

HOW CAN I HELP?

VOLUNTEER

- Start volunteering by attending one of our bi-weekly meetings. See website calendar for dates.
- Join a Desert Search or Water Drop team to provide humanitarian aid.
- Serve food and share conversation at the migrant aid station, El Comedor in Nogales, Sonora.
- Volunteer at Tucson and Nogales, Sonora shelters offering temporary help to asylum seekers.
- Witness Operation Streamline, the federal, fast-track criminal court proceeding for apprehended migrants.

DONATE

Anything you give will be appreciated.

- Donate online at our website. Choose debit, credit or PayPal.
- Donate by mail. Make check payable to The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ. In the memo line, designate:
 - * Samaritans (where needed)
 - * Asylum (Tucson shelters)
 - * Sonora, Mexico Shelters
 - * LifeStraws (personal water filters)
 - * Vehicles (maintenance and replacement)

CONTACT US

WEBSITE

<https://www.gvs-samaritans.org/>

EMAIL

gvs.samaritans@gmail.com

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/664786850266517/>

MEETINGS

Alternate Mondays — 8 to 9 a.m.
(See website calendar for dates.)

The Good Shepherd
United Church of Christ
17750 S. La Cañada Drive
Sahuarita, AZ 85629

Revised January 2020

Green Valley-Sahuarita SAMARITANS

***Our Mission:
To Save Lives and Relieve
Suffering in the Arizona
Borderlands***



A healing presence along the border

Samaritans provide food, water, and medical assistance to people in need.

We believe in respect for human rights, the rendering of humanitarian aid, and one's ethical responsibility to assist those who are suffering.

Who are the Green Valley-Sahuarita Samaritans?

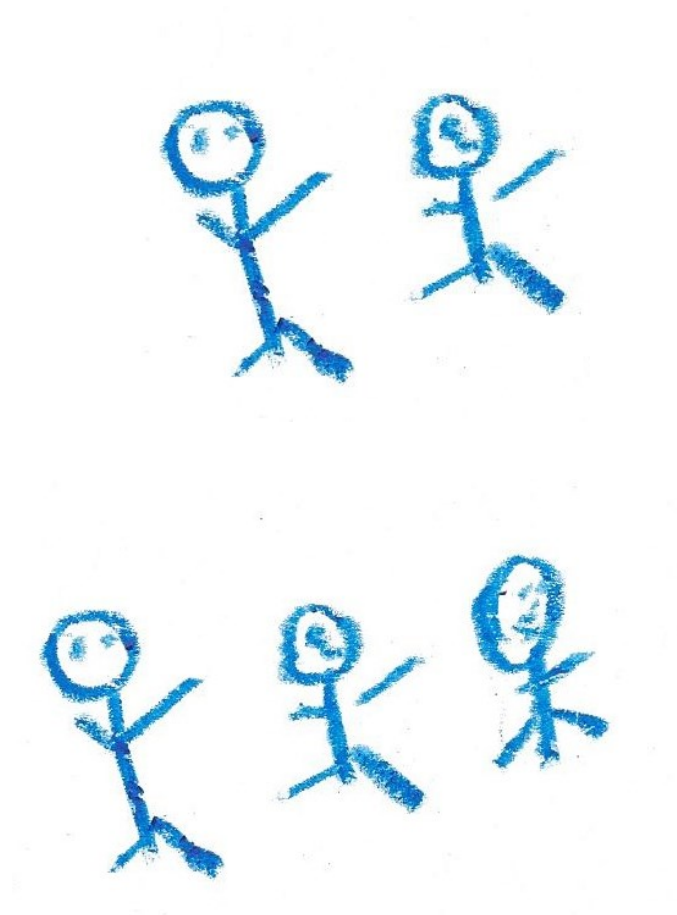
We are friends and neighbors who believe there should be no more deaths in our desert. We believe providing help to another human being in distress is a fundamental human value. We are non-denominational volunteers of all ages and backgrounds.

WHAT DO WE DO?

- Desert Searches: We drive back roads looking for migrants in trouble.
- Water Drops: We place water jugs at specified sites along known trails.
- El Comedor: We serve meals and converse with migrants, deportees and asylum seekers, once a week.
- Operation Streamline: We witness and report on this federal fast-track criminal court proceeding for apprehended migrants.
- Asylum Seeker Support: We work in Tucson and Nogales, Sonora, serving meals, sorting donations, helping with intake and transportation, teaching art and English as a Second Language.

IS IT LEGAL TO ASSIST MIGRANTS?

It is legal to provide humanitarian aid to those in need in the form of food, water and medical assistance.



Drawings of walking migrants are the work of Julio, age 5, a young migrant from Oaxaca, Mexico, who met Samaritans at El Comedor in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

WHY IS OUR WORK NEEDED?

- Immigration issues are critical and not easily resolved. Meanwhile, migrants keep coming. Primarily from Mexico in the past, migrants and asylum seekers now come from multiple countries. Changes in U.S. policies and priorities have increased the number of deportees from families in the U.S. with mixed immigration status.
- Migrants are pushed northward seeking refuge from criminal violence and political and gender persecution. They seek survival in the face of climate change and extreme economic inequality. Pull factors include the promise of work in El Norte, the potential for life-saving asylum and often most of all, family reunification.
- Migrants entering the desert face border enforcement policies pushing them farther afield into ever more remote and dangerous country. Asylum seekers face unjust, inconsistently applied and changing policies. Deportees may be returned to countries with which they have almost no connection. Our work is needed more than ever.

Samaritans look forward to the day when their assistance in the borderlands is not needed.