



The Catalina News

April, 2024

Volume 73, Issue 04

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MIKE

I recently had someone from Catalina ask about whether we might pick up the practice of greeting during the worship service. I know, after COVID-19, some or many of us are still wary of shaking hands with others. But, I thought, I would share part of an article I wrote a while back that discusses the reason we pass the peace during the service.

Passing the peace is what I usually have programmed into the worship service prior to the pandemic rather than just a greeting time. It served as both a time to share the peace of Christ with one another and, usually, to spend a little time in greeting one another (saying "Hi. Good to see you," etc.). The phrase I use for this time of worship is "Peace between us." This article explains why.

Maybe it's time to reintroduce that practice into the service. For those comfortable with doing so, we can pass the peace with a handshake. For others, we can pass the peace with a bow and our hands held close to our chest in the prayer gesture. Let me know what you think. Here is the article:

"I went to a workshop with theologian Marva Dawn a number of years ago and she was speaking about the different parts of worship. From what I remember of her presentation she said that when we pass the peace, we are saying something more profound than 'peace be with you.'

"She pointed out that this is an act during (continued on page 4)

MISSIONS UPDATE

Market on the Move – Another successful Market on the Move outreach on March 16th. Our additional banner, posted on Speedway a few days before the event, seems to help bring in additional customers. Our next Market on the Move will be held on April 20th and we will move up the time, starting at 7:00 am and finishing at 9:00 am in our east parking lot. Interested in helping? We serve neighbors and friends on a "drive thru" format. Food is priced at \$10.00 for up to 60 pounds. This is an excellent way to re-distribute tons of surplus food that might otherwise end up in the landfill. (continued on page 2)



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Rev. Mike Kerr-Osman,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Matt Colby,
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MISSIONS UPDATE (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)

Primavera Men's Shelter – Rick Williams and his cooking team shopped, cooked, served, and fellowshiped with the men residing at the Primavera Men's Shelter on March 23rd. We have a cooking team for April 27th, but we need volunteers for May 25th and monthly thereafter. If you would like to volunteer, please notify Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com or contact the church office. We cook and serve a great five course meal to men living with homelessness and they so appreciate our efforts. This outreach runs on the fourth Saturdays of each month, from approximately 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The menu is planned, and the grocery shopping is done by team leaders. New volunteers are always paired with experienced volunteers. The work involves standing and lifting, cooking, and serving. All volunteers who are vaccinated, gloved, and over the age of 12 are welcome.

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen – Approximately six to seven times throughout the year, Catalina's missions team cooks and serves our special chicken and vegetable soup recipe for our neighbors living with homelessness and hunger. We will cook and serve again on Saturday, April 6th. We have our cooking team for April, but we need a few volunteers for Saturday morning, June 1st. This is an early morning mission outreach where a team of 3 or 4 volunteers cook and serve more than 200 bowls of soup for our neighbors. 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. Please notify Doug Wingert, at dougwingert@gmail.com or contact the church office, if you are interested in volunteering.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Making – Our next sandwich making marathon is fast approaching on Friday afternoon, April 5th. Volunteers love this outreach. It is an opportunity to sit, chat, and fellowship with others while making hundreds of pb&j sandwiches in just a few hours. Due to limited cold storage space, we will only make 500 sandwiches this time, instead of more than 1,000. These sandwiches will be delivered to the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen, where they are then added to sack lunches for those living with hunger. We need 10 - 15 volunteers to help with sandwich making. We will begin at 3:00 pm and will probably be finished by 5:00 pm, depending on the number of volunteers. Please keep this one on your calendar.

Committee Members Needed – We've added two new members to the Church & Society-Missions Committee. Welcome to Fay Sias and Emily Mason. We still need to fill two additional vacancies. Several committee members completed their 3-year assignments on the committee. Our current outreach efforts are well defined for 2024, and our missions budget has been approved. This committee operates more like an ongoing "task force," so potential committee members might anticipate no more than quarterly update meetings. Are you interested in knowing more? Please contact Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com.

TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV-AIDS Network) – Held its annual meeting on March 18th, celebrating its 30th Anniversary. Several Catalina UMC representatives (continued page 9)

REACHING NEW PEOPLE IN NEW WAYS

BY LAURIE CAMPBELL

Several from our congregation recently joined other area UMCs to attend a seminar given by Rev. Rachel Gilmore titled “Reaching New People in New Ways”. Rachel is the Director of New and Vital Faith for the Desert Southwest Conference.

