



The Cross and the Flame

SEPTEMBER



2026

Mesquite United Methodist Church: September 2026

Volume 35 No. 9

Dear Church Family,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. September is a special month in the life of our church. As summer begins to give way to fall, we are reminded that God continues to lead us through every season. This month gives us opportunities to gather, worship, make decisions together, and strengthen the ministry of our church.

During September, we celebrate Labor Day by honoring workers and giving thanks for the work of our hands. We also remember those who lost their lives in the September 11 attacks and honor the courage of first responders. On Constitution Day, we remember the signing of the United States Constitution and give thanks for our freedoms and responsibilities. Let us pray for workers, our leaders, our nation, and peace throughout the world.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP THEME: LIVING TOGETHER IN GRACE

“Let all that you do be done in love.” — 1 Corinthians 16:14

Throughout September, we will be reminded that the church is one body in Christ. God calls us to live in love, seek peace, forgive freely, receive grace with gratitude, and serve with humility.

SUNDAYS AND SCRIPTURES:

September 6, 2026 – Communion Sunday and Church Conference

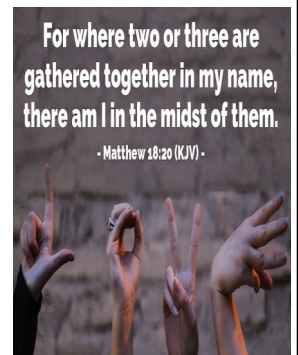
Scriptures: Romans 13:8–14; Matthew 18:15–20. **Title:** “When Two or Three Gather”

Focus: Jesus calls us to live in love, seek peace with one another, and remember that Christ is present whenever we gather in his name.

September 13, 2026

Scriptures: Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35. **Title:** “The Grace to Forgive”

Focus: Jesus teaches us that forgiveness should not have a limit. Because God has shown us mercy and grace, we are called to forgive others, avoid judging one another, and live together in peace.



September 20, 2026

Scriptures: Philippians 1:21–30; Matthew 20:1–16.

Title: “God’s Generous Grace”



Focus: God’s grace is generous and freely given. Jesus reminds us not to compare ourselves with others but to be thankful for God’s goodness and faithful in the work God has given us.

September 27, 2026

Scriptures: Philippians 2:1–13; Matthew 21:23–32. **Title:** “Having the Mind of Christ”



Focus: Following Jesus means more than saying the right words. We are called to live with humility, obedience, and love, allowing our actions to show that Christ is working in us.

CHURCH FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Communion Sunday and Church Conference – September 6:** We will celebrate Holy Communion and hold our Church Conference with our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Timote Piukala.
- **Wednesday Bible Study:** Join us every Wednesday for Bible study as we read God’s Word, grow in faith, and enjoy Christian fellowship together.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:

- Those whose names are listed in the bulletin
- Those grieving the loss of loved ones
- Our church leaders and ministry teams
- Those serving in our military and their families
- Our community, nation, and world



As we continue through September, let us pause and give thanks for God’s presence and guidance. Every new day is a gift and another opportunity to grow in faith, share God’s love, and serve those around us. Through every joy and challenge, we can trust that God is traveling with us and leading us forward.

NOW THE
BODY IS
NOT
MADE UP
OF ONE
PART
BUT OF
MANY.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:14 –



Let us also remind one another that we are one in Christ. Although we are different members of one body, each person has unique gifts, talents, and responsibilities. When we use these gifts with love and humility, we strengthen our church community and serve God together. Scripture reminds us, “For just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with Christ” (1 Corinthians 12:12).

May this month be a time of gratitude, remembrance, unity, and faithful service.

With Grace and Peace,

Pastor Malakai Pahulu

Sunday Bible Study

By Virgil Mink

On September 5, we will begin a new Sunday Bible study. This latest study will be an overview of the Old Testament. The plan is to get through this study in eight weeks, so that we are finished before Advent. This Overview of the Old Testament approach is designed to give adult learners a clear, Christ-centered big picture while keeping each lesson focused and manageable.

