

# *Good Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church*

## Summer 2024 Newsletter

### Our Missional Vision

Good Shepherd of the Hills Church brings the love and light of Christ Jesus to our neighbors. We are called to go out to serve the needs of our community.

## Hot Time in the Summer!!

It may have been a hot Summer in Arizona, but life at Good Shepherd of the Hills has not slowed down. From youth group activities to an ice cream social and potluck, to the women of GSOTH getting together for some fun activities and community, we have had much to be grateful for. And with Fall around the corner (we hope), we look forward to welcoming back those of you who have been traveling, or visiting your other homes, to our beautiful desert foothills and the Good Shepherd community.

### Ice Cream Social Potluck





## Centering Prayer

Did you know Good Shepherd holds two Centering Prayer Sessions each week! What is Centering Prayer? Centering Prayer is a receptive method of Christian silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer. The prayer in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. The Wednesday prayer session is held via Zoom at 11 A.M. and consists of an opening reading, 20-minute silent meditation, a spiritual video, and a brief closing discussion. If you would like to be included on the Zoom invitation, please contact the office at [goodshepherdaz@msn.com](mailto:goodshepherdaz@msn.com).



The Saturday prayer session is held in person in the Good Shepherd library from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M. The session consists of silent meditation then a short video, book, or prayer reading and a brief closing discussion.

## Youth Group



## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was a blast again this summer. We welcomed an average of 15 kids each day! We were so glad we could serve kids from ages 2-16 and offer a variety of activities to keep them engaged. We learned about weathering the storms of life, putting our faith in Jesus, and making our way to the rainbows. We played games, prayed for others, showed gratitude, made fun crafts, and ate a delicious lunch each day! The hits of the week were tie dying and playing red cup games in Maitland Hall. We couldn't have asked for a better week and are so grateful for Reverend Kim, Kristine, Tycha, Audra, and John and Arlene for all their help in making this a successful week! Thank you to all our families for trusting us with your precious children. ~ Ashley Phillips





## Talent Show and Christmas in July.

Youth group has wrapped up a fun summer of Thursday Fun with our annual Talent Show and Christmas in July. It is exciting to be in our second summer with our kids and we love the amount of excitement they share for the traditions we are building.



Diego was the talent show winner this year! We want to thank Ann and Mark Spolarich for judging the talent show this year. The kids had a blast!

We celebrated Christmas in July with gingerbread house decorating, Chinese food, Christmas carols, and a gift exchange.



We were so excited to kick off Fall Youth Group with an art lesson by Lynn Walsh and John De Broske.



The Youth Group had an Italian cooking lesson from parishioner Lara Bowles.



**Looking forward to another year with our amazing middle and high schoolers!**



## Gold Mine Outreach Committee




Beth Hatcher delivered a check to Native Health Services in Phoenix. Our check helps support urban dwelling Native Americans who pick up food boxes from Native Health once per month. This program is privately funded so the number of food boxes is dependent upon private funds rather than government support.

Reverend Kim, Paddi Mozilo, and Randi Smelko delivered a check to Tierra Madre. Today, the horses of Tierra Madre serve as healers to hundreds of visitors and volunteers each year through organic interactions on the ground, continuing their mission of promoting a circle of healing between human and horse that has existed for centuries.



Trudi Rhoades, a Gold Mine Volunteer, Rev. Kim, and Beth toured the Foothills Caring Corps Facility with Executive Director Brent Downs while delivering a check to help support their mission.

We are grateful for the continued support from the congregation and Gold Mine. Thanks for helping us meet the rising demand for services in our community. Looking forward to working together to serve those in need.



