

United Methodist Church of Green Valley

Methodist Messenger



May you be blessed by the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
Psalm 115:15

January 2024



From the Pastor's Desk

Give Thanks!

One can hardly believe that 2023 has come and gone. It seems as though it was just yesterday when we were welcoming together the new year. The year has brought much joy and so much to be grateful for.

Looking back, I celebrate especially the ministries among us that have been born. The refugee resettlement ministry helped the Morales family, a family of 4 from Guatemala get settled here in Tucson from greeting them at the airport, to furnishing their new apartment and finding a new life here. The Refugee Resettlement Team will reconvene in January to look ahead to 2024.

I give thanks and celebrate the tremendous work of the Caring through Dementia Team. Born out of a book study in 2022, we have continued hosting, learning and networking opportunities for the community each month. In November we had our first Memory Cafe. A time for those with dementia and their caregivers to come together for fellowship and support. This ministry has been funded by a grant from the Pima Council on Aging. I give thanks to God for this work among us.

I give thanks to God for the ways this church has remained committed to the community and creating community. HOPE Lunch has served approximately 1500 meals this year and continues to be an important part of life together.

A new ministry committed to creating community has also come to be in Monday Funday. Simply bringing people together for friendship and fun, this ministry of pure fun and games brings people together each week in Johnson Hall.

As we look ahead to 2024, what ministries will be born? That is yet to be seen. I eagerly await with hope as we welcome the new year together. United Methodist Church of Green Valley, I am proud to be your pastor!



Pastor Doug

Join us on Sunday Mornings

**In-Person and
Online at umcgv.org**

8:00 am
(Weekly Communion)

10:15 am



**Join us for Fellowship on Zoom
Sundays after the 10:15 Service**
Contact the church office for the zoom link.

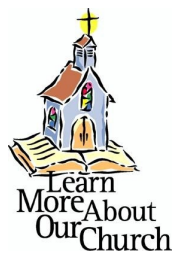
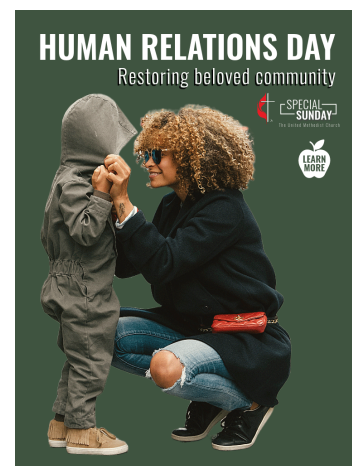
Human Relations Day (United Methodist Special Sunday)

This Special Sunday is celebrated to raise awareness for the development of better human relations through community and youth outreach. Use the pew cards to encourage giving on **January 14, 2024**.

Offerings on this Special Sunday support Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Service and Youth Offender Rehabilitation programs.

For more information visit

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/human-relations-day-sunday-ministry-article>



Come learn more about us and what it means to be a United Methodist and about our church.

Join Pastor Doug in the Fireside Room (off the Narthex) immediately following the 10:15 am Worship Service on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

This month it will be on January 21



We are a caring congregation that affirms all of God's children regardless of age, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, political persuasion; or anything else that might separate us from one another.

We work to ensure an environment of safety and trust, where spiritual journeys can be shared, and each person is treated with dignity and respect. All are invited to participate fully in the life of our church as we walk with Christ in the light of God's unconditional love.

Senior Pastor: *Rev. Doug Handlong* | Associate Pastor: *Rev. Ken Bensen*
Spiritual Formation and Social Justice: *Rev. Jerry Haas*

60th Anniversary Year



We are preparing to celebrate the 60th year of the United Methodist Church of Green Valley. Our kick-off for this year of celebration will be **January 28, 2024**. There will be the two regular church services in the morning with a lunch and service in the afternoon.

The luncheon will be held in Johnson Hall with a limit of 150 seats. The luncheon will be by reservation only. It will be catered by Sweet Pea. Tickets will be \$25.00 per person and will be sold from January 7th to the 21st.



Student Scholars Sunday – January 7, 2024

Join us on Sunday, January 7, at the 10:15 service as we welcome and celebrate with those who have received a scholarship for higher education from our church's Foundation.

