



Gold Canyon United Methodist Church

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NO. 2



From the Pastor:

“Thoughtful Commitment”

Do you know what topic Jesus talked about most? It wasn't prayer. It wasn't love. Jesus talked about giving more than any other topic. He knew that we struggle with becoming possessive about what God has entrusted to our care. We find it is much tougher to give than to receive.

Many times Jesus reminded those around him that we are stewards of all we have. In story after story Jesus encouraged his listeners to use their resources wisely.

If Jesus were to look at how you use the talents and money you have been given, what would He say? Well done good and faithful servant? Even I am not sure of His answer if he looked at my checkbook so I have committed to do better in 2009. I know I can't attain the level of giving Jesus wants me to unless I thoughtfully make some commitments for 2009. Making a priority of giving doesn't happen by accident. It requires prayer, thought and commitment. In making a decision on my commitment, I find I need to wrestle with the following steps:

STEP 1: DECIDE

to take time to consider your pledge amount.

STEP 2: GATHER

the needed information. Your estimated income for year 2009.

STEP 3: PRAY

asking God to inspire and guide you about the percentage of your income you will set aside for God's work in 2009.

(Note: anything done to bless others, without direct remuneration coming back to you, is God's work. In deciding your percentage of giving for the year we are talking about all giving, not just about giving to the church.)

STEP 4: THINK

in terms of from 1% to 10%. (The Bible encourages us to give a tithe (10%). Maybe you can't jump directly to the level of a tithe but you could consider increasing your percentage each year to the level you feel called to give.)

What are you giving now?

2008 Income: \$

Amount presently giving to Charity and Church: \$

Percentage of Total Income: %

What percentage does God want you to give in 2009?

Multiply that percentage by your income from STEP 2.

_____ x \$ _____ = \$ _____

STEP 5: PRAY AGAIN, AND DECIDE

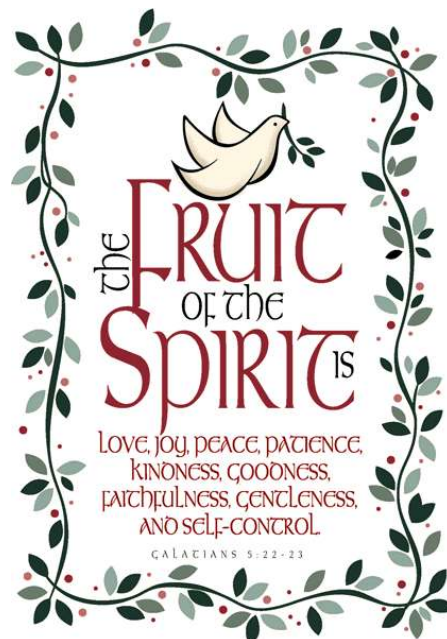
how much of your giving for God's work you will invest through the Church and how much you will set aside for other giving.

STEP 6: MAKE YOUR PLEDGE

to the church for 2009, and bring it with you to worship on Commitment Sunday, February 8, 2009.

Grace and Peace,

Fred





FORWARD IN FAITH

By Grover Wallace

During the months of November and December our congregation donated quite an amount of money to our Christmas Sharing program by giving cash, purchasing gifts, turkeys, food, and many other items to ensure many families in need would enjoy a full Christmas meal and the children would receive gifts of needed items. The generous gifts of money given and spent to provide a joyous Christmas for these families shows real generosity and kindness on behalf of our congregation. Sharing of our wealth brought joy to all the recipients.

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasures for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

-I Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV)

I believe that this command truly reflects the attitude and actions of our congregation and that generosity is from the heart. Giving from the heart represents love on behalf of the person sharing with others. When we share with our neighbors, fellow Christians, those in need and the commitment to share is from our heart—that is sharing with love.

“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law...love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”

Romans 13:8-10 (NIV)

Romans 13:8 commands: “love your fellowman”. This answers the question, Who is my neighbor?—not only the people next door, people living in your area, or far away friends. God says your neighbors are the homeless, the hungry, those living in poverty, those in prisons, orphaned children, sick and lonely children, and any human

in need.