Rachel touched on some of the same topics that we’ve discussed with Rev. Paul Nixon, as well as ideas explored in the book *Inside Out: Everting Ministry Models for the Postmodern Culture*.

Rachel began by sharing some staggering numbers about the decline of the UMC over the past decade and projections for the future. One fact shared was that in 2015, 40% of UMC churches had fewer than 35 people in worship. And it’s not just the UMC that is declining. Attendance in churches, synagogues, and mosques is declining.

There are many reasons for this decline, but it is clear that our past models of ministry and worship do little to attract young people today. So, what do we do instead? We begin with a willingness to look at things differently, get out of our comfort zone, and innovate! And it takes laity involvement.

Rachel suggested that to move forward, we first need to be a guest instead of being a host. That means getting outside of our church walls and meeting our neighbors where they are. Rachel used ‘guesting’ as a verb and said that guesting begins with listening and discerning. Listening means just that; it does not include talking nor inviting people to church.

Rachel led us through an activity where we wrote down all of Catalina’s activities, and then classified them as:

Guesting—meaning that Catalina has no say in when or where the activity takes place

or

Hosting—meaning that Catalina determines when and where an activity happens

and

Relational—meaning that the activity is primarily intended to develop relationships

or

Transactional—meaning that the activity is meant to serve a need or meet a goal

It was no surprise that the areas Catalina (and other local churches, for that matter) need to grow are activities that fall into the Guesting and Relational categories.

So if we want to be a guest, where do we go? Rachel shared the idea of ‘third spaces’:

Our first space is home.

Our second space is work or school.

Our third space can be anything else—the pickle ball court, library, book club, etc.

That’s where we need to go, to those third spaces. We need (continued on page 5)

worship when we consciously decide to set aside differences. We may have offended one another. We may have gossiped about one another. We may have intentionally hurt one another--by word or deed. But we remember that we are called together by Christ. We are joined to one another within the Body of Christ.



“The phrase she used to get at what this part of worship is about was something like, ‘May there be no barriers between us.’ When we approach one another during worship, then, this act is to say, ‘I am sorry.’ We set aside our differences. We acknowledge that being a community devoted to Christ is our main goal.

“If we were to read through the New Testament it wouldn't take long to figure out that the Apostles and disciples did not always get along with one another. If we were to read beyond the pages of the Bible it would not take long to figure out that Christian communities all over the place had their own internal squabbles throughout history

“The point of passing the peace is to remind ourselves that we are committed to something beyond our annoyances with one another; beyond our differences with one another. It is to remind us that before we approach the altar for communion that we have made peace with one another; to remind us that the ‘peace’ we seek is beyond tolerance.

“...I thought Marva Dawn's words were a bit cumbersome to say as a single phrase during worship so I tried out ‘Peace between us.’”

Maybe we can pick this practice up again. —*Pastor Mike*

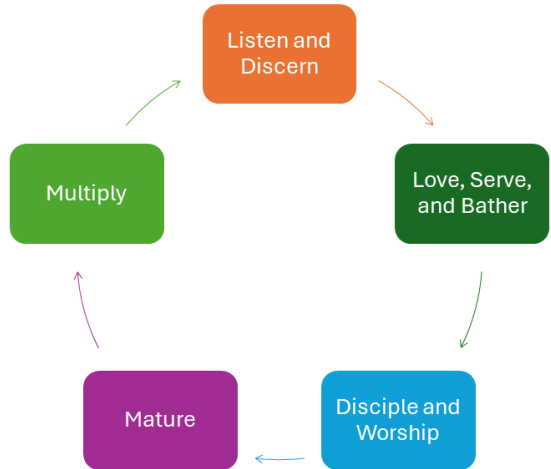
Are you receiving our weekly E-news- [Catalina Cares](#)? If not, you may sign up for it by filling out the “Contact Us” form on our website and requesting your email be added to our mailing list. The latest news will appear in your in-box (or look for it in your “junk mail”) every Thursday! Or—just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

to get out into our community to see and hear what's going on. In other words, we begin with listening and discerning. After we do that, we move into a cycle of interconnection with people that continually ensures we are serving our neighbors. That cycle looks like this:

Listen and Discern ➔ Love, Serve, and Gather ➔ Disciple and Worship ➔ Mature ➔ Multiply ➔ Listen and Discern (and continue the cycle)...