The Old Testament is your story, and that's why you need to know it. Many Christians have too little knowledge of the O.T. because they don't know how relevant it is. It appears so foreign, especially if a would-be reader gets bogged down in Leviticus! There are some historical and cultural hurdles that appear intimidating at first glance. With just a little historical understanding it will help realize what it means to be a Christian.

You don't have to grasp all the Old Testament to gain an appreciation for its continuing importance. We do not have to memorize the list of kings who ruled in Israel and Judah. But you do need a sense of the main storyline. That involves knowing some key characters and a few key events. If, for example, you know the significance of Abraham, Moses, and David, you have a frame of reference for understanding the rest of O.T. history and prophecy.

If there is any interest, I would like to offer this study repeating the Sunday morning lesson on Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 PM. Let me or the office know!

Buy today to fill a shoebox tomorrow!

Samaritan Purse

Christmas Shoebox

Packing Party

Wednesday

November 18



Security & Safety Meeting

September 7

4:00 PM



with Larry Lycan

wednesday

September 16

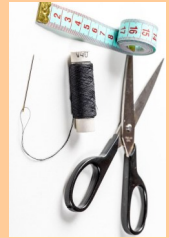
3:00 PM



Monday
September 21

9:30 AM

Sewing Circle



Monday

9:00 AM

September 14

NO EXPERIENCE
NEEDED!

Come & help us with a variety of
sewing projects!

*Tuesday
September 22
1:00 PM*



Finance
Meeting

Thursday, September 24

2:30 PM

Stephen Ministry – Final Call for 2026

As Fall arrives, we are getting closer to beginning the training sessions for Stephen Ministers. We currently have two women signed up and ready to go. With our first class scheduled to begin Sunday November 1, we need to set an application deadline of **Sunday, September 13**. This timeframe will allow for the review of any new applicants, reference checks, and interviews to be cleared for takeoff and also to get the training supplies ordered for our future Stephen Ministers.

It is an exciting time for us all to begin the renewal of Stephen Ministry at MUMC and one we are very much looking forward to. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us in this effort to help members of our congregation and community get through a crisis in their life. Application forms are available in the Stephen Ministry mailbox or by asking one of us. If you want more information on Stephen Ministry you can talk with one of us or check out the Stephen Ministry website at www.stephenministries.org.

Blessings to you all from your Stephen Leaders,
Kendra Kirkpatrick and Myron Kirkpatrick.



Life Line Screening

*Life Line Screening will be here at Mesquite United Methodist Church on Tuesday, **October 20, 2026**, offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these screenings today. There is no time like the present to take action!*

Three ways to register:

- ♦ Call toll-free: 1-800-324-9458 promo code HABC001
- ♦ Online: LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC
- ♦ Text: the word circle to 216-279-1607

Special Pricing=\$129 for all 4 tests!



Blood Drive

Tuesday, November 3

Sponsored by United
Women in Faith

Appointments & walk-ins

More info to
come...



Sign up for a floral arrangement at the Information Station today. The suggested donation is \$40.00. Just drop a check in the offering plate and designate "flowers" on the memo line.

Thanks to Marta Brookhart for her lovely creations!



Don't forget to return the floral base or vase, so it can be reused.

Prayer Shawl
Thursday
September 24
9:30 AM

@ the home of
Nancy Mae Rowe
496 Chalet Drive
Join us and relax!



2 Prayer Shawls
415 Hats
11 Scarves
13 Headbands

United Women in Faith
Monday, September 28

Help us plan for the upcoming fundraisers!



United
Women
in Faith

**Help us empower other woman
in our community to do
their best!**

**Coffee & Conversation
with Pastor Malakai.**

**We meet every Wednesday @
9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall**

**Discussion led by Larry Lycan.
Everyone is welcome to discuss
the Sunday lectionary.**

No experience is needed.

**You don't have to be
here every week.**



**Come and let God
pour His spirit on
you!**

***Virgil Mink starts his Bible Study Class on
Wednesday, September 9 at 4:00 PM.***

(This is the same as S.S. on September 6!)



Spotlight on the SUN...