While our contributing monetarily to the needs of others comes from the heart as an expression of love, there are many other examples in our church of sharing our love with others such as volunteers that:

- Coordinate the Christmas Giving program
- Work in the food bank
- Coordinate and serve in the Genesis program
- Serve in the Sidewalk Sunday Walk program
- Work with the Nogales Clinic program
- Work in assisting with office and janitorial services
- Serve in our Christian Education program
- Participate in our outstanding music program
- Participate in our many Youth programs
- Serve on our many committees and boards
- Participate in Memorial lunches and services
- Participate in United Methodist Women’s activities

Other examples of sharing love from the heart include a smiles, friendly greetings or handshakes, providing information, and many other activities. Of course we cannot forget our ministerial staff and their spouses, and our office staff for the love they share with our congregation in both the good times and in our times of need.

We could go on and on listing the examples of sharing with love that comes on a daily basis from our congregation. Those that contribute and serve do not, on occasion, fully realize the importance of the sharing of their talents, time and wealth. Although they do not always receive recognition, those sharing with true love do not seek reward or recognition for God recognizes their love.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

During the month of December, you shared by giving \$56,874.00 to our “Forward By Faith Campaign”. Contributions for the first 10 months of our campaign ending December 31st totaled \$330,149.00 or 66.03% of our goal for the giving year. Our average for the first 10 months was \$33,015.00 per month.

“Let no debt remain outstanding except the debt to love one another.”

-Romans 13:8 (NIV)

DONATIONS
&
ATTENDANCE



"We do not boast beyond limits, that is, in the labors of others; but our hope is that, as your faith increases, our sphere of action among you may be greatly enlarged..."

2 Corinthians 10:15 (NRSV)

December	2006		2007		2008		2007	2008
	Gen.	Build.	Gen.	Build.	Gen.	Build.	Worship All	Worship All
1st	22959	11056	23834	13759	27843	14060	1217	1327
2nd	12428	9198	20412	20124	20790	8413	1224	1367
3rd	12778	8518	19489	6344	19410	8734	1199	1369
Christmas Eve	Combined w/ Sunday	Combined w/ Sunday	Combined w/ Sunday	Combined w/ Sunday	7755	125	1955	2324
4th	18831	19143	21678	9705	15587	6791	1231	1165
End of Year	Combined	Combined	Combined	Combined	7167	18751	N/A	N/A
Total	81467	56600	103885	68232	98553	56874	7955	7552

New Members Join GCUMC!

On January 11th, Alan and Sharon Fritz; Dick and Nellie Moore and Janet Toomey (pictured at right) were the first new members of the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church family for 2009.



Alan & Sharon Fritz with Beth & Fred Steinberg

Not only do we want to welcome these wonderful new members, but we also want to extend a warm welcome to those who joined in November and December of 2008. Due to a hectic holiday season, we did not have the opportunity to publish their names.

On October 19, 2008, the following people joined our church family:

- Tom & Dee Ashe
- Lois Davis
- Patti Girardi
- Floy Kilbourn
- David & Brenda Patterson

On November 23, 2008, we welcomed the following:

- Donald & Ruth DeWinter
- Lloyd & Betty Hetherington
- Neil & Judy Johnson
- Rev. Nolan & Sandy Williams



Dick & Nellie Moore and Janet Toomey with Gary Stemple & Rev. Fred Steinberg

Welcome, Friends!

Healthy Living

The gift of good health...

By Susan Malloy, RN



February is noted for being "Heart" month with Valentine's Day, it reminds us to be loving, caring and giving. Are you thinking that is all well and good but I am just too tired and overwhelmed to be all that? Stress affects us in more than one way and is a leading cause of high blood pressure, heart attack and stroke. HOWEVER, underlying this snow-ball effect is the possibility of a B vitamin deficiency particularly Vitamin B12.

If you answer yes to any of the following questions you may well have a need to add to your Vitamin regimen Vitamin B12 in particular. Question #1: Do the words Sluggish, Worn out or Fatigue describe what I feel? #2: Do I feel blue, depressed or anxious much of the time? #3: Has my life been filled with increased stress? #4: Do I have trouble concentrating, staying focused even with pleasurable activities, or feel foggy headed, and is my memory slipping? If you answered YES to any of these a Vitamin B deficiency could be at the root of these feelings/symptoms. Please consider addressing it immediately. This could be just what you need to improve your overall well being and stave off major health problems.

