



# The Spirit of St. Francis



2020



THE CARE TEAM

There are times in life when we all need a little extra help, or a reminder that we are special and loved. This is the mission of our *St. Francis Care Team*, which has been actively helping members of our congregation in many different ways. Recently they have:

- Sent Thanksgiving, Christmas and weekly cards to those who have been ill, dealing



## In This Issue

The St. Francis Care Team Pays It Forward

A Word from Our Pastor

What the Book?

Upcoming Concerts

Cupids and Cupcakes Rides Again!

**St. Francis in the Foothills UMC**  
4625 E. River Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85718  
(520)299-9063

[www.stfrancisinthefoothills.org](http://www.stfrancisinthefoothills.org)

with life challenges, or not able to make it to church.

- Phoned members who have not been able to attend church and let them know they haven't been forgotten.
- Visited members in the hospital, care facility or their own homes.
- In December, the *Care Team* members baked cookies and created Christmas baskets at the church Christmas Party, which they then delivered to those who haven't been able to attend church.

*The St. Francis Care Team* is not here just for those who are sick or facing life challenges. They're here for everyone, to lead by example in "paying forward" kind words and gestures.

If you could use a little help in your life right now, if you have questions regarding *The Care Team* or would like to join us, please contact Team Coordinator Pat Fox at (520)850-9203.

Look for our brand-new *Care Team* brochure for more information.



The pink mailbox in the Celebration Center lobby, which has been used to pass messages of support to Joannie Wilbank, has been replaced with a mailbox that is open to everyone (Yes, Joannie too!)

Everyone can use the boost of supportive, loving words, and those who have been the recipients of such cards have all said how wonderful they made them feel.

### **NUMBERS TO KNOW:**

Contribution/Pledge Questions:  
(520)299-9063 x102

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

Prayer Requests:  
(520)299-9063 x101

Room Reservations:  
(520)299-9063 x101

Sunday Bulletins:  
(520)299-9063 x105

International School for Peace  
(520)299-8908

### **FOR PASTORAL HELP**

Reverend Jim Wiltbank  
(520)299-9063 x106



**The Desert  
Southwest  
Conference of the  
UMC**

**Resident Bishop**  
Bishop Robert Hoshibata  
(602)266-6956

**District Superintendent**  
Rev. Mark Conrad  
(520)325-2775

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

Cards are available at the mailbox. Please feel free to write cards for anyone who needs support of any kind. Cards will be picked up and mailed every Monday.

St. Francis will provide the postage!

For more information, call Sarah Tomassetti at (520)885-0882.

## A Word from Our Pastor

### ***A Letter from Joannie***

Dear St. Francis family,

I just finished my third chemo treatment with one more to go. The side effects have been very manageable, and the medical personnel are truly taking care of me, but your cards and support are what have helped me even more. Thank you so much for all your prayers and love. Keep those pink candles burning!

Joannie



### ***What WE Should Be***

As Joannie expressed in her letter above, we are so grateful for all the love and support that you have given to us during her treatments. You have truly lived out what it means to be a spiritual community...which is exactly what I'd like to explore with you.

St. Francis, the community of which we are all a part, works best when we actively and intentionally seek for ways to connect with each other and form small communities of love and support within that larger body. While spirituality may be an individual pursuit, religion is one in which we purposely look for ways to be "the body of Christ" for each other.



- 1 Melissa Mitchell
- 3 Elizabeth Fimbres
- 4 Carolyn Isaman
- 4 Lucinda Davis
- 4 Jenni Morrison
- 5 Virginia Encila
- 6 Grace Goodman
- 9 Tony Danielson
- 10 Philip Pearthree
- 10 Linnea Chambers-Daniell
- 11 Linda Whitten
- 12 Sheryl Pincus
- 13 Judy Robinson
- 13 Peggy Schlosser
- 16 Judith Bobbitt
- 19 Sharon Falk
- 20 Margaret Liebig
- 21 David Taylor
- 21 Barbara Eiswerth
- 21 James Liebig
- 23 Elsie Uhrlaub
- 24 Carrie Evans
- 25 Matt Kaczmarski
- 27 Pat Morrison

These small groups can take on a variety of forms and purposes. Some will be designed for an activity here at church...some purposely lift us outside the walls of our buildings and into the community. Some will be mission driven, while others will focus on the social aspects of our life together. The "church" will set up some groups, while others will form on a much more informal basis.