As we listen to our community, we will begin to see ways that Catalina can love and serve our neighbors. We will most probably discover a lot of needs in our community, and we won't be able to address every one of them. We will need to determine and articulate Catalina's passion, because meaningful service results where our passion intersects with our neighbors' pain.

We have a lot of work to do, but Catalina's Hub Team is starting the listening process by going out to meet members of our community. If you would like to be a part of this first phase of listening and learning about our neighbors, please contact Laurie Campbell (laurieandscott.campbell@gmail.com).



APRIL OBSERVANCES FROM THE MULTICULTURAL GROWTH COMMITTEE

Every year on April 22, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970. In the decades leading up to the first, Americans were consuming vast amounts of leaded gas through massive and inefficient automobiles.



Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of the consequences from either the law or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. Until this point, mainstream America remained largely oblivious to environmental concerns and how a polluted environment threatens human health. However, the stage was set for change with the publication of Rachel Carson's New York

Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries as it raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and the inextricable links between pollution and public health. For more information on Earth Day visit: <https://www.earthday.org/>

2024 Desert Southwest Annual Conference

June 13-16, 2024

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

www.UMC.ORG/EN

You'll find everything you need to know about the United Methodist Church on this website. Take a look. You'll be surprised!

UMC GENERAL CONFERENCE GOALS FROM AN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY HEATHER HAHN, UM NEWS

A month before General Conference opens, an ad hoc group of more than 270 U.S. delegates is giving public notice of their three legislative priorities for The United Methodist Church's top lawmaking assembly.

Those priorities are what many delegates have taken to calling "the three R's" — regionalization, the Revised Social Principles and the removal of exclusionary language against LGBTQ people.

After the battles of the 2019 special General Conference and the strains of COVID that delayed the next regular session to this year, the delegate signers expressed their desire for a different kind of legislative meeting.

The delegates see supporting the following legislative goals as a way of moving toward a shared global church that is more focused on Christ than conflict.

Those proposals are:

Worldwide Regionalization, a plan submitted by the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters, that aims to put the different regions of the denomination on equal footing. The majority of the standing committee's membership comes from the central conferences — seven church regions in Africa, Europe and the Philippines.

The proposal would create eight distinct regional governing bodies in what are currently the seven central conferences in Africa, Europe, the Philippines as well as in the United States. Each region would have the same authority to adapt portions of the Book of Discipline, the denomination's policy book, to their missional context. Worldwide regionalization requires amending the denomination's constitution. For ratification, an amendment must receive at least a two-thirds vote at General Conference and at least a two-thirds total vote at annual conferences, bodies consisting of lay and clergy voters from multiple congregations. Most other legislation requires a simple majority.

Revised Social Principles, multiple petitions submitted by the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, that revise the denomination's social witness. The proposals are the result of an eight-year revision process prompted by the 2012 General Conference to make the denomination's social teachings more "more globally relevant, theologically founded and succinct." More than 4,000 United Methodists from around the globe have contributed to the revisions.

As proposed, the revision would no longer make reference to homosexuality at all. Since 1972, the Social Principles have stated that "the practice of homosexuality... is incompatible with Christian teaching." (continued on page 8)

Taylor-Storm emphasized that the Social Principles have always dealt with far more than human sexuality. The revisions, she said, aim to address international concerns around topics as varied as agriculture and polygamy. “This isn’t just about the U.S., and this isn’t U.S.-based legislation,” Taylor-Storm said.

Removal of exclusionary policies against LGBTQ people. Since General Conference added the Social Principle on homosexuality in 1972, subsequent gatherings have added bans on “self-avowed practicing” gay clergy and the officiation of same-sex weddings. Also since 1972, every General Conference has been marked by rancorous debate over the place of LGBTQ people in church life. The clashes culminated in the special 2019 General Conference, which passed the Traditional Plan that aimed to strengthen enforcement of the bans and opened the door for the church disaffiliations seen over the past four years.

“This would return the Book of Discipline to where it was from 1784 to 1972, and remove the cause of so much of our friction and division for the last 50 years,” said the Rev. Adam Hamilton, one of the delegate signers from the Great Plains Conference. He is the senior pastor of Resurrection, a multisite United Methodist church based in Leawood, Kansas, that has long seen the denomination’s highest weekly attendance in the U.S.