Vitamin B12 is essential for neurological function: prevention of decreased reflexes, impaired touch or pain perception, numbness and tingling in the arms and legs, for the production of red blood cells, prevention of a severe deficiency called pernicious anemia, it has even been linked to Multiple Sclerosis - like symptoms and Dementia. A lack of adequate B12 Vitamin, folate and Vitamin B6 has been associated with increased levels of Homocysteine, a substance that is a primary cause of heart disease. It causes the blood cells to get sticky and clump resulting in their clinging to the wall of the arteries. This forms blood clots and narrowing of the interior walls of the vessels in organs like the heart or brain.

The good news about Vitamin B12 is that it is considered extremely safe. For best absorption -sublingual (under the tongue) tabs or liquid works the best. Even if you were to take large doses (greater than 1200 mcg daily) it is harmless as it is excreted in your urine. You can purchase sublingual liquid at Vitamin World or try Sprouts or Good Apple in Apache Junction.

Please note that if you have a folate deficiency, iron deficiency, any kind of infection, Leber's disease, polycythemia vera or uremia then you should check with your physician prior to taking Vitamin B12.

For those of you who are taking the Cardio cock-

tail....Be watching for another opportunity later this month to recheck your Digital Pulse Analysis. Bring a friend as we will repeat the video for those who are interested ALSO, Cathedral Health Screenings will be available this month so be watching for the fliers/ phone number to make your reservation to sign up.

Here's to Healthy Heart Month.....Happy Valentines Day!

-Susan

Cathedral Health Services:

Be sure to make an appointment to check your cardiovascular health with Cathedral Health Services (CHS). They will be here at Gold Canyon providing a low cost screenings on Monday February 10th and Tuesday February 11th in the Parish Hall. CHS is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to save lives through education, detection and prevention of life threatening diseases. Cathedral Health Services offers these seven screenings:

Heart Screening
Atrial Fibrillation Screening
Stroke Screening
Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
Thyroid Screening
Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening
Osteoporosis Screening

(Blood Pressure and Pulse Testing is provided to all who participate)

Individual screening tests are offered for as little as \$45.00; the heart screening is \$100.00, while a complete screening with all the above tests is offered for \$175.00. In addition to the screening services, CHS provides every client with a personal consultation to understand the results and answer any questions regarding ways to improve their overall wellness.

For more information or to register for a screening appointment, call **602-254-7130**.





Christian Education...

With "Coach" Ellis Falk

"Our mission is to bring the love of Christ and His teachings to learners of all ages on their spiritual journey, that they be transformed and thus positively affect our local and global communities."

WOW, WOW and WOW... February is here. I love February with President Lincoln's Birthday, President's Day, Washington's Birthday, Valentines Day and of course ground hog day. Also spring baseball starts, the temperature warms, flowers begin to bloom and the trees start to leaf. A very exciting time of the year for us in Arizona. There will also be a lot of excitement at the church this month.



Confirmation Classes start this month. In these classes the younger youth will learn about the meaning of church membership, how to grow in discipleship and gain an understanding of the doctrines and "Articles of Faith" in the Methodist church. This eight week series of study and learning will center around the following: 1. The images of God as expressed in the Old Testament. 2. Who is Jesus? His life and times. 3. The early church and the reformation period 4. John Wesley - The founder of Methodism 5. The United Methodist Church: a brief history. 6. Other denominations and World Religions. 7. A review on what we have learned. 8. A field trip - Feeding Homeless families and/or a time with the Sidewalk Sunday School. Parents will be asked to provide written permission for the youth to attend these learning sessions, the goal of which is Church Membership.

February is also the beginning of Lenten Time with services at the church on Ash Wednesday, February 25th. Starting the following week there will be a five week Lenten Series. Each Thursday 3/5 thru 4/2 there



will be a soup and bread meal followed by a Lenten devotional to be given by Rev. Fay Quanstrom in the Koinonia Room.

The overall theme is "Turn your eyes upon Jesus" with the weekly themes as follows: 3/5 "Jesus the Lamb", 3/12 "Jesus the Word", 3/19 "Jesus the Savior", 3/26 "Jesus the Crucified" and 4/2 "Jesus the Father's Son". I hope you will plan now to be apart of this special Lenten series.