Whatever the particularities of these groups, they hold one thing in common: they are the means through which the larger community is held together. As your pastor let me be very clear about this: **I need you to be in small groups within our church in one way or another.** Coming to Celebration may help us all, but these "communities within our community" will strengthen you and deepen your spirit walk in ways that the large community will not. Let me give you an example.

Every Tuesday for years **Snak Paks** has come together to prepare food bags for local schools. This marvelous group of volunteers gives a gift to the world around them while laughing quite a bit as they serve. Their "small group" feeds their own souls and blesses the world around them.

Every single church committee can serve as a wonderful small group, but there is so much more than can do that as well...or better: Sophia's Circle, Sunday Night at the Movies, POZ Café, Choir, , Sunday School, the group that serves at Casa Maria, the Men's writing group. The list goes on and on and on...and I'm so sorry to all the marvelous groups that I have not named. Each one is an amazing blessing to this church and to the world.

FIND A GROUP TO JOIN! Or maybe two or three. It will bless your life...and change our world.

Jim

**Make your choice and  
Choose Love!**



The St. Francis Welcome Team will be selling these limited-edition mugs for \$15.00 each or 2 for \$25.00! Supplies are limited so stop by the Welcome Table after the 9:00 am service and pick yours up now!



**Sunday Night At  
The Movies**

February 9th,  
5:00 pm in the  
Community Center



**BlacKkKlansman**  
(2018, Drama, 135 minutes, R)

# WHAT THE BOOK?

On Sundays, for those of you who actually look in the bulletin ads (and you know who you are!), on the announcement slides and in the monthly newsletter, we run ads about the *St. Francis Library for Peace*. Yet surprisingly, there are a lot of folks who don't realize that we are not your usual church library - in fact, some don't even know we have a church library! Not to mention that the closest we are to being a "church library" is because we're housed in a church! So is that why you don't wander in? You're expecting dark shelves of musty, scholarly tomes that haven't seen the light of day since the Middle Ages?

Well guess again! Yes, we have real books (remember those?) and lots of them.

**We've got books on social justice, poetry, the environment, LGBTQ+ history and issues, biographies, history and fiction.**

Yes, I'll admit we do have books on religion - **all types of religion and beliefs. Wicca, Buddhism, Islam, Taoism, Christianity and much more.**

And speaking of books - **we have a wonderful Children's Library which is full of an amazing selection of books for all ages.**

**We also have nearly 500 DVD's with the best in drama, documentaries and foreign films. We have a growing selection of audiobooks, The Great Courses, and magazines** to help pass the time.

Ron Stallworth in the first African-American detective to serve in the Colorado Springs Police Department. Determined to make a name for himself, Stallworth bravely sets out on a dangerous mission: to infiltrate and expose the Ku Klux Klan. The detective soon recruits a more seasoned colleague, Jewish detective Flip Zimmerman, into the undercover investigation. Together, they team up to take down the extremist hate group as the organization aims to sanitize its rhetoric to appeal to the mainstream. Alternately chilling and hysterically funny.

We start with a potluck dinner, so please bring a main dish, side dish or salad to share. St. Francis will provide drinks and desserts.

This is a free monthly event, but donations are always appreciated and help us buy movies and food each month.



## ***Parent's Night Out!***

### ***Cupcakes & Cupids***

Friday, February 14th,  
5:00 - 8:00 pm in room 30/31.

**We want to give you a night out!** Bring your kiddos and their friends to our third annual Valentine's celebration. We will have pizza and drinks, as well as games and

The *Library for Peace* is open Sunday mornings from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm, and is staffed by friendly, helpful volunteers to assist you.

So . . . . . **ARE YOU A READER?  
DO YOU LOVE MOVIES?  
DO YOU LIKE AUDIOBOOKS?**

Then what the book are you waiting for? Stop by the *Library for Peace* and check us out - literally! This being St. Francis in the Foothills, we are the library your mother warned you about! Come and see for yourself - we dare you!



decorating cupcakes and cookies for our Sunday Hospitality Time on February 16th.

**Please RSVP by Sunday, February 8th to Sheena Sweeney at [sweena86@gmail.com](mailto:sweena86@gmail.com) or call or text 520-971-9290.**

**We need a few intrepid volunteers to help the kids decorate the cupcakes and cookies, as well as just keep an eye on everyone. Please contact Sheena if you can help out.**

Hosted by the St. Francis Children, Youth & Family Ministry



***Market on the Move*  
Saturday, February 22nd,  
8:00 - 10:00 am in the  
Community Center  
parking lot.**

For a \$10.00 cash donation, you will get up to 60 lbs. of produce!

