

OCTOBER 2018

Special points of interest:

- Our Vision
- Publication
- Spire Deadline
- Altar flowers
- Church calendar

Inside this issue:

Church Council	2
Announcements	2-5
<b>Children's &amp; Youth News</b>	5
Birthday & Anniversary Corner	6
Dinner Menu	6
Calendar	7



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# THE SPIRE



## A NOTE FROM PASTOR MEL

Several individuals have asked if I will be making a presentation concerning my recent trip to Russia, Czech Republic and England. With that in mind, I have set aside two Wednesday evenings for that purpose: October 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the Assembly Room. If there is further interest, I will continue on November 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> as well. You are invited to come to either one or all of these presentations. During this time I also hope that we'll get to know each other better since there are many new faces in our congregation since the last time I was here.

During these sessions, I'll be showing slides of the various places that I've visited over the years and so some of it will be like a travelogue. However, I'll also be focusing on the work of the United Methodist Church as well. Approximately seven million United Methodist now live in the United States and another 5.7 million live in Asia, Africa, Eurasia and Europe. Today we are a global church. The largest Annual Conference is to be found in the Congo, North Katanga Annual Conference with a membership of about 2.3 million! With this in mind, the following presentations will be as follows:

- October 17<sup>th</sup> - Post Soviet developments of the United Methodist Church in Russia.
- October 24<sup>th</sup> - Post Maidan developments of the United Methodist Church in Ukraine.
- November 7<sup>th</sup> - The Czech United Methodist Church engaging a secular culture.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> - What can be learned from a historical Wesley tour? The Wesleys in Bristol, London and Cambridge, England.

Wednesdays are busy here! Our Associate Pastor, Bob Mitchell, begins the day with a Morning Prayer Meeting at 6:30 am in Stewart Chapel! It's a wonderful way to greet the day. So if you're an early riser, you might want to take advantage of this opportunity. Then Pastor Bob continues at 10 am with a morning Bible Study in the Assembly Room with Philip Yancey's study "What's So Amazing About Grace." At 5 pm, dinner is available in the Fellowship Hall which is followed by the Chancel Choir rehearsal. If you can, join us!

Pastor Mel

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

M-TH:  
9–2 pm

PH: 480-969-5577

## Electronic Giving

Electronic giving is a direct debit program where your contribution is debited automatically from your checking or savings account, either weekly or monthly. This is an easy way to fulfill your stewardship commitment, even when you are unable to attend church. You can pick up an authorization form in the church office, and talk to Lynn Adams for further details.

**CHECK OUT** our new option to give with a debit/credit card on our website at [firstchurchofmesa.com](http://firstchurchofmesa.com)

## UPCOMING SERMONS

October 7, 2018  
Luke 17:5-10  
*Equipping World-Changeers?*

October 14, 2018  
Guest preacher: Jana Krí ová from  
First UMC, Prague, Czech Republic

October 21, 2018  
Mark 10:35-45  
*The Politics of Service*

October 28, 2018  
Mark 10:46-52  
*The Real Universal Healthcare*

## WELCOMING COMMITTEE



Join us in Fellowship Hall for our annual Hymn Sing and Potluck on Sunday, October 21 at 10:00. We will eat and then sing our favorite hymns.

**Please bring a dish to pass**  
NO DESSERTS, PLEASE!  
The Welcoming Team will provide dessert.

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

### **All Saints Sunday**



On November 4, 2018 our church will celebrate the lives of family members and friends that have passed since November of last year (2017). The Worship Committee would like your help in securing the names of those who you would like to remember and recognize on All Saints Sunday. Please call Virginia Berg at 480-655-7722 to submit any names.

### **Ushers Needed**

If you are interested in becoming a First Church usher, please attend a training and lunch on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> from 11-1pm or see Rock Robinson for information! We need you!