Over many years, our Foundation has provided generous support to students who graduated from a high school in Sahuarita School District in their quest for learning. One seminary scholarship is also offered each year. For the January 7th service, each student is asked to come to worship, introduce themselves to the congregation, say a few words about their studies and future plans, and join us after worship for meet and greet time. On a personal level, this is one of my favorite services of the year, and it's one reason why Donna and I decided to join the UMC-GV community.

Board members of the Foundation include: Don Scarlett (Chair), John Truesdell, Deanne Handlong, Linda Price, Marda Jensen, Marlene McNiece, Norma Purdy, Dick Keidel, Sharon Icenogle, Jerry Haas, and Tom Bright. Special thanks to Tom Bright, who chairs the Scholarship Committee. Pastor Doug Handlong is an ex-officio member of the board.

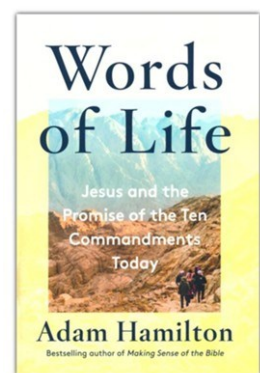
[NOTE: I will be preaching at the 8:00 am service on "The Spirit's Call," with Holy Communion to follow.]

Jerry Haas

Jean Neely and Bill Voorhees Receive the Neil Hinton Award



We are honored and humbled to receive the Neil Hinton award. We recognize that it is only with the support of many church members that we can do what we do. We are grateful to be a part of the UMC GV. *Jean Neely and Bill Voorhees*



T.A.G. Sunday School Class

We will start a new 10 week study, "Words of Life" by Adam Hamilton on **January 7 at 9:00 am**.

Books are available in the office. They are \$20 each.

Thursday Prayers

Do you like to write? Writing for spiritual formation is different than technical writing or the kind of writing a journalist is trained to do. Devotional writing, as it's sometimes called, encourages the reader in their spiritual journey. Sometimes it may be very gentle, reminding people of things they could easily overlook. While it may not talk about God, it often includes a divine invitation, to rest, let go, and listen. It may be poetic, or it may not. The goal is a kind of resonance with the Word, whether silent or spoken.

If this is something you've done or would like to learn how to do, save the date, **Saturday, April 6**, for a special writing retreat that the Conference Spiritual Formation Committee is planning. Rev. Larry Peacock, author of several books on spiritual formation will be our presenter. ALSO, if you have something you'd like to share with the congregation through Thursday prayers, send it to me and we'll get it done!

Jerry Haas



JANUARY 14 AFTER THE 10:15 WORSHIP SERVICE

**ATTENTION ALL
ARTISTS, CRAFTERS,
HOBBYISTS COLLECTORS**

COME JOIN US FOR A
BRAINSTORMING SESSION

Attention all Artists, Crafters, Hobbyists and Collectors

Come join us for a brainstorming session on how we can celebrate our various arts and crafts here at the United Methodist Church of Green Valley.

Join us following the 10:15 worship in Johnson Hall on Sunday, **January 14**.

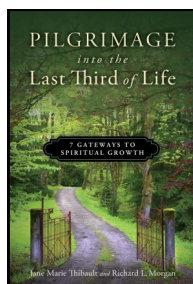
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT MINISTRY MEETING

*for all who are interested on
January 14 at 9:15 in Johnson Hall*



New Class: "Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life" HAS BEEN POSTPONED

The new class "Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life" led by Pastor Ken, scheduled to start in January has been postponed.



We will have more information in the coming months.

Now Serving
Cafe Justo
EVERY SUNDAY



YOU CAN PURCHASE
CAFE JUSTO EVERY
2ND AND 4TH
SUNDAY DURING
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



JUST COFFEE (Café Justo)

\$10 to \$12 a pound, whole bean or ground.



United Methodist Boot Camp Scheduled for January 25, 2024

You're invited to become a new or returning veteran of UMCGV's United Methodist Boot Camp on Thursday, **January 25, 2024**.

The group will be called to attention at 9:00 a.m. and dismissed at noon (0900 and 1200 boot camp time) with adequate food rations (coffee, lemonade, and edible snacks) available.