Sweetheart Car Show: Saturday, February 14th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm will be an opportunity for you, your family and friends to attend the Sweetheart Car Show in the south parking lot of the church. If you have an old or classic car this show will allow you show it off. Additional information can be found by picking up a flyer at the Information Desk in the Narthex or at a coffee session between the Sunday services. Kathy and John Nuss are the Car Show coordinators and would be happy to answer any question you may have. This can be a community outreach time and all money gathered from the event will go to the support of the Church Youth and their mission trip this summer. Hope to see you there!



New Worship Service Added

Did you see? We have added an 11:00 am Traditional Service to our Sunday Morning lineup! The sermon for this service is given by Associate Pastor Rev. Bob Deits, and will feature our wonderful choir. The 11:00 am service will meet every Sunday through Easter. If you like to sleep in a little on Sunday morning, but prefer the more traditional form of worship and liturgy, join us at 11:00 am! After the service, come over to the Education Building and share refreshments with the 10:50 Praise Worship Service attendees!



Youth Ministries

With Heather Rodenberg

Sunday School 9:30 am in the Education Building
Youth Fellowship 6:30 pm Sundays in the Education Building

Our annual ski trip is February 15th & 16th. We will be leaving at 3:00 pm from the church on the 15th. Don't forget money is due by February 1st.

Youth Sunday



Join Us!

1st 6:30 – 8:30pm Youth Group.

Money also due for ski trip.

8th 6:30 – 8:30pm Youth Group.

15th & 16th Ski Trip for those who signed up.

No youth group on the 15th.

22nd 6:30 -8:30pm Youth Group

My dear children,

let's NOT JUST TALK about love;

let's PRACTICE real love.

-1 John 3:18



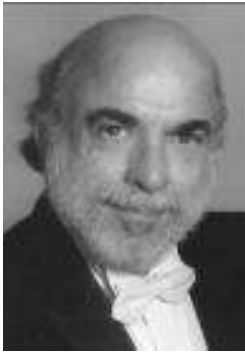
Donate to Youth Mission Trip. Help change the lives of our youth and those in Artesia, New Mexico.

1 Share = \$400

½ Share = \$200

¼ Share = \$100

Please mark Youth Mission when donating.



Music Notes

“Love is in the air . . .” It must be February! In addition to expressions of love for our spouses, families, etc., I hope each of us also take time to express our love to God and to Christ Jesus, who continually express their love to us in the beauty of music, nature, sunsets and all the good things we experience every day.

The **Gold Canyon Arts Council** is presenting Operatic Soprano **Terese Cullen**, who sang Schubert’s *Ave Maria* at our Christmas Concerts, in a concert of “*Expressions of Love*” on Sunday, February 15th in our Sanctuary. They are also presenting the **St. Petersburg String Quartet** in our Sanctuary on Friday, February 6th. Both concerts are at 7:30 pm.

In exchange for the use of our fabulous Sanctuary, the Arts Council has an agreement with our church to offer our congregation a discount on their concert tickets, and request their patrons bring a “can of food” for the Gold Canyon United Methodist Food Bank to the concerts. This is a win-win situation for everyone. My purpose in bringing this up is to say that the coupons included in the worship bulletins on the Sunday prior to the concerts are good for *one* ticket only. A couple or a group of people will need a coupon for each person to receive the discounted price (\$18.00 instead of \$25.00). We generally have additional coupons available in the Church Office, if you need them. We ask that these coupons be used *only* by those who attend our church (we are on the honor system). When you come to the concerts, please remember to bring a non-perishable food item for our Food Bank. Check the Sunday bulletin for specific needs.

You are invited to a major, fun event! **Thursday, March 5th at 11:00 am**, we have reserved the **Organ Stop Pizza** for our church’s exclusive use for lunch and a very special program by their headline organist **Lew Williams**! Lew gave us a fantastic concert last

October and plays for us at our *Celebration of Veterans* event every year. The cost is \$7.25 per person and includes the musical program, pizza buffet, prepared salad and tax! It is very important that we be there on time! Doors will open at 10:45 am. I have asked Lew to point out some interesting things about the organ: it’s pipes, toy-counters (drums, effects, etc.) and very unique console. In addition to being fun and tasty, this will be an event that will prepare and educate everyone for the **Fred Swann Organ Concert** on March 15th (more on that next month). The maximum number of persons is 300 and we have to guarantee 100 (certainly should NOT be a problem!). There will be Sign up sheets at the Information Desk in the main Narthex as well as in the Narthex of the Koinonia Room. This is open to all, members of the church or not, but it is necessary to sign up by Sunday, February 22nd. If you have been to Organ Stop Pizza before, you know what an incredible experience it is – even great food! If you haven’t, now is an excellent time to experience this very unique landmark! Remember, this is limited to the first 300 people who sign up! This will indeed be a very exciting and memorable event!!!