Altogether, Hamilton said, the three priorities are an expression of where many United Methodist congregations, laity and clergy are.

“I think it’s important for people to know,” he said. “There’s a whole lot of folks who feel strongly that it is really important that we support these things.”

Taylor-Storm said she comes to General Conference hopeful for the future of The United Methodist Church.

“Methodism began as a movement, in small groups around kitchen tables. The ministry of Susanna, John and Charles (Wesley) reflected the contextual needs of the day,” she said. “I see that same spark now as delegates come together dreaming and planning for a church that is Christ-centered, celebrates diversity ... and models collaboration locally, regionally and worldwide.”

*Hahn is assistant news editor for UM News: newsdesk@umcom.org.
To read more United Methodist news, subscribe to the free [Daily or Friday Digests](#).*

Do You Have Memory Problems?

As part of our Hub Team outreach to our community, we are sharing that the UA is leading a study to develop methods for preventing age-related memory decline. If you have any questions or interest in becoming a part of this study, you can call 520-626-7755 or email

tms-lab@list.arizona.edu.

MISSIONS UPDATE (CONTINUED FROM PG 2)

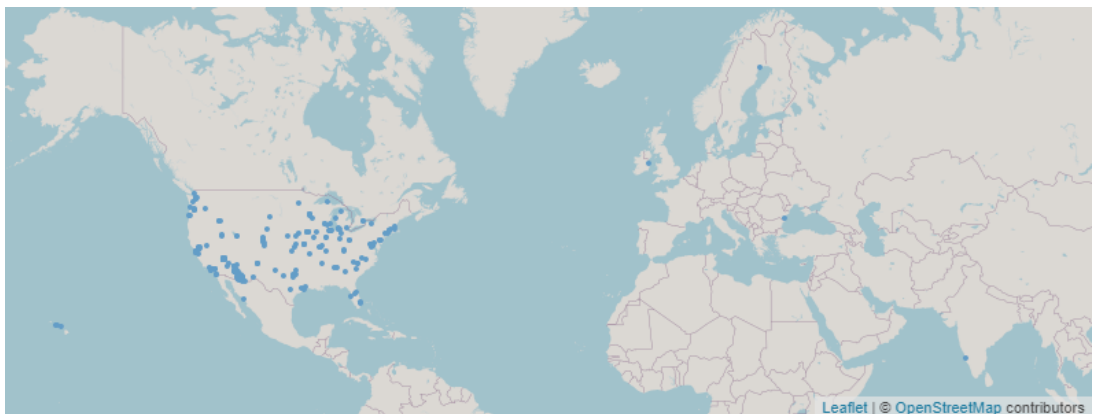
attended the event. When TIHAN was founded, testing positive for HIV was nearly always a death sentence. Although there is still no cure, most who test positive are now able to live longer with the right medical assistance. TIHAN's major fundraising event, "Treasures for TIHAN," will be held on Saturday afternoon, June 8th at Casino del Sol. Contact TIHAN for more information. Also, Catalina is scheduled to help with TIHAN's August "Poz" Café, as we do each year, providing food and fellowship for those Care Partners living and coping with HIV. Several volunteers will be needed for the August event. Contact dougwingert@gmail.com.



WHO'S WATCHING?

Have you ever "streamed" our Sunday service? If you haven't and aren't even sure what that means, you might want to know that in the past year, people from all over the world have logged into our streaming service on their computers, phones or other mobile devices to connect with our Sunday service through "streaming video." We've had viewers from almost every state in the US and from as far away as India and Romania. If you would like more information on how you can access our streaming from your home, please don't hesitate to call our office and we'll gladly "walk you through" the process!

To stream our services go to www.catalinamethodist.org and click on "Live Stream"



Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap contributors

1 You have viewers in 7 countries and 47 states.

DAY SCHOOL UPDATE by Deborah Williams



The next Together Tuesday program will be April 2nd at 5:30 pm for children ages 3-8 and their family/friends. The Bible story will be "Jesus Forgives Peter." The dinner provided will be macaroni and cheese. Cynthia Garrison volunteered to bake dessert. We continue to have new children participate in this program, and are building a nice community. Mariana Mevans, our church organist, has volunteered to play the piano for music time! All are welcome.