The "camp" provides an overview of the history, organizational structure, and the many opportunities for service and witness available at UMC of Green Valley.

Boot Camp will try to answer such questions as the following: "Who is John Wesley and why are we always talking about him?" "How did we get to be The *United* Methodist Church?" "What's a *Book of Discipline* and why does it matter?" And, with the advent of the Global Methodist Church (GMC), what's ahead for the way the UMC will continue in the UMC's mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?

The Boot Camp is a great orientation for new members or those thinking about joining our church. It is also an excellent refresher course for the more seasoned "troops" who may also want to learn more about the opportunities ahead as the UMC transitions into new and continued organizational and missional operations.

All those attending previous Boot Camps (pre-COVID) have agreed it was time well spent. Doris Miller will once again act as your drill sergeant (course facilitator). Please sign up on the Sunday Connect Cards or call the church office if you plan to join us for a Boot Camp that still doesn't require marching, white-glove inspections . . . or peeling potatoes!

Caring through Dementia ...a ministry of UMC-GV

Beginning more than 12 months ago, with a study group and a task force, our program on dementia has now hosted more than twenty resource sessions with doctors, social workers, lawyers, caregivers, and counselors. Our church's website includes a section dedicated to this ministry (<https://www.umcgv.org/caring-through-dementia>). Participants from the church and the community have access to a significant amount of information about dementia, including resources to provide support for families and persons with this disorder. The Stress-Busting Program for Family Caregivers has been offered twice, and plans are to develop additional leaders for this wonderful support program. In November we held our first Esperanza Memory Café, thanks to Pima Council on Aging, and with grant funding from them, we'll continue to offer this experience (see the flyer on the following page with a list of upcoming Memory Cafes).



Beginning in January and continuing through 2024, Esperanza Memory Café will be held on the second Thursday of the month. Caring thru Dementia, featuring presentations by resource people (social workers, doctors, etc.) will be offered on the fourth Thursday of every month.

The next meeting of Caring thru Dementia will be January 25, at 2:00 pm. Our speaker is Carri Tanner, who works for United Cerebral Palsy (UCP), an organization that provides a broad spectrum of services to people of all ages living with disabilities. According to their brochure, up to 70% of the individuals served by UCP in Southern Arizona have a diagnosis other than cerebral palsy. No stranger to this church, Carri's mother was Jill McNeil, a member of this church who passed away a few years ago. For more information about this or any other programs, send me an email (jndhaas@gmail.com).

Jerry Haas, Minister of Spiritual Formation and Social Justice



ESPERANZA MEMORY CAFÉ is a welcoming place for those experiencing memory loss, their caregivers, friends and loved ones. All are welcome, and there is no charge. We ask you to call the church office to let us know you'll be coming (520.625.4712).

Esperanza Memory Café is held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm at the United Methodist Church of Green Valley, 300 W. Esperanza Blvd (corner of La Canada and Esperanza). The program lasts about an hour.

Upcoming Esperanza Memory Cafes:

January 11, 2024 – “Years Gone By”

February 8, 2024 – “Happy Valentines Day”

March 14, 2024 – “St. Patrick’s Day”

April 11, 2024 – “April Showers”

May 9, 2024 – “May Flowers”



“Monday Funday”

Every Monday 1:00 to 3:30

Join us in Johnson Hall to play your favorite table games.
Whether it's Mexican Train, Cribbage, Scrabble, Monopoly or something else, join in the fun!

Open to everyone in the community!

Light refreshments are served.

MONDAY FUNDAY WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 8.



Knit and Sew & Prayer Shawl

Come Join Us Every Tuesday at 9:00 am

Some of us Knit and Crochet

Some of us Sew

We *all* eat cookies, drink coffee and have fun!!

Join us in the Narthex and Johnson Hall

**KNIT AND SEW AND PRAYER SHAWLS
WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 9.**



Bible Study & Breakfast for Men

The men of UMC GV meet on **Wednesday mornings at 7:00 am** for breakfast, fellowship, and Bible Study at Manuel's Restaurant.

We promise good food, good study, and a lively conversation.



