

Celebrating God's Faithfulness in the Past Year

REV. MARY DOTSON, PASTOR
JOAN MAYER, LAY LEADER

CHURCH CONFERENCE 2026

Radically Welcoming All People

“We extend a warm welcome to all individuals—regardless of age, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, income level, or mental and physical abilities—who wish to explore Jesus’ teachings and find a spiritual home where they can thrive.”

Radically Welcoming All People

- **Website Integration**

This welcome statement is now prominently featured on our website homepage.

- **Ongoing Discernment**

While this statement clearly expresses our intentions, our Council recognizes that living into true radical welcome requires continuous reflection on what it means to invite everyone to fully embody the unique image in which God created them.

Continuing and Expanding Community Service

*Our congregation continues to seek out and
respond to the vital needs of our wider community:*

Continuing and Expanding Community Service

- Fuente de Vida (Agua Prieta)
- IMPACT Regional Ministries
- SNAKPAK
- Coronado School Ministry
- Family First & Emerge
- Red Cross Monthly Blood Drive
- Future Service

Fostering Fellowship and Community Outreach

Recognizing that everyone needs a "third place" outside of home and work to belong, we've begun 2 new ongoing opportunities for connection:

Continuing and Expanding Community Service

- **Chair Yoga:**

Meets every Saturday morning in the Elizabeth Room (\$10 fee; \$5 scholarships available).

- **"Craft & Crunch":**

Meets every Wednesday in the St. John Room for lunch and crafting fellowship.

Enhancing Worship Live Streaming & Technology

*To better serve our online worshiping community,
we continue to upgrade our audiovisual systems:*

Enhancing Worship Live Streaming & Technology.

- **Audio Upgrades:**

Reset our main soundboard, purchased new microphones, and upgraded sound components.

- **Platform Shift:**

Successfully migrated our live stream to YouTube, improving viewer access while reducing technology expenses.

- **Sanctuary Lighting:**

The Trustees oversaw the installation of new lighting in the chancel and sanctuary, significantly improving the online viewing experience.

Growing Attendance and Membership

Growing a congregation relies on personal invitations, a welcoming team, and an inviting facility. Thanks to your faithful giving, Endowment funds, and a generous bequest, we completed extensive campus improvements this year to ensure our facility feels warm and well-cared-for:

Growing Attendance and Membership

- **Grounds & Campus:**

Trimmed trees and bushes, restored the Meditation Garden and Columbarium, cleared weeds, added desert-adapted plants, and refinished the parking lot and Miravista Lane with fresh asphalt chip and painted lines.

- **Facility & Sanctuary:**

Created an open, welcoming Narthex entrance center, installed sun-filtering film on the sanctuary's east windows, added comfortable new seating in the Breezeway, installed built-in cabinetry in the Elizabeth and St. John Rooms, and cleared clutter across all shared spaces.

- **Offered a Membership Class in early Spring for 11 new members.**

Strengthening Internal and External Communications

We have expanded how we share our story both within our congregation and across the wider community:

Strengthening Internal and External Communications

- **Digital & Social Media:**

Launched a redesigned website and maintained an active presence on Facebook and YouTube.

- **Local Media:**

Published articles and photos detailing church news and member projects in two regional 55+ community newspapers.

- **Congregational Updates:**

Distributed the monthly Echoes newsletter and weekly worship bulletin via email and text, along with timely all-church email updates as needs arise.

- **Public Visibility:**

Installed banners along the main road to invite our neighbors to special services and community events.

Ministry Plan for the Year Ahead

REV. MARY DOTSON

1. Radically Welcoming All People

- **Learn:** Engage video curricula from the Lewis Center for Church Leadership and study UMC, medical, scientific, and sociological resources.
- **Understand:** Deepen our awareness of the experiences and needs of marginalized communities, including minority ethnicities, LGBTQ+ individuals, those facing poverty, and people with mental illnesses or disabilities.
- **Act:** Translate our learning into concrete changes that ensure all people know they belong.

2. Fostering Fellowship & Outreach

- Strengthen and grow current and new fellowship opportunities and community outreach projects.

3. Strengthening Communications

- **Local Outreach:** Submit monthly articles to the Sun City, SaddleBrooke, and SaddleBrooke Ranch community newsletters.
- **Internal News:** Feature monthly ministry updates in Echoes.
- **Digital Presence:** Post daily on Facebook with event announcements and photo highlights.

4. Expanding Our Discipleship Path

- Equip the congregation through focused teaching and preaching on United Methodist doctrine, theology, and Social Principles.

5. Exploring a Simplified Accountability Structure (One Board Model).

- To increase organizational focus and fruitfulness, we will evaluate transitioning from multiple separate administrative committee meetings toward a single, unified leadership board model.