



The Catalina News

January 2024

Volume 73, Issue 01

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MIKE

Happy New Year! As you probably know, our church has been working on recommendations from consultant Paul Nixon. I thought that it would be a good time to share where we are on that work. So, I asked our team leaders to share a paragraph or so about what their teams are doing.

From Scott Campbell (*email: ronaldscott.campbell@gmail.com*), chair of the “Hub” team: “The Hub team finalized the ‘Catalina UMC Community Hub Community Partner Engagement’ Guide. This document outlines how to engage with community leaders and what questions we would like to have a conversation about. Each member of the team is reaching out to interview one community leader so that the team can then get back together and compare notes to fine tune our process. The team will then begin canvassing our neighborhood leadership and engage with additional Catalina church members to help in this effort.”

From Jeanne Manning (*email: jmanning30@cox.net*), chair of the Relationship Building Team: “The team has been meeting regularly to discuss and plan for the recommendations Paul Nixon suggested in his final report. As the report suggested, the sanctuary needs to be more accommodating and easier to access. A trial of spacing the pews was undertaken and has generated mostly positive comments. In an ongoing effort to get a (continued page 4)

MISSIONS UPDATE

Market on the Move – It’s back!! We will hold our first Market on the Move food distribution outreach on **Saturday, January 20, 2024**. We will set up in Catalina’s east parking lot and we will serve neighbors and friends on a “drive thru” format. Food will still be priced at \$10.00 for up to 60 pounds. We will start at 8:00 am during the cooler months and probably be done in about two hours. We could use up to 10 volunteers. (continued page 2)



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PG 1	PASTOR MIKE; MISSIONS UPDATE
PG 3	SOUTH DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONF.
PG 5	DAY SCHOOL NEWS; WEBSITE
PG 6	MEET “JUNIOR;” CHILDREN & FAMILY NEWS
PG 7	UPCOMING EVENTS
PG 8	PRAYER REQUESTS

MISSIONS UPDATE (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)

Some duties involve lifting food boxes, but other assignments do not require heavy lifting.

Primavera Men's Shelter – We had a special holiday menu cooked and served to the men residing at the shelter on Saturday, December 23rd. Thank you Todd Eanes, and your cooking team, for your dedication and volunteer hours during the busy holiday weekend. Would you like to volunteer to help with this outreach in 2024? Please notify Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com or contact the church office. We plan this outreach for the 4th Saturday of each month, from approximately 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The work involves standing and lifting, cooking and serving. All volunteers who are vaccinated, gloved, and over the age of 12 are welcome. Who would like to help on Saturday, **January 27, 2024**?



Last year's Market on the Move serving our neighborhood with fresh produce

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen – Catalina's mission team, led by Rich Mayorga, cooked and served massive amounts of soup on Saturday morning, December 16th. Our team of 3 volunteers cook and serve up food, cooked from scratch, for more than 200 of our neighbors suffering from homelessness and hunger. We start very early, (approximately 6:30 am to 10:30 am). This work involves standing, lifting, cooking, and serving, using large commercial pots in a very small kitchen. All volunteers who are vaccinated, gloved, and over the age of 12 are welcome. The 2024 schedule is not yet planned, but if you would like to volunteer, once the schedule is announced, please notify Doug Wingert, at dougwingert@gmail.com or contact the church office.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Making – We did it. With a very generous donation of 110 loaves of bread, we made 1000 sandwiches in less than 2 hours on Friday afternoon, December 15th. People love this mission outreach because volunteers can sit and chat while making hundreds and hundreds of sandwiches for our neighbors living with hunger. We plan to do this several times in 2024.

The January-February, 2024 issue of The Upper Room is available for purchase in the office or in the narthex on Sundays. The Daily Devotional Guide is in small pocket guide size for \$1.50 or large print size for \$2.00 each.

Once again, our own Doug Wingert has a devotional published!

SOUTH DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



The South District Leadership Conference will occur on **Saturday, January 27, 2024 – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** at **St. Paul's UMC** in Tucson, AZ.

This year's topic is Conflict Management & Rebuilding Trust. In our workshop, we will explore the five conflict management styles, take an informal conflict management style assessment, and explore ways to manage conflict. Then we will explore the role of trust, credibility, and power in organizational culture, and consider what individuals and organizations can do when trust breaks down.