**Office Hours for
Financial
Education
are
Wednesdays
9:00 to 11:30**

Free and confidential, financial coaching
Learn to make a budget • Learn about resources
Come by on Wednesday mornings or contact
our church office if you are interested in
learning more.



Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir

Handbell Practice meets regularly on **Wednesdays at 1:00** in Johnson Hall.

Chancel Choir Practice meets regularly on **Wednesdays at 2:00** in the Choir Room.

We always welcome new members and we would love to have you join us. Just come to rehearsal on Wednesday afternoons. We sing at the 10:15 worship service on Sundays. Hope to see you there.

Linda Truesdell, Music Director



United Methodist Women



UMW Unit Meeting

January 10 at 9:30 am
in Johnson Hall

Join us for a Continental Breakfast and
Program on Prayer.

Bring your neighbors and friends and
help us kick off the new year!

Lydia Circle

January 24 at 9:30 am
in the Fireside Room

Julie Donnelly will be
leading a program about
the

Exercises for Fall
Prevention Classes
she is offering on Monday
and Thursday mornings.



A Heartfelt Thank You From United Methodist Men

Grateful for the generosity of our church family-
Over \$3,500.00 worth of toys was donated on 3 Kings Sunday. A big thank you from UMM.



United Methodist Men Host a Breakfast Program on the 3rd Saturday of the Month

January 20 at 8:30 am
in Johnson Hall

Plan to join us for a program and home
cooked breakfast!

Tickets will be on sale soon after each
worship service and in the church office.
The are \$8.00 each.



Last month, we enjoyed
the Reader's Theater as
our program which
included our own
Cal Lambert and
Don Scarlett!

PLAN TO JOIN US HOPE Lunch

1ST & 3RD
FRIDAYS
11:00 - 12:30



HOPE Lunch

Our mission is to provide a nourishing meal and friendly fellowship in a pleasant environment to ALL in the community and church family.

Plan to join us for food, fun and fellowship.
Everyone is welcome to this community event.
Bring your neighbors and friends!

On the Menu

January 5
Baked Ziti
Garlic Bread
Italian Salad
Luscious Lemon Dessert

January 19
TBD



Rock Painting

Join GV Rocks on

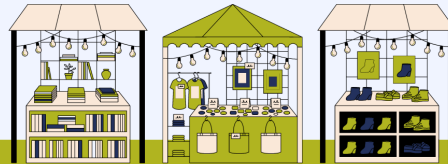
January 11 from 1:00 - 3:00
in the Sunday School Room.

Enjoy painting rocks together
along with enjoying some fun
and laughter!

Everyone is welcome.



ESTATE AND PATIO SALES



JANUARY 26 & 27
8:00 AM - NOON
1034 W. PLACITA INOCENTE



The Penny Project

**Our Collection
Containers have a
NEW LOOK!**

Thank you to all who help us support the **Gospel Rescue Mission** with your donations through the Penny Project. **\$128.50** was collected for our most recent donation.

Please continue to support this project as little bits add up (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and paper money) and make a **BIG** difference in other peoples lives.

There are canisters with a **NEW LOOK** in the narthex and also in the office for your donations. Thank you!



**The 3rd Sunday
of each month
is Food Bank
Sunday**

This month will be on January 21

***In December we donated
322 pounds of food and \$175***

Thank you for supporting our local
Food Bank and Community!

Our Shopping Cart is in the Narthex for
food donations. You may also leave monetary
donations in the Shoe Box in the Shopping
Cart. Please make checks payable to
the Community Food Bank.

From Around the 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.

To learn more and register, go to or click the following link

<https://dscumc.org/event/south-district-leadership-conference-2024/>



**Our United Methodist Camp
at Mingus Mountain
Recently had a Facilities Emergency**

The camp high on Mingus Mountain near Jerome, receives its water from a well. The pump that draws the water recently failed. The estimated cost for all repair is \$35,000. A total of \$15,000 is available to go towards the project completion.

Please pray for our camping ministry as they navigate this challenging time.



Border Community Alliance

Border Community Alliance was started ten years ago with a mission of "bridging the border and fostering community through education, collaboration and cultural exchange." BCA offers tours, forums, classes on Spanish conversation, a book club, and a summer student intern program. BCA also has a Mexico Pass Through program, whereby you can make a tax-deductible donation to a worthy project in Mexico that has been carefully vetted. In 2023, more than \$72,000 has been donated through BCA to support geriatric centers, a wheelchair factory, migrant shelters, organizations that work with children and youth, and many other projects.