Another event you will not want to miss: **Sunday, February 22nd at 5:00 pm**, is our annual **Country/Western Concert** in our Sanctuary. This program will feature our own **One in the Spirit**, directed by Associate Director of Music, David Ballard, and **The Houser’s**, who lead worship on the last Sunday of the month at our Country/Western Service at 5:00pm. There is no charge for this concert as a free will offering will be received. We ask that everyone please bring at least one non-perishable food item per person for the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church Food Bank (specific needs are listed in the Sunday worship bulletins). Bring your family, friends and neighbors for a fun, spirit filled program of great country/western music!

Blessings,

Doug

Douglas J. Benton
Director of Music Ministries

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY



By Hu & Wendy Rhymes, with a little help from Sadie and Hattie

ATTENTION: Hu & Wendy Rhymes DO NOT have a home phone. If you want to contact them and you don't have their CELL number, please contact the church office.

SADIE RHYMES MEMORIAL

Please continue to bring your donations of food for folks and pets for the FOOD BANK. The pets thank you and their owners who are in need thank you for your donations of food and money to make purchases. Blessings and we love you, ~ Hu, Wendy, Hattie and Muffin

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Sympathies: Linda Crain, upon the death of her cousin, Carrie Bell; Jo & the family of Bob Brooks, upon his death; Eleanor Chesney, upon the death of her husband, Bob; Ellie Conger, upon the death of her husband, Weldon; Bev Criswell, upon the death of her mother, Dorothy Stewart; Carol & Jason Crosswhite, upon the death of Carol's husband & Jason's father; Bob & Peggy Dowrick, upon the death of their infant great grandson; Betty Fenske, upon the death of her daughter-in-law; Jeff & Jane Hayes, upon the death of Jeff's father, George; Joyce Page, upon the death of her mother, Jane Freese; Ione Pierce, upon the death of her son, Max McHale; The Rayburn family, upon the death of their mother; Guy Robertson, upon the death of his wife, Maxine and the families & friends of the above.

Concerns and/or Continued Prayers: Wally Adams, Florence Allen, Barbara Baker, Nancy Bergstedt, Nancy Binting, Chris Bisted, Irene Blake (Paul Fillion's sister), Sonia Boscko, Kathy Burgener, Bob Burgi, Robert Burnett (Marilyn Horkey's brother-in-law), Donna Campbell, Michelle Cassella, Laurie Christy, Pat Colmer (Sharyn Bennett's mother), Crystal Copeland, John Coules, Linda Coyne (Ruth Ann Thacker's sister), Nathaniel Delaney, Marcella Dorsey, Vicky Drush, Theresa Dunphy, David Eddy, Charles Finley, Art Fleming, Bill Haines, Paulette Hall, Jan Harris, Nancy Hawbaker, Dennis Heil, Melva Houtcouper, Jim Humble, Michelle Jacobs (Sherry Blankenship's daughter), Jean Kaminski, Pat Kellberg, Jimmy Keller, Mel Kilbo, Katherine Klein, Peter Koch, Brenda Kotca, Phyllis Krebs, Susan Larson, Nels Lee, Sharon LeMar, John Linton, Chuck McKim, Larry McMann, Arlene McNeece, Lloyd McNeece, Scott Meier, Joanna Miller, Shawn Moss, Rich Nielsen (Bill Nielsen's brother), Yvonne Portas, Calvin Quinn, Georgia Ray, Josh & Andria Redman, Pat Renfer, Hu Rhymes, Georgia Richardson; Mickie Rosenstein, Bob Rosenstein, Joyce Scherer, Valerie Sheridan, Bruce & Shelly Streegstra, Rae & Don Tianen, Amy Timbes, Peggy Tippie, Jim Toppin, Midge Towell, Nancy Traugh (Grover Wallace's sister), Emily Jackson-Unger, Randy Warren, Sandy Westlund, Al Whittum, George Wright, Grace Wroebel, an UNSPOKEN