We also need volunteers to collect money and work the produce line.

Please contact 440-0100 if you wish to volunteer, or email [eiswerth@iskashitaa.org](mailto:eiswerth@iskashitaa.org)

# UPCOMING CONCERTS



***Cynthia Hilts Trio In Concert!  
Travels with Jazz  
Voyages and Beautiful Places***

Saturday, February 1st,  
5:00 pm in the Celebration Center  
**Proceeds from this concert will benefit  
Iskashitaa Refugee Network**

Tickets: \$15.00 at the door  
or through Eventbrite

[Click here to purchase tickets!](#)

(Tickets purchased online will be charged a service fee.)

Snacks and lemonade will be available  
for purchase.



## ***Look What You Did!***

During the month of December, St. Francis in the Foothills hosted a *Pajama and Book Drive* with the Angel Heart Pajama Project for abused and abandoned children.

All the donations have been tallied and St. Francis family and friends donated

85 pairs of pajamas  
135 books  
and \$150.00 in cash!

THANK YOU ALL!

St. Francis also sponsored three families through Interfaith Community Services for Christmas. To all who signed up and donated the requested gifts and needs - Thank You!

We were so proud to be able to take all the presents up to the ICS office (it took two of us two trips to carry everything in!).

You are all amazing!





**Tim O'Brien  
with Jan Fabricius**

Friday, February 28th,  
7:30 pm in the Celebration Center

Grammy winning singer songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Tim O'Brien grew up singing in church and in school, and after seeing Doc Watson on TV, became a lifelong devotee of old time and bluegrass music. O'Brien's solo shows feature his solid guitar, fiddle and banjo, along with his engaging vocals, with harmony from Jan Fabricius. Expect a range of original compositions and traditional arrangements, mixed with stories and Tim's self-deprecating humor.

Tickets:  
Purchased in advance -  
Adults \$22.00  
Seniors/TFTM/TKMA members \$20.00  
At the door, all tickets are \$25.00

[Click here to purchase tickets!](#)

(Tickets purchased online will be charged a service fee.)

Advance tickets with no fee are available at:

Antigone Books  
411 N. 4th Avenue

The Folk Shop  
2525 N. Campbell Ave.

**Weekly Breakfasts**



**Sophia's Circle  
Women's Group**

Wednesdays 6:45 - 8:00 am  
in Ravenscroft Hall



**Chrysalis  
Men's Round Table**

Thursdays 7:00 - 8:00 am  
in Ravenscroft Hall



**A Special Thank You to our  
2019 Endowment Fund  
Donors:**

Thalia Crooks  
Rich Hartzell  
Linda Van Pelt  
Barbara Eiswerth

You can support the St. Francis  
Endowment Fund by donating cash,  
transferring stocks or bonds, and  
remembering St. Francis in your Will  
or Trust.



Sunday, March 1st,  
3:00 pm in the Celebration Center

Trained tenors Dennis Tamblyn, Matt Holter and Chach Snook are joined by classical soprano Heather Stricker for this high energy show. Featuring your favorite classical tunes as well as gorgeous arrangements from other musical genres, this will be a show to remember! Get your tickets early!

Tickets: \$25.00 General Admission;  
\$20.00 Seniors/Students (with valid ID)

[Click here to purchase tickets!](#)

(Tickets purchased online will be charged a service fee)

For more information, go to our website  
[www.stfrancisinthefoothills.org](http://www.stfrancisinthefoothills.org)  
and click on "Giving"

You can also help by purchasing a leaf for the Tree of Life.  
Order forms are available in the office.



### **Driving is a core need at ICS!**

Provide transportation to home bound seniors. Our transportation program is flexible, fun and mileage reimbursement is available. Use your own vehicle or drive our Care-A-Van. You can also do grocery shopping, phone calls, visits and more. Drivers in all areas of town are needed.

For information on this and other community needs, contact Tori Carlson at [tcarlson@icstucson.org](mailto:tcarlson@icstucson.org) or 520-526-9308.