Rev. April Casperson serves as the Director of Enrollment Management at [Methodist Theological School in Ohio](#), and a diversity and inclusion consultant. She previously served as Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church. She is an ordained deacon passionate about diversity and inclusion, vocational discernment, and the organizations and systems that recruit, educate, and equip leaders for thoughtful, intentional ministry. Rev. Casperson previously served as VP of Institutional Advancement at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Please contact Jeannine Marinoni at the District Office with any questions at jmarinoni@dscumc.org. To register go to <https://dscumc.org/event/south-district-leadership-conference-2024/>

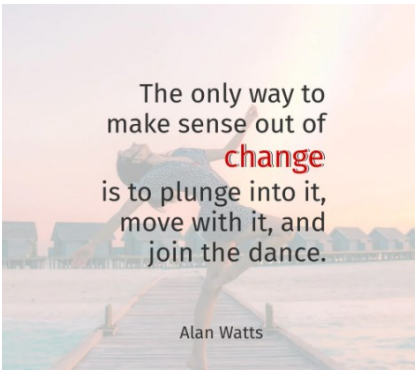


SPEAKER: REV. APRIL CASPERSON, DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT, METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN OHIO of

**Catalina UMC church office is open M-Th, 10am—3pm.
We're here to help in any way we can, and it's always nice to have visitors!**

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MIKE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

realistic plan for redesigning the overflow area of the sanctuary [south side] for a fellowship/welcoming area, contractors will be evaluating the area and giving estimates of the cost.”



From Paige Anderson (*email: paige@catalinamethodist.org*), chair of Children’s Education Committee: “The children’s committee was able to meet with Paul Nixon and begin to envision a future. He made two things clear, we needed to decide who we are as a children’s ministry, and we needed to create a unique program that the community may be seeking. Who we are was an easy question for us, we want to be a ministry that spreads God’s love to ALL his

children. We created the slogan “raising inclusive children” to represent our ministry. We then created a brand-new program called Together Tuesdays where families will get to participate in child-centered worship, starting in 2024. Our committee is excited for the new year and what we plan to do!”

From Mike (*email: mike@catalinamethodist.org*), chair of the Contemporary Worship Team (CWT): Some of you already know that Pastor Matt will be retiring in July. The CWT spent an hour with Paul Nixon talking about what we can be doing between now and when the new Associate Pastor will start in July. Many of the day-to-day details of what will go into a new worship service need the leadership of the new pastor. So, over the next six months, our team will be focusing on the bigger picture: How is our equipment? Does anything need to be updated? What people will we need to hire for a new service? What kind of budget will we need for new staff, equipment, decoration and so on? We will be working on these kinds of questions in an effort to cover some of the groundwork necessary to begin the new service in December ’24 or January ’25.

—Pastor Mike

Are you receiving our weekly E-news- [Catalina Cares](#)? If not, you may sign up for it by filling out the “Contact Us” form on our website and requesting your email be added to our mailing list. The latest news will appear in your in-box (or look for it in your “junk mail”) every Thursday! Or—just call the office @ 520-327-4296 and we’ll add your email address for you.

CATALINA DAY SCHOOL NEWS

We had a busy December at Catalina Day School participating in the Angel Tree Program, participating in our staff holiday party at Culinary Dropout, holding our annual Christmas Program and Silent Auction on December 12th and a special visit from Santa on December 18th. Our current enrollment is 84. We hope you all had happy holidays and wish you a Happy New Year!

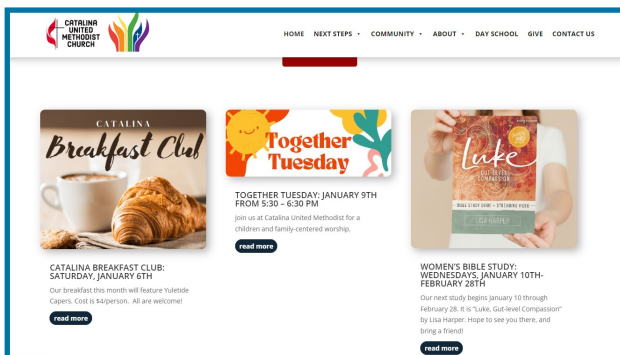


KEVIN ROCHE'S RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Our long-time head of maintenance, Kevin Roche, will retire at the end of December after 28 years! He's probably the longest employee ever at Catalina! SPRC planned his reception and we all showed appreciation to him for his steadfast care of our whole facility and campus after church on Dec. 10th. We wish him well in this next phase of his life.



CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEB-SITE



Mary Beth Butler and Scott Campbell have been working very hard to update our new website with a new host and interface. This is still a work in progress, but you'll find it to be more colorful, more interactive and more informational—check it out at www.catalinamethodist.org. We think you'll be impressed!

TOGETHER TUESDAYS COMING IN JANUARY!



Childrens has an exciting season! Join us every Sunday for Sunday School using the Grow Proclaim Serve curriculum. On January 9th at 5:30 is our FIRST Together Tuesday. This is directed toward families with children under 7, but older siblings are welcome. There will be dinner, a bible story, crafts and songs. Join us a for a fun night! This month is going to be about the story of Daniel, and being brave!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BLENMAN-ELM DONATIONS

Thank you Catalina United Methodist Church for your generosity! You provided gift cards for Christmas dinner for 16 Blenman Elementary school families. Thank you for showing God's love to those less fortunate. —Debbie Williams, our coordinator for Blenman-Elm Outreach



MEET OUR NEW MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR



We are so happy to be welcoming Frank “Just call me Junior” Lopez, Jr. as our newest staff member. “Junior” will be taking Kevin Roche’s place as he retired at the end of 2023. “Junior” will be on campus M-F, 7am-3pm.