Please invite your neighbors, friends and family to attend.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be July 8-12 from 8-12 noon. VBS is for children 4 to 10 years old, and all are welcome. We will use the Grow Curriculum. The title is "I Wonder," focusing on wondering about God. Paige will advertise on Facebook, Instagram and at the Day School. Registration will be online, and there is no charge to attend. Volunteers will be needed to help with VBS. Please email paige@catalinamethodist.org if you would like to help!

REV. KELLI KNIGHT TO SERVE AT CUMC

After a time of consultation, prayer and discernment, Bishop Carlo A Rapanut intends to appoint Rev. Kelli Knight to serve as associate pastor of Catalina United Methodist Church,



effective July 1, 2024. Rev. Knight currently serves in the Northern Illinois Conference.

Rev. Knight's gifts for ministry are rooted in her deep love for God and her genuine care for the Church. Through her professional experience in community organizing, she will help Catalina connect with neighbors and develop new ministries to serve the community. She brings a deep appreciation for meaningful liturgical worship, as well as excitement for developing new and creative worship forms, and the challenge of helping Catalina develop a new, non-traditional worshipping community. Her

collaborative approach to leadership and her strong commitment to the connectional nature of The United Methodist Church will help her to partner with Rev. Michael Kerr-Osman in leading Catalina towards a new and vital future.

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: Our next study is **When You Pray** by Kelly Minter along with five other authors. The study guide includes video access and is available on Amazon and Christianbook.com. We will begin on Wednesday, April 10th for a six-week study. We will meet in room H230 from 9:30 to 11:30am. Hope you will join us. Please contact Brenda Halferty for more information and to register. bjhalferty@gmail.com or 520-481-6993

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: A timely new study for adults begins Sunday, March 10, 9:00 am in Room E23: "Confronting the Controversies" by Adam Hamilton. Led by Rev. Dr. Kirk Reed, we'll be discussing some of the biggest and most divisive issues in our country today — from a Christian perspective. Everyone is welcome!

TOGETHER TUESDAYS: Apr 2, 5:30-6:30, Fellowship Hall Join us for a child centered worship titled "Jesus Forgives Peter"

CATALINA BREAKFAST CLUB: Apr 6, 9-10am, H-230 Our next breakfast speaker will be Joan Ashcraft speaking on the importance of the arts. Best \$4 breakfast in Tucson!

Women's Retreat, April 13, St. Mark's UMC Fellowship Hall, 9:30am-2pm St. Mark's United Women in Faith invites the women of your congregation to attend at Women's Retreat in which Rev. Lynn Bartlow will present a program on Lydia, a church leader and business owner in the Book of Acts. Coffee and registration: 9:30 a.m. Program: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; lunch will be provided, including gluten-free and vegetarian options. All women are welcome regardless of religious or church affiliation. Register online at <https://umcstmarks.org/classes/online-registration/> and select Life Lessons from Lydia.

Market On The Move: Apr 20, 7-9am in the east parking lot. \$10 donation for up to 60 lbs of fresh food! Drive thru!

2020 General Conference...In 2024! The delayed 2020 United Methodist General Conference will be starting at the end of April 2024. If you are interested in information regarding the Conference you can check out the main page for General Conference at: <https://dscumc.org/annual-conference/>

(continued on pg 12)

PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR...

...the family of Sandy Volentine who are struggling with a cancer diagnosis of her brother-in-law Al.

...our churches: First UMC-Safford, First UMC-Tucson, and Campus Ministry, UA, Tucson

...an end to war, violence and suffering 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 or just [click here](#).



BOOKCASES NEEDED

There are a large number of bound Catalina historical books and bulletins that are in need of a book case for safe storage in the church attic which now houses our historical records. We anticipate receiving other documents from former Senior Pastor Stan Brown which will also require a book case. If you have a book case or two that you no longer need, please contact Carol West at 520-298-2447 or cw4tucson@comcast.net

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries An Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries class is being offered Saturdays, May 4th and 11th at St John's UMC in Tucson (from 9 am to 3 pm both days). Upon registration, more detailed information about the class will be provided. Registration is open at: <https://dscumc.org/lay-servant-ministries-training-sessions/>

Info Now Available for 2024 Desert SW UMC Annual Conference: This year's Annual Conference will occur on June 13-16, 2024, at the Tucson Convention Center. Some events will be held here a CUMC. Details about the event and hotel registration will be published soon at <https://dscumc.org/blog/2024/02/20/2024-annual-conference-in-person-and-live-streamed/>

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.