Don't let the sun keep you from being active. Tips to help you stay active and safe in the heat of the end of this summer:

- Dress for the heat. Wear lightweight, lightly colored clothes in breathable fabrics such as cotton or a synthetic material that repels sweat.
- Stay sun safe. 30 minutes before you go outside, apply a water-resistant sunscreen with at least a SPF 30. Reapply every 2 hours. Add a hat and UV-blocking sunglasses to your outfit (fashionable or not).
- Drink water before, during, and after you exercise or go outside casually. Avoid caffeine and alcohol.
- Take a break. Find a shady spot or a cool location, stop for a few minutes, hydrate, and then start again.

Be cautious of HEAT STROKE. This is a medical emergency, so call 911. Signs to watch for Heat Stroke:

- ⇒ High body temperature (103* or higher)
- ⇒ Headache/confusion
- ⇒ Dizziness/light-headed
- ⇒ Passing out
- ⇒ Cool, moist skin, pale
- ⇒ Fast or weak pulse
- ⇒ Nausea and vomiting
- ⇒ Weakness or muscle cramps



Move the person to a cooler spot. Use cool, wet cloths, fanning, or compresses to bring the body temperature down. Don't give the victim anything to drink at this point and seek help or medical attention.

1-800-242-8721 or visit www.heart.org/honor

Please help...

we are looking for folders for the Sunday bulletins for the following months: September, October, November, and December between 9:30-11:00 AM on Friday morning. It takes just a small amount of time, and you can bring along



a friend or two to be much more fun for you!



COMMIT TO
PRAY:
SEPTEMBER
2026

MOHAVE VALLEY UMC
FT. MOHAVE, AZ

MOUNTAIN VIEW UMC
COTTONWOOD, AZ

PAGE COMMUNITY UMC
PAGE, AZ

Homebound Communion



The first Sunday of the month is the time for our regularly scheduled communion; however, if you can not make it here then, please call the church office (702-346-4663), and we will make arrangements for communion to be brought to you!



Game Night
Friday, September 25
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Bring a dish and a
game to share! Come
enjoy some fun!



I Scream, You Scream, We all Scream for Ice Cream!

Vanilla remains the country's top choice. Vanilla is a perennial favorite for serving alongside pie or as the foundation for a hot fudge sundae or banana split. According to Instacart, classic vanilla covers over one-fifth of ice cream purchases, making up almost 21% of ice cream orders.

The runner-up is, of course, **Chocolate** (7.9%), followed by **Cookie Dough** (6.9%). The rest of the top ten is made up of crowd-pleasing favorites: **Cookies & Cream** (5.8%), **Chocolate Fudge/Brownie** (5.1%), and **Peanut Butter** (4.7%); followed by **Mint Chocolate Chip** (4.7%) and **Coffee** (4.5%), with the fruit-flavors— **Strawberry** (3.7%) and **Cherry** (3.1%) —rounding out the top ten. According to World Population Review, the world's top ice cream consumer per person in 2026 is none other than **New Zealand**.

When it comes to which flavor is top in each state, the South loves itself some **Butter Pecan**. While Vanilla and Chocolate have their place, two Southern states went their own way. Kentucky opts for **Raspberry**, while in Tennessee, **Cheesecake** is the top choice.

MUMC Lending Library

by Marion the Librarian

Phew, back from summer travels and working again on our MUMC Library. Thank you for all the many donations you made to our library over the summer months. I'm overwhelmed at your generosity and just plain overwhelmed with so many books. Some will make it to our shelves soon and some will be donated to other places. Most of my work has been behind the scenes trying to put together a usable inventory of our books. This inventory list is no small task, and it will help me tremendously if you can hold back on your book donations for the time being so I can get caught up... (whatever that looks like!)



While working on the inventory list and removing a few books from our shelves, I am sad to see how many books have never been checked out...don't you feel their pain at being passed over? Come into the library and take pity on a book that has never been looked at, take it home for a while then bring it back. All the necessary check out things are on the shelf; slip out the book card from the front pocket, put the date and your name on the card, then place it in the box. And when you bring that lonely book back just place it on the counter, and I will take care of getting it back on the shelf. Please enjoy our little lending library at MUMC.