### ***Empty Bowls***

*A fundraiser to fight hunger and feed hope.*

Saturday, March 7th,  
11:00 am - 1:30 pm  
Tucson Chinese Cultural Center,  
1288 W. River Road



**Lisa Otey & Diane Van Deurzen:  
Singers & Songwriters  
Who Have Shaped Our Lives**

Friday, April 3rd,  
7:00 pm in the Celebration Center

Diane and Lisa will share songs and stories from singers and songwriters who have influenced us and shaped our lives. Love Aretha Franklin? Eva Cassidy? Peggy Lee? Etta James? Dinah Washington? Then please join us for a night to celebrate these amazing individuals.

Tickets: \$15.00 General Admission

[Click here to purchase tickets!](#)

(Tickets purchased online will be charged a service fee)

Tickets are on sale now online at  
[www.icstucson.org](http://www.icstucson.org)  
\$25.00 each

The event features signature soups, breads and desserts from area restaurants, bakeries and food partners, and you select a beautiful handcrafted pottery bowl donated by local potters to take home.

This event always sells out and tickets are limited!



**SAVE THE DATE!**

***Exploring Membership Retreat***  
Saturday, April 25th,  
8:30 am - 2:00 pm in the Community  
Center

Join Pastor Jim and the Welcome Team to learn more about St. Francis in the Foothills - it's history, it's mission and it's people.

For more information, please contact  
Welcome Team leaders

Nancy Stevenson 323-0318  
Diane Everhart 272-4341



Our Welcome Team hosted another successful "Exploring Membership Class" late last year. Once again, it was wonderful to get to know our

enthusiastic participants and learn more about them, their journeys and their many gifts.

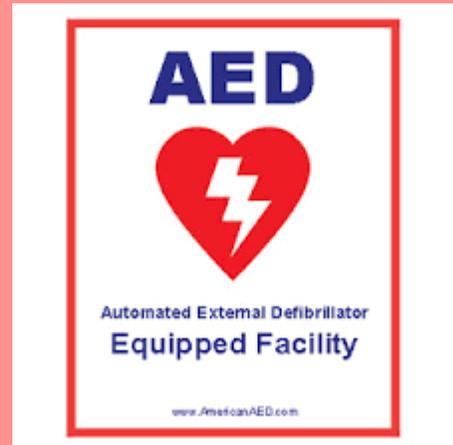
Some of our talented Ministry Leaders gave brief descriptions of our teams and shared the variety of meaningful opportunities there are to volunteer within our community. After a delicious lunch that was hosted by previous attendees, Pastor Jim inspired our class with the journey of St. Francis.

Feedback from our participants were warm and positive. When asked about something they learned about St. Francis, these were some of the remarks:

- "The connection with the others... I loved when people opened up and shared their journey."
  - "I am welcome here."
  - "The love for others."
- "I felt as though I've always been here."

Please welcome the following people and please make a point of introducing yourself over Sunday coffee. We promise that you'll want to know more about them and the great warmth and attributes that they bring to St. Francis.

- Israel Almonza
- Marie Andrews
- Sean Blake
- Rachel Cushman
- Janet Horton
- Sheri Houston



Automatic External Defibrillator's (AED's) are available in the lobbies of the Celebration and Community Centers. Please familiarize yourself with their locations. Every second counts.

**You could save a life by learning CPR and how to use an AED:**

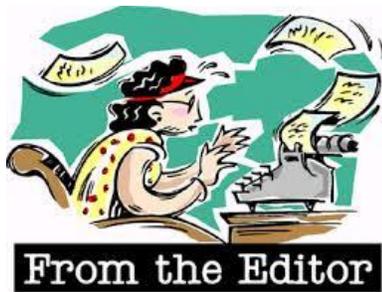
Watch a short 5 minute 'How to Use' the AED:

<https://youtu.be/6yDDh510QRo>

Take a class: <https://www.savealifetfd.com/> or <http://www.redcross.org>

- Dean Jones
- Kate and Tim Kosse
- Annie Mora
- Sarah Musich
- Jenifer Ratliff
- George Sennett
- Rachel Weger
- Dillon Young

- Nancy Stevenson  
Welcome Team Co-Chair



Hello Everyone!

I hope you've enjoyed this month's newsletter. I'm always on the lookout for articles that have to do with the people, ministries and activities of St. Francis in the Foothills. If you have something you'd like to share, please email your idea(s) to:

**[mmitchell@stfrancisumc.org](mailto:mmitchell@stfrancisumc.org)**

Please note that the cut-off date for accepting submissions for the March 2020 newsletter is Friday, February 14th.

Anything submitted after that date without prior communication may not be able to be included.



The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

*-From Just-One-Liners.com*