More information can be found at <https://bordercommunityalliance.org/> or by calling their office 520.398.3229 or by talking with me. BCA's office is in Tubac, across the street from the Presidio.

Jerry Haas, Senior Advisor, BCA



**UMCGV Parking Lot on the
1st Saturday of each month**

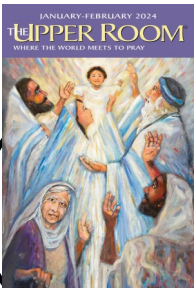
**God Loves You
and there's
nothing you can
do about it.**

PRAYER LIST

Joyce Anderson
Amy Aranda
Karen Bensen
Judy Downing
Carolyn Goodrich
Arlene "Griz" Griswold
Virginia Harper
Ken Hartz
Kyle LaFollette
Gary and Janet Logan

Lee Love
Judy Lyle
Jan Marchiniak
Morales Family
Brian Morris
Millie Paluch
Joanne Reedy
Helen Tull
Val Wiethorn
Lorain Zimmerman

*May God hold you in the palm of His hand
and angels watch over you.*



January/February Upper Rooms

are now available in the Church
Office or at the Communica-
tions Corner.

Large prints are also available.

UMCGV Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is a group of church
members dedicated to praying. All the
prayer requests are confidential and are not
published. **You can activate the prayer
chain by calling Lorna Peck at
520-625-2053.**

Desert Southwest Annual Conference *Pray with others around our district...*

January Prayer Focus

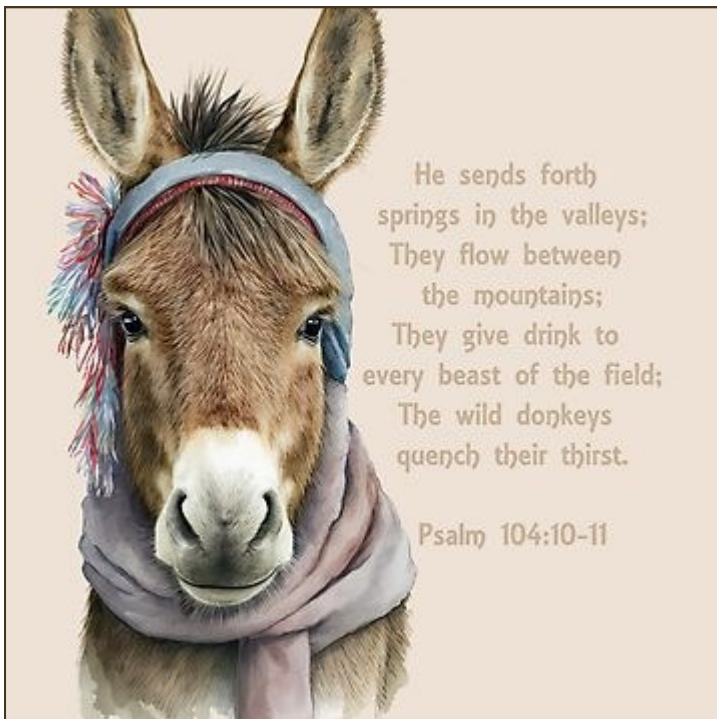
Catalina UMC, Tucson
San Pedro Valley UMC, Benson
Desert Skies UMC, Tucson

In Remembrance



*We honor the lives and memories of
our church members who have
recently passed...*

*Joseph Anderson
Leah Wilson*



He sends forth
springs in the valleys;
They flow between
the mountains;
They give drink to
every beast of the field;
The wild donkeys
quench their thirst.