Order a name tag for \$11 cash, so everyone can address you correctly... pick up an order form at the Information Station today!

Remember to include cash, please!

Annual Church Conference

Sunday

September 6

After the morning service!



Leadership Meeting
with Rev. Dr. Timote Piukala
Saturday, September 5



@5:00 PM

Men's Group
Coffee @ 7:30
AM



Breakfast
Meeting



@ 8:00 AM

Saturday, September 12

The Congregational Care Ministry at Mesquite UMC seeks to provide Christian Care to our Mesquite UMC friends and members. Our pastors, congregational care staff and volunteers connect with others to help them through various life situations.

We are here if you need help...

Congregational

care

however,

NO summer meetings!



Contact Sue Taylor at 307-690-0601

if you are interested in being a part of this new Ministry Circle.

September Birthdays &

2	Marilyn Fruit, Deborah Stephenson
5	Liz Gramm,
6	Linda Reid, Sherry Hartline, Allison Michael
10	Connie Wenz
11	Richard Killian
12	Sue Taylor
18	Ann Williams, Gregg Shaver, Muli Tupou
20	Jerry Good, Jeanne Saxion
22	Wanda Butler
26	Jim Lynch
29	Joanne Bernasek
30	Hugette Braden, Linda Pahulu



September Anniversaries



1	Larry & Marta Brookhart
19	Don & Linda Wambre
21	Jim & Sherry Heilman
23	Everett & Hope Binkley
27	Ron & Zola Rohloff

Outdoor Market/Bake Sale

Saturday, Oct. 24

8 a.m.—1 p.m.

"CRAFTERS WANTED"



Limited tables available!

\$25 per table

Presented by Mesquite United Methodist Church

Mesquite United Women in Faith

420 West Pioneer Blvd.

For more info. contact: Sue @

702-346-4663

mumcmesquite@gmail.com



Pill Bottle Ministry:

**Bottles need to be clean,
free of residue, and
with their caps! I just
mailed 168 bottles!**

Thanks, Cindie Selbo

Church Council Meeting

Thursday, September 17

3:00 PM



Five

Methods of

Giving to the Church

- **Join us for services at the church (Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM).**
- **Use Bill Pay from your own bank to send it to the church.**
- **Use your own credit card or PayPal on our website.**
- **Mail your envelope to the church:**
**420 W. Pioneer Blvd.,
Mesquite, NV 89027
or drop it off in our church mailbox.**
- **Drop off your envelope TUES. - FRJ. from 8:00 AM-NOON while Sue Compton, the church secretary, is in the office.**

Secretary Snippets:

By Sue Compton

1. Thank you to all the ministry leaders who make up our Council who turned in reports for our church conference on time and in good fashion to be included in our booklet for the congregation.
2. Thank you to all the Worship Leaders who volunteer for duty on a specific Sunday and lead the congregation in a meaningful and refreshing service.
3. Thank you to all of the folks who say “YES” when I ask them to serve in some way to help the congregation and enhance the community.
4. Thank you to the Youth Group who is willing to participate on those fifth Sundays that occur 4 times yearly. Thank you to Muli and Sione Tupou for leading the Youth Group and organizing those services. Thank you to Nia Tupou for providing food for fellowship on the Youth Sundays.
5. Thank you to Julie Moore for heading up our Prayer Chain. She has a team of prayer warriors on her list that are always willing to pray for the needs of our congregation, the extended needs of our loved ones, and the needs of our local community.
6. Thank you to the Nominating Committee for your help in planning for 2026-2027: Pastor Malakai, Pat Harger, Warren Weigand, and Sue Compton.
7. On Saturday, October 10, the District United Women in Faith will be holding their meeting here at MUMC. It would be nice to have a plentiful group of ladies from our own church in attendance, so mark your calendar now, please!
8. On Saturday, October 24, the United Women in Faith will hold their Outdoor Market & Bake Sale. We are currently looking for vendors/crafters to join us. This is one of our two fundraiser for our organization, so plan to join us that day for shopping. The Men’s Group will be providing a continental breakfast and lunch for everyone. So mark your calendar now to support both groups.