REQUEST (God knows) and PRAYERS for the families (CAREGIVERS) of the above. PRAYERS for requests in the "CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER" boxes and those FOOD BANK CLIENTS who have requested prayer. PRAYERS for our MILITARY Personnel and their families

Joys-but Still in Need of Prayers: Dick & Eleanor Armstrong, Tom & Dee Ashe, Dorothy & Joey Baker, Sgt. Steven Bise in Iraq (Jackie Bise's nephew), Irene & Junior Blake (Paul Fillion's sister & brother-in-law), Robert Boehm, SSgt. John Briggs in Guam, Sgt. Jeff Carroll (Harriette & Jeff Downing's nephew), Bob Carter & family, Eleanor Chesney, Mark & Donna Cleary, Craig Cmar (Marines), Bob & Marcia Cole, Ellie Conger, Carol & Jason Crosswhite, Jenny & Bob Crow, Clifford & Lorraine Davidson, Chuck Dickinson, Virginia Faris (Suzanne Meier's mother) & Harold & Suzanne Meier, Ed Favia, (Army), Nancy Favia (Air Force Reserve), Dale & Inge Fitzpatrick, Andy & Danna Gharavi, David & Ardeena Gillette, Ross & Arline Hacker, Viola Hammond (Don Hammond's Mom, Rich & Sheila Haraldson, Lorna Hartman, Beth Hayes (Jeff Hayes' mother), Amanda Hendersen in Iraq, Jim Hibbing, Chris Huston in Iraq (Ken Miller's grandson), Joe & Gin Johnson, Henry Kaminski, Gladys Kay (Jane Hayes' Mom), Mel & Mary Kilbo, Naomi Kyle, Jane Lambert, Cheryl Lang, Carol & Bill Lindemann, Earl & Eleanor Lindsay, Pauline Lymons, Bob & Juana Mahlandt, Michael & Susan Malloy, Sally Marvaino (Suzanne Jacobson's sister), Shirley & Merle Matzke, Todd Matzke in Iraq, Bryan McCann (Jeanette Lunstead's son), Neal McGough in Afghanistan, Larry & Pat McMann, Wilbur McMann, Hedy Moore (Jed Moore's Mom), Ione Pierce, Icey Revis Lynn Revis' mother-in-law), Marvin & Jean Richter, Helen Strickler, Emily Sutherland (Wendy Moore's grandmother), Rick & Sue Sutter, Michelle Tackett & mom, Judy Tackett, Audrey & Gregg Taran, Carl & Helen Thacker, (Jerry Thacker's parents), Lillian Thomas (Bill Thomas' mother), Bev & Jim Toppin, Marven & Wanda Tufte, Ray and Nancy Villeneuve, Mary Ann Warren, Lucy Weiland, Dot Zelezic and the families of the above.

**DESIGNATED GIFTS
FROM MEMORIAL-FUNERAL
SERVICES**

FRANK CROSSWHITE ~
American Diabetes Foundation
ED ROBERTS ~
Gold Canyon UMC and/or The American Cancer Society
WELDON CONGER ~
Gold Canyon UMC Stained Glass Fund



**“ LAUGH A LITTLE”
with Pastor Hu**

**Wendy are you listening?
FOR WIVES ONLY**

A man answered the telephone and called to his wife, “Sweetheart, come to the phone...somebody wants to listen to you.”

ABOUT CELL PHONES

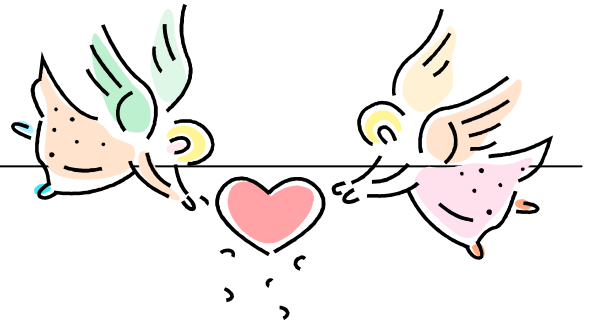
They called her A.T. & T. because she is Always Talking and Talking!!