Son of our Custodian, Frank Lopez, Sr., “Junior” loves baseball, the Wildcats and his two daughters aged 7 and 9. “Junior” considers himself to be a “people person” and is excited and grateful to be working for CUMC. Please be sure to introduce yourself to him if you see him on campus!

LOOKING FOR THE MONTHLY BIBLE VERSES? Pastor Mike refers to the Vanderbilt University Revised Common Lectionary which you can access on line at <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>. If you would like a copy in print, let the office know and we will mail it to you.

SEEKERS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays at 8:45-9:45am, Room H-230—A desire to enrich your understanding and faith is the only requirement. Join us for a variety of video-based lessons led by volunteer teachers from the class.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We are a diverse, loving group of women of all ages who just want to know more about the Bible and walk deeper in our journey with God. Our next study begins January 10 through February 28. It is Luke, Gut-level Compassion by Lisa Harper. You can purchase the book on Amazon or Christianbook.com. We meet in room H230 every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30. Hope to see you there, and bring a friend! For more information, contact Brenda Halferty at 520-481-6993 or bjhalferty@gmail.com.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We meet weekly on Wednesday mornings in Room E23 at 6:45 am. For those whose schedules allow, we plan on going to breakfast at 8:00 am following Bible Study.

KOINONIA CLASS FOR ADULTS: We meet Sunday, 10 at 9:00 in Room E23. Each week the group reads a chapter of a lively and thought-provoking book and builds relationships with other adults of all ages. Taught by Rev. Dr. Kirk Reed. Everyone is welcome! NEW BOOK: Celebration of Discipline

TOGETHER TUESDAYS: On January 9th at 5:30 is our FIRST Together Tuesday. This is directed toward families with children under 7, but older siblings are welcome. There will be dinner, a bible story, crafts and songs. Join us for a fun night! This month is going to be about the story of Daniel, and being brave!

CATALINA ORGAN FESTIVAL: Friday, January 19, 7pm, CUMC Sanctuary. Ken Cowan of the Shepherd School of Music, Rice University and Professor of Organ, Houston, Texas will be our guest organist. Tickets \$30/person, \$25/senior. Tickets available on our website or at the door.

MARKET ON THE MOVE: Saturday, January 20, 8am. Serving our neighbors with a drive-thru box of local produce--\$10 for up to 60 pounds of food. If you would like to volunteer to help, email Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com.

Primavera Men's Shelter Meal Prep: Jan 27, 2-6pm. Join our volunteers as we prepare a meal for this men's shelter on the 4th Saturday of each month. All (continued page 8) volunteers vaccinated, gloved and over age 12 are welcome. For more information, contact Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com

PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR...

...Kathy Janssen, who is having difficulties restoring her home after storm damage

...Sherry Hosinkson's aunt Terry Rippetoe who recently lost her beloved dog.

...for Catalina UMC as we begin the process to bring about change and growth in our ministry.

...our churches: Catalina UMC; San Pedro Valley UMC, Benson; Desert Skies UMC, Tucson

...an end to war and violence for all peoples in conflict.

We need all the prayer that we can get...During any time of uncertainty, if you have a prayer need that you would like lifted up to the congregation on this page, please send your request to matt@catalinamethodist.org.

**Pray for your
friends.
Everybody is
going through
something they
don't talk about.**

--

Steve Harvey

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PG. 7)

2024 District Leadership Conference: Jan 27, St. Paul's UMC The 2024 District Leadership Conference is rapidly approaching. The topic of the workshop is conflict management, featuring Rev. April Casperson, Director of Enrollment Management Methodist Theological School in Ohio. In the workshop we will explore the five conflict management styles, take an informal conflict management style assessment, and explore ways to manage conflict. Then we will explore the role of trust, credibility, and power in organizational culture, and consider what individuals and organizations can do when trust breaks down.

For more information and to register, go to <https://dscumc.org/event/south-district-leadership-conference-2024/>. Please note, space is limited, and registration is filling up fast.

CATALINA BREAKFAST CLUB: Saturday, Feb 10, 9-10am. Join us in Fellowship Hall (enter thru east gate off Treat) for breakfast (\$4/person) and guest speaker Jessica Cox.

We're excited to worship with you! Join us every Sunday at 10:00am for service in the Sanctuary. If you would like to join us via livestream, visit www.catalinamethodist.org

Catalina UMC office is open Mon-Thur, 10am-3pm.

We're here to help in any way we can and it's always nice to have visitors!

To submit articles to the newsletter please contact Susan O'Brien at office@catalinamethodist.org. Deadline to submit is the 20th of each month.