Psalm 104:10-11



1/2 Lee Taylor
1/3 Janice Morrow
1/4 Sue Jehle
1/4 Mary Lesher
1/7 Warren Schupp
1/7 David Tobinon
1/8 Ronald Morris
1/9 Jackie Davis
1/10 Joyce Schupp
1/11 Diana Dougherty
1/15 Jean Neely

1/15 Jim Reedy
1/18 Virginia Harper
1/23 Billie Fidler
1/24 Stan Znamierowski
1/25 Tom Bright
1/27 Janice Smith
1/28 Vicki Howell
1/28 Marjorie Patten
1/29 Celina Knudsen
1/31 Sarah Alfing
1/31 Lorain Zimmerman



1/5 Beth & Russ Tuttle
1/13 Jana & Rick Oxenford
1/21 Laura & Glen Zion

Register for the Fry's
Community Rewards Program



Fry's Community Rewards Program

It is free and easy to do to make our church your designated charity.

If you have not connected your card yet, you can link us to your personal rewards card by going to frysfood.com and searching for us by our full name or ID Number (QH797)

(there is also a direct link on our website.)

This donation to the church is in addition to the benefits you earn for yourself.



The Newsletter Deadline

for our February edition is
January 18

Please send your articles and pictures to
office.umcgv@gmail.com

Thank you!

Opportunities to Give Online

Visit our website at
umcgv.org/ways-to-give

Electronic giving is secure, quick and easy to set up using a debit or credit card or your bank account. You can give a one-time or recurring gift through our secure online giving platform. You can also scan below with your phone camera.



Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Phone: 520-625-4712
office.umcgv@gmail.com



**The Church Office will be closed
January 1 in observance of
the New Year
and
January 15 in observance of
Martin Luther King Day**

Our Ministry Team

Rev. Douglas Handlong - *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Kenneth Bensen - *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Jerry Haas - *Spiritual Formation & Social Justice*

Linda Truesdell - *Music Director*

Doris Miller - *Song Leader*

Chad Eggen - *Facilities Manager*

Lou Schellhaas - *Finance Administrator*

Deanne Handlong - *Office Administrator*

Tom Bright, Chad Eggen, Jane Furtwangler, Catherine Ivie, Shirley Urquhart and

Bill Voorhees - *Media Team Members*

Everyone - *Ministers*

2024 Leadership Team

Denny Fost, Guy Jackson, Penny Jansmann, Doris Miller, Jean Neely, Don Scarlett,
Mary Beth Stensgard, Gene Ulrich and Robin Wiebe

What's Happening

January

January 1	Happy New Year! Office Closed
January 4	United Methodist Men Board Meeting
January 5	HOPE Lunch
January 6	P.O.W.W.O.W Borderlands Produce
January 7	Student Scholarship Sunday
January 9	United Methodist Women Board Meeting
January 10	United Methodist Women Unit Meeting
January 11	Esperanza Memory Café
January 14	Human Relations Special Sunday Offering
January 14	Refugee Resettlement Ministry Meeting at 9:15
January 14	Crafters, Hobbyist + meeting at 11:30
January 15	Martin Luther King Day Office Closed
January 16	GVCC Foundation Meeting
January 18	February Newsletter Deadline
January 18	Church Leadership Team
January 19	HOPE Lunch
January 20	United Methodist Men Breakfast
January 21	Food Bank Sunday
January 21	Learn More About our Church in Fireside Room
January 24	Lydia Circle
January 25	Boot Camp
January 25	Caring Through Dementia
January 28	60 th Year Celebration Sunday

Stay up to date with our weekly newsletter, “Keeping in Touch”

Every Week at UMCGV

Mondays

Exercise Class
10:00 am
in Johnson Hall

Monday Funday
1:00 pm
in Johnson Hall

Tuesdays

Knit and Sew & Prayer Shawl
9:00 am
In Johnson Hall & Narthex

Wednesdays

Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study
7:00 am
Manuals Restaurant

Financial Education Office Hours
9:00 - 11:30

Choir Practices
Handbell 1:00 pm
Chancel 2:00 pm

Thursdays

Exercise Class
10:00 am
in Johnson Hall



Check Out Our Website

It’s full of all kinds of information and resource links. There’s something for everyone!

umcgv.org

United Methodist Church of Green Valley
300 W. Esperanza Blvd.
Green Valley, AZ 85614



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sundays In-Person and Online at 8:00 and 10:15

Find our services on our website umcgv.org or on our YouTube channel.

You can also hear us at 8:00 am on KGVY 1080 am or 101.5 fm.