### **Fry's Rewards**

Please register for the Community Rewards program to benefit First United Church of Mesa. Contact Peggy at 602-510-2088 if you have questions. This does not affect other rewards such as fuel points. Also, please note that our account number has changed to **RD530**.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Commission on A Way Forward**

The Commission on a Way Forward was proposed by the Council of Bishops and approved by the 2016 General Conference to do a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph of the Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and explore options that help to maintain and strengthen the unity of the church. A Special Session of the General Conference will gather from Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup> in St. Louis, Missouri to consider this report as well as others which have been submitted. **Whatever action will be taken at this Special General Conference, it will affect every United Methodist Church in the United States and beyond our borders.** In order to prepare United Methodists for this event as well as beyond, Bishop Robert Hoshibata is asking pastors and laity to discuss this proposal and others in order to better understand and prayerfully share our thoughts for the future of our Church. These gatherings, Holy Huddles, will be helpful to us as we watch what happens in advance of the Special Session of General Conference. The Huddles being planned will consist of two parts. The first part, designed for clergy only, will focus on how clergy can lead our congregations with hope amid uncertainty with Christ-like respectful conversations and prayer. East District Clergy are asked to come together on Wednesday, October 17 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at Grace UMC, 2024 E. University Dr., Mesa.

The second part of the Holy Huddle will be for both laity and clergy together. The Holy Huddles are open to all persons who want to come and participate in Christian conversations about the future of our church. Although only delegates to the Special Session of General Conference will be voting, all United Methodists have a responsibility to be aware of the implications of the plans. It is a privilege to pray and share around tables in Christ-like conversation. Please consider attending one of these two Holy Huddles: Saturday, October 13, for East and West District Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm at Trinity UMC, 3104 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix. A second opportunity is also available on Saturday, November 17, for East District Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm at North Scottsdale UMC, 11735 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale.

(continued on page 3)

Please let the church office know if you need a ride and we will try to arrange one for you. A copy of the report can be found with the following link:

<https://dscumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Way-Forward-Report-Final-ENGLISH.pdf>

### **Annual Church Conference**



The Central-East District Superintendent, Rev. Susan Brims, has called an Annual Church Conference for Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm in the Assembly Room. All members of the congregation

are welcome to attend and non-members are also welcome, however, they cannot vote pertaining to legal matters. Those present and voting will constitute a quorum. The primary responsibilities of the church conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church, to receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council; make candidate recommendations to the district committee on ordained ministry and also make recommendations to the district and/or conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries. Compensation for pastoral staff must be also approved for those who are appointed by the Bishop. Election of local church leaders and lay members of Annual Conference is another important task of the Annual Church Conference. Some items may have to be deferred to a Special Annual Church Conference later, such as the adoption of the membership report. Your attendance at this meeting is encouraged.

### **Thanksgiving Dinner for Foster Youth**

First Church of Mesa is once again partnering with Desert Foothills UMC to provide Thanksgiving Dinner to children in the foster care program on November 19. We welcome monetary donations for turkey and pie purchases, as well as sign-ups for home baked pies. Watch for more information in upcoming bulletins.



### **World Communion Sunday Oct 7th**

World Communion Sunday is a celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October, that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation and, as its name suggests, there is focus on the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist. This observance began in 1933 and since has been adopted and promoted by many denominations, including the United Methodist Church. The Sacrament of Communion is available the first Sunday of each month in our Traditional Service and every Sunday during the Coffee House worship service. World Communion Sunday provides an opportunity to show our unity with sisters and brothers throughout the world.

Furthermore, World Communion Sunday is one of six church-wide Special Sundays as endorsed by General Conference. Our offering, normally taken during the time when Communion is distributed, will be designated this one time for this purpose. Half of the proceeds from this offering is for World Communion Sunday Scholars administered by the General Board of Global Ministries. The remaining half is to be used for the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program, which are administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.



### Publication Deadlines

Sunday Bulletins /  
Announcements

Wednesday Noon

### Spire Deadline

All articles to be  
submitted to the church  
office no later than

October 10th

(Holidays and vacations may  
advance or delay these dead-  
lines by a day or two.)



### Flowers

To place flowers on the  
Lord's Table in honor or  
memory of someone  
special contact the  
Church Office at  
480-969-5577

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT.)

### OUR VISION

We strive to reach out to the community through:

- A ministry of continuous spiritual growth;
- A ministry with children, youth, and families in all their diversity, and;
- A ministry of music and the arts.



**FUMC Mesa**

### **FIRST CHURCH ON THE GO, FREE APP!!**

Enjoy access to our calendar, videos, photos, livestream, bulletins, and announcements; or to make an easy online donation.



