop off donations, please call the Church Office at 520-299-9063 or email mmitchell@stfrancisumc.org

As always, thank you for your generosity.

Struggles over the melting Arctic

U.S. President Donald Trump left many scratching their heads when it was rumored that he was looking to purchase the large island nation of Greenland from Denmark. While any potential deal seems highly unlikely, the event shows the changing opinion within the U.S. government toward engagement with the Arctic region. Because of climate change, large sheets of arctic ice are melting, exposing vast stores of natural gas and oil. With Russia and China already miles ahead with their Arctic strategies, can the U.S. catch up?

China's role in Africa

The Covid-19 crisis has put a massive strain on what was growing a positive economic and political relationship between China and the continent of Africa. As Chinese President Xi Jinping's centerpiece "Belt and Road initiative" continues to expand Chinese power, the response to the spread of Covid-19, as well as the African government's growing debt to China, has seen pushback. What are some of the growing economic and political issues between China and Africa?

The Korean Peninsula

The Korean Peninsula is facing a defining era. Attempts by South Korean President Moon Jae-in and U.S. President Donald Trump to repair the rift between North and South have lost any momentum as Pyongyang continues to test long-range missiles for its nuclear weapons program. As the rift between the U.S. and China grows further, South Korea may end up in the middle of the two superpowers. What does the future hold for the U.S. relationship with the ROK?

Roles of international organizations in a global pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has thrust the World Health Organization (WHO) into the limelight, for better and for worse. While some of the Trump administration's criticism of the organization is unfair, the response to the early stages of the pandemic left many experts wanting more from the WHO. What is the WHO's role in responding to international pandemics? What can be done to improve the WHO's response to future global health crises?

The end of globalization ?

As the US enters another election season, the merits and drawbacks of globalization are again being debated by the candidates. With the passing of Brexit and Donald Trump's America First doctrine, protectionist policies are more prevalent, challenging globalization. What is globalization and how will it be affected by protectionist trade policies? How will the United States and the world be affected by such policies? Is globalization really at an end, or in need of a refresh?



Tickling YOUR Advent Spirit

Starting Monday,
November 30th,

An Advent book study:
"Let Us Go Now to Bethlehem"

This will be a lunchtime meeting
from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on
Mondays beginning on
November 30th and ending on
January 4th.

The study will be open to
anyone so feel free to invite
friends.

Here's the link to the book
description.

<https://www.cokesbury.com/Let-Us-Go-Now-to-Bethlehem>

For more information, please
contact Doris Morris at
dorisjmorris@gmail.com
or Sue Gemoets at
suemckgem@gmail.com



There are times when everyone
needs a helping hand -
something that is not always
easy to ask for or accept.
Whether you are dealing with
illness, an accident, aging
issues or emotions during these
crazy times, St. Francis has a
small team of volunteers to
help.

It's called *The Care Team*,
because we do.

If you know someone who could
use extra help, please
let us know.

For information, or to volunteer,
contact

The Care Team coordinator Pat
Fox at 850-9203 or email
nfox12@cox.net

NOT EVERYTHING
IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled



sunshine is not cancelled
spring is not cancelled
love is not cancelled
relationships are not cancelled
reading is not cancelled
naps are not cancelled
devotion is not cancelled
music is not cancelled
dancing is not cancelled
imagination is not cancelled
kindness is not cancelled
conversations are not cancelled
hope is not cancelled



#keeplookingup
SimpleStencils.com



Would you like to help plan a
"Zen Garden"? Contact Pastor
Jim at (602)460-0711.

St. Francis In The Foothills UMC

4625 E River Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85718
Phone: (520) 299-9063

Contact Our Church Today