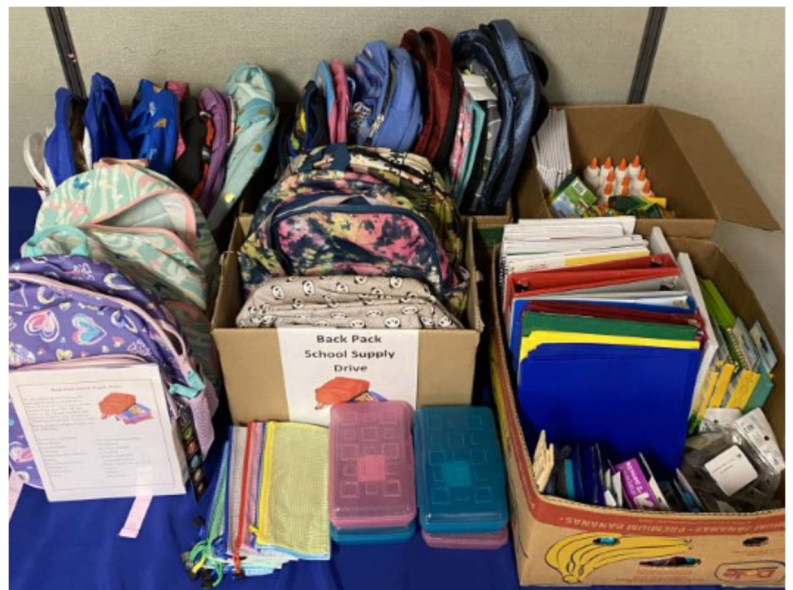


Dear Pastor Kim and Congregation,  
Thank you for the very generous donation to support the mission of the food bank! We are so appreciative of the support and partnership of our organizations. Many great opportunities ahead!  
With gratitude, *Aleigh*

## Backpack School Supply Drive

The Backpack School Supply drive has concluded and was a success! We had several backpacks filled with school supplies given to members of our congregation and youth ministry who were in need. We were also able to send multiple boxes to the Salt River Indian Reservation School District and to schools within the Cave Creek School District.

Thanks to all who participated!





## Sack Lunch Ministry



The sack lunch ministry continues to be a great success and occurs on the second Tuesday of every month at 9:30 in Maitland Hall.

If you prefer to make the sack lunches at home, they will gladly be accepted! They can be dropped off to Maitland Hall before 10 A.M. on the second Tuesday.

## Called to Serve?



If you have an interest or God is calling you to serve as an Acolyte, Altar Server, member of the Altar Guild, or a Lector please contact the office or speak to Rev. Kim. We would like to expand participation in these ministries and will be having training sessions soon!



## Musical Call

Do you feel musically inclined? We have a couple of ways you can express your love of music!

Our Choir will be starting soon and all are welcome to join. The first rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the church. Come join us to learn what is involved and expected from choir members. Rehearsals from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays.



The Handbell Choir is open to all to worship God through music by playing the handbells. Practice is on Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>.

If your child loves to sing or ring the handbells, Children's Choir & Chime Bell Choir meets every Sunday after the service to sing and ring for 25 minutes, starting Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 to 11:55 a.m.

For more information, please contact Eunkyung Suh Lee.

## First Sunday First Food



Foothills Food Bank needs our donations! All donations can be dropped off to the Narthex or Maitland Hall prior to our Sunday Service!

You can also drop off your Food Bank donations in Maitland Hall, Monday- Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. You can also bring 1 item to church each Sunday, donation baskets have been set up in the Narthex and on the table at the back of Maitland Hall.



## New Women's Group

Paddi Mozilo and Lynn Walsh started a new group to bring the women of Good Shepherd together to create community and share their gifts. The group meets monthly for potluck lunches at a member's home and other activities. Other events or outings such as museum visits, music events, or an English Tea Room visit, are decided with the group's input at the monthly gatherings.

We are looking forward to getting to know each other more deeply to better serve our community and Church.

Our first meeting was a potluck lunch in July at Ann Spolarich's lovely home. Everyone got to know each other better and talked about events they would like to have in the future. One Saturday morning, the group gathered to learn to make beaded bracelets, thanks to supplies provided by several parishioners, followed by lunch at the Grotto. A few weeks later, we visited the MIM (Musical Instrument Museum) for a guided tour followed by a yummy lunch at the museum's café.

If you have any questions, wish to join the group, or have an idea for an outing/event, please contact Paddi Mozilo.









Bishop Jennifer A. Reddall will be joining us on Sunday, October 13th for her annual visit.

The Bishop's visit is an opportunity to be baptized or received into the Episcopal Church. If you are coming from another Christian denomination, you may be received into the Episcopal Church by the Bishop.

If you are interested in one of these rites, or have questions about which one may be correct for you, please speak with Reverend Kim.



We have additional handicapped parking now available behind Shepherd's Crossing.

We also have overflow parking available in the front parking lot at Shepherd's Crossing.



Note: Shepherd's Crossing is the property between the Church and Dairy Queen.

**Visit our website at [www.goodshepherdaz.org](http://www.goodshepherdaz.org)**

If you have anything you would like to include in our next newsletter, please contact:

Kristine Kulesza at the Church office at 480.488.3283 or [goodshepherdaz@msn.com](mailto:goodshepherdaz@msn.com)

Deb Boreham