### **Stained Glass Windows**

Jim Ripley, who is working on the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event for our congregation, led the charge some six years ago to get the City of Mesa to recognize the church as a historic site. To help us celebrate the Anniversary Event on November 18<sup>th</sup>, he has been doing further research and discovered the name of the liturgical design artist who in the mid-1960s did our stained glass windows on the sides of the sanctuary, in the Stewart Chapel and in the little room below the stairs on the west wall that leads up to the balcony (the Chi-Rho window). This artist also carved our front doors. After an arson fire in 1974 blew out our Rose Window, Maureen McGuire was asked to come back and do a new one. Jim contacted Maureen and discovered that her Master's Degree in liturgical design is from the Pope Pius XII Institute in Florence. Our church was her first big solo project. She is retired now, but she still has fond memories of working with Pastor Hayden Sears on this project. She will be introduced to our congregation on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> and perhaps she'll explain to us how she conceived the stain glass art we all now enjoy today.

### **Ugly Quilts**

Join us Thursdays in the Outreach Center beginning October 4th for fellowship and a great cause! Doors open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a coffee/lunch break in between. You can come for all of the time or just part of it. New stitchers are welcome to join us making sleeping bags for the homeless - just bring scissors! As always, we appreciate your donations of clean blankets, comforters, sheets, mattress pads etc.



### **Homebound Ministry**

**You can make someone's life brighter! Join the Homebound Committee!**

The Homebound Committee is a small group of dedicated volunteers who visit with our shut-ins. Everyone is assigned a member or members to visit. Some of the visits are in members' homes and others are at care facilities. We keep track of our visits but we DO NOT meet as a committee. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Pastor Bob Mitchell at [revbmitch@gmail.com](mailto:revbmitch@gmail.com) or Nancy Likens at [likehands@aol.com](mailto:likehands@aol.com).

### **Are You Caring for a Loved One?**

The Volunteer Respite Program is available to provide time away for caregivers. Call Marilyn Krouse for more information at 480-654-8829.



### **Advent Booklet**

We are once again partnering with Red Mountain FUMC to create an advent devotional. *May Joy Abound* is the theme of the 2018 Christmas booklet. Please share your story of joy in 250 words or less along with your favorite scripture and/or prayer. Submit to: [DandyT123@cox.net](mailto:DandyT123@cox.net) or [Revbmitch@gmail.com](mailto:Revbmitch@gmail.com) by October 1st.

### **New Second Service Option at 10:30**

Come as you are! This is designed as a casual, friendly & interactive service. The service usually lasts an hour or less and includes gospel, pop and contemporary Christian music. Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday. Prayer, scripture and an interactive sermon are also important parts of this service.

This service runs concurrently with Sunday School for all ages and childcare is also available in the nursery for children 4 years of age and younger. If you want a different service other than a Traditional one, this might be for you!

All are welcome including children & youth. Come and worship with us!





Join us as we  
Celebrate 125 years  
in the heart of Mesa

### Schedule of Events:

**November 16th**  
7:30 p.m.  
*Organ Concert*

**November 18th**  
9:00 a.m.  
*Worship Service*  
*Guest Speaker:*  
*Bishop Bob*  
*Hoshibata*

**10:00 a.m.**  
*Brunch in*  
*Fellowship Hall*  
*Guest Speaker:*  
*John Giles,*  
*Mayor of Mesa*

In order to get a count for the catered brunch, please RSVP your plans to attend and the number in your party to: [125rsvp@firstchurchofmesa.com](mailto:125rsvp@firstchurchofmesa.com) or fill out the insert form that will be in the bulletin in the coming weeks.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Trick or Treating 5-6 pm  
Events from 5-7 pm:  
Petting Zoo  
Inflatables  
D.J.  
Popcorn  
Snow Cones  
Fun for All!

In order to make this community event a success we need you! Volunteers are needed to work the event and to decorate trunks & distribute candy. Sign-up sheets will be available Sunday mornings. We also need LOTS of candy donations. There will be a donation box in the narthex to deposit bags of individually wrapped candy. Please join us for what is always a fun event and a great community outreach!

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

### Schedule of Events

*All events take place Sundays nights from 5 to 7 p.m. in the FLC and include a meal unless otherwise noted.*

10/7 Devotional and Slickables Ice Cream

10/14 Coffee Talk at Starbucks

10/21 Pumpkin Games

10/27 Volunteer at Trunk or Treat  
4:30 pm-7:00 pm

10/28 No Youth

[youth@firstchurchofmesa.com](mailto:youth@firstchurchofmesa.com)

Join us for  
mid-week  
activities each  
Wednesday:

6:30 am Prayer in  
Stewart Chapel

10:00 am Bible  
Study in Assembly  
Room

5:00 pm Dinner in  
Fellowship Hall

5:45 pm Stained  
Glass in Room 5

7:00 pm Chancel  
Choir Rehearsal

7:00-9:00 pm  
Open Gym in FLC

## OUR VISION

We strive to reach out to the community through:

- A ministry of continuous spiritual growth;
- A ministry with children, youth, and families in all their diversity, and;
- A ministry of music and the arts.

## Now Streaming Live!

You can now watch the worship service live:

[www.LiveStream.com/FirstChurchMesa](http://www.LiveStream.com/FirstChurchMesa)

Visit [firstchurchofmesa.com](http://firstchurchofmesa.com) and start reaching out electronically to friends, family, and those who are looking for God!

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/01	Boggess, Barbara	10/20	Blais, Raymond
10/01	Cummings-John, Remington	10/20	Day, Avery
10/01	Elliott, Meredith	10/20	Wilson, Terry
10/01	Moore, Jeffrey	10/25	Sikal, Amelia
10/02	Brophy, Melissa	10/27	Mitchell, Bob
10/02	Davis, Kermit	10/29	Boggess, Ken
10/02	Elliott, Amanda	10/29	Murray, Anna
10/02	Gurevitz, Ellen	10/31	Mehan, Cassandra
10/02	Leathers, Stuart		
10/02	O'Neal, Dottie		
10/02	Porras, Brian		
10/03	Woodcock, Robert		
10/04	Anglin, Steven		
10/04	Cummings-John, Nyah		
10/04	Morrison, John		
10/06	Brotmarkle, Jacob		
10/07	Kain, Lindsay		
10/07	Lucchesi, Donna		
10/07	Ramsey, Maddox		
10/08	Rathai, Agnes		
10/09	Rittenhouse, Gavin		
10/12	Pirlo, Vaughn		
10/12	Valenzuela, Esther		
10/13	Hitchcock, Susan		
10/13	Mindrup, Rodney		
10/15	Harker, Tom		
10/16	Smith, Jill		
10/17	Brophy, Daisy		
10/17	Royer, Caden		
10/18	Nelson, Nelson		
10/18	Olsson, Shirley		
10/18	Placko, Allyson		
10/18	Wheeler, Shirley		
10/19	Hakaumotu, Tevita		
10/19	Mincks, Joshua		
10/19	Shelton, Ethan		

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/09	Phillips, Linda & Rick
10/09	Downin, Don & Lois
10/12	Gardner, Meg & Kevin
10/17	Mason, Melody & Tom
10/26	Placko, Seth & Krista
10/28	Woodcock, Amanda & Greg



## Wednesday Night Dinner Menu

10/03	Lasagna & salad
10/10	Beef ribs, potato salad & baked beans
10/17	Beefaroni, salad & garlic bread
10/24	Cheese enchilada w/ rice & beans
10/31	Spaghetti & meatballs, salad & garlic bread

September 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

# October 2018

November 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>8:00am All Church Camp/Adm Sanctuary 9:00am Traditional Worship: Sanctuary 10:00am Coffee &amp; Fellowship: Fellowship Hall 10:30am Sunday School-All Ages: Room 2 10:30am Second Worship Service: Chapel 5:00pm Youth Group:Cafe, Gym</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>12:00pm Seniors Cards:Cafe 6:30pm Welcoming Committee: Cafe</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting: Chapel 10:00am Wed. AM Bible Study: Assembly Room 5:00pm Dinner:Fellowship Hall 5:45pm Stained Glass Class:Room 5 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: Sanctuary 7:00pm Open Basketball:Gym</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>8:00am All Church Camp/Adm</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>8:00am All Church Camp/Adm 7:30pm Soberan Desert Chorale concert:Sanctuary</p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p>8:00am Traditional Worship: Sanctuary 9:00am Coffee &amp; Fellowship: Fellowship Hall 10:30am Sunday School-All Ages: Room 2 10:30am Second Worship Service: Chapel 5:00pm Youth Group:Cafe, Gym</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>5:30pm Memor. Class:Debrah (Sr. High)</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting: Chapel 10:00am Wed. AM Bible Study: Assembly Room 5:00pm Dinner:Fellowship Hall 5:45pm Stained Glass Class:Room 5 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: Sanctuary 7:00pm Open Basketball:Gym</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:00am Traditional Worship: Sanctuary 10:00am Hymn Sing &amp; Potluck: Fellowship Hall 10:30am Sunday School-All Ages: Room 2 10:30am Second Worship Service: Chapel 5:00pm Youth Group:Cafe, Gym</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>6:30pm Seniors Cards:Cafe 6:30pm Vietnam Vets Meeting:OC Hall - Out Reach</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting: Chapel 10:00am Wed. AM Bible Study: Assembly Room 5:00pm Dinner:Fellowship Hall 5:30pm Mel's Russia Presentation: Assembly Room 5:45pm Stained Glass Class:Room 5 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: Sanctuary 7:00pm Open Basketball:Gym</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:00pm Church Conference: Assembly Room,</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:00am Traditional Worship: Sanctuary 10:00am Coffee &amp; Fellowship: Fellowship Hall 10:30am Sunday School-All Ages: Room 2 10:30am Second Worship Service: Chapel 5:00pm Youth Group:Cafe, Gym</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>6:30pm Vision Meeting:Room 1</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting: Chapel 10:00am Wed. AM Bible Study: Assembly Room 5:00pm Dinner:Fellowship Hall 5:30pm Mel's Russia Presentation: Assembly Room 5:45pm Stained Glass Class:Room 5 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: Sanctuary 7:00pm Open Basketball:Gym</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>8:00am Ugly Quilts:OC Hall - Out Reach 7:00pm SDC Rehearsal:Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>5:00pm Trunk or Treat</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:00am Traditional Worship: Sanctuary 10:00am Coffee &amp; Fellowship: Fellowship Hall 10:30am Sunday School-All Ages: Room 2 10:30am Second Worship Service: Chapel 5:00pm Youth Group:Cafe, Gym</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>12:00pm Seniors Cards:Cafe</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting: Chapel 10:00am Wed. AM Bible Study: Assembly Room 5:00pm Dinner:Fellowship Hall 5:45pm Stained Glass Class:Room 5 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: Sanctuary 7:00pm Open Basketball:Gym</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>6:30am Morning Prayer Meeting: Chapel 10:00am Wed. AM Bible Study: Assembly Room 5:00pm Dinner:Fellowship Hall 5:45pm Stained Glass Class:Room 5 7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: Sanctuary 7:00pm Open Basketball:Gym</p>			

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE SPIRE,  
15 E. 1st Ave., Mesa AZ 85210

DATED MATERIAL– DO NOT DELAY



*Historic Church*  
modern message

Pastors:

Rev. Mel Munchinsky

Rev. Dr. Bob Mitchell

Rev. Cecil Lackore - Pastor Emeritus

[www.firstchurchofmesa.com](http://www.firstchurchofmesa.com)

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**THE SPIRE**

First United Methodist Church  
15 E. First Ave. Mesa, AZ 85210  
480-969-5577  
fax 480-844-2846

Spire Submissions: [admin@firstchurchofmesa.com](mailto:admin@firstchurchofmesa.com)  
[www.firstchurchofmesa.com](http://www.firstchurchofmesa.com)  
Office Hours: 9 am - 2:00 pm Monday - Thursday

**The deadline for submission of articles for the next issue is October 10, 2018**

*The Spire* Newsletter Team

**Editors & Printers:** Katie Mozurkewich & Linda Phillips

**Assemblers:** Irene Risser, Jan MacCarthy, & Margaret Desenberg

Editorial Policies: The mission of *The Spire* is to be one communication source for the First United Methodist Church of Mesa. Other communication sources include e-mails, the Sunday church bulletins and verbal announcements made at services or other official meetings. Chairpersons of Boards and Committees, coordinators, members and friends of First UMC may submit announcements, information or items of interest that relate to the mission of the church.

The Editor shall reserve the right to either accept or reject articles, to edit for space, grammar and accuracy. Currently, the Spire is being published monthly. Deadline for submission of articles are published both in this newsletter and weekly bulletins.