RESPIRE CARE NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to give caregivers of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease sufferers a much needed hour or two of respite. If you have patience, a little free time and a desire to help, please contact Jeanette Lunstead or the church office at 982-3776.

MIND MENDERS SUPPORT GROUP

Meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday
at 10:00 a.m. in the Education Building.
This support group is for CAREGIVERS of anyone with Alzheimer's or some form of Dementia.
Contact Jeanette Lunstead or the church office for more information.



**COUNTRY WESTERN CONCERT
HOWDY, PARTNERS! Y'ALL COME,
Y'HEAR**

Our annual **Country Western Concert**, featuring the Houser's will take place on **Sunday, February 22nd, 5:00 pm in the sanctuary.**

Ron, Chris & Brett Houser, along with Tara Houser Jones and the rest of the “Houser Gang” will get your toes tapping, your hands clapping and your hearts filled with joy.

There will be country gospel songs, classic cowboy songs and the hottest fiddle you've ever heard (that would be Tara)! You might even hear a most unusual vocal rendition of falsetto (that would be Hu).

Whether or not you are a fan of country music, this is one concert you don't want to miss.

There is no admission charge. A free-will offering will be received. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the food bank.



Ron Houser, Tara Houser Jones and Brett Houser,

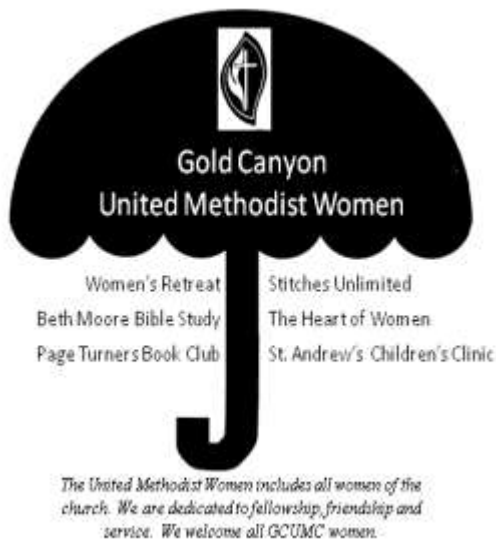
February Birthdays

Scott Johnson	1	Jim Atkinson	16	Gordon Hulett	20
David Austin	1	Bob Russell	16	Darlene Broderson	20
Terry Burris	1	Trudy Carpenter	16	Robert Bennett	21
Colette McNamee	1	Harrison Hughes	16	Raymond Heyse	21
Richard Hoffman	3	Bert Mercer	17	Steve Holec	21
Sharon Pittman	3	Sheila Haraldson	17	Lyle Aasheim	22
Leslie Anzelmo	3	Susan Malloy	17	Martha Burkinshaw	22
Amme Pedigo	4	Ada Adams	17	William Atkinson	22
Marilyn Jungman	4	Thomas Lullo	17	Frank Grannis, Jr	22
Gladys Osgood	5	Muriel Reif	18	Margaret Ball	23
Pat Campbell	6	Adeline Muratore	18	Brett Houser	23
Charles Verrall	6	Edgar Newkirk	18	Marvin Richter	24
Garu Nord	6	John Paddison	18	Alan Helquist	25
Daniel Bos	6	Pete Plakos	19	Alice McConnell	25
Bruce Love	7	Donald Hammond	19	Rick Sutter	26
Sylvia Quinn	7	Jim Brinkman	19	Desireah Kenyon	26
Carol Howard	7			Robert Dowrick	27
Darlene Huffman	8			Nancy Kurth	27
Roger Coad	8			Nancy Waechter	28
Amira Mogharbel	8				
Megan Pappalardo	8				
Don Miller	9				
Marilyn Peterson	9				
Carole Lindemann	9				
Herbert Galliard	10				
Georgia Richardson	10				
Louise Hays	10				
Amanda Wolfskill	10				
Florence O'Brien	11				
Katelyn Crane	11				
Victor Phillips	12				
Mildred Johnson	12				
Allisen King	12				
Michael Humphrey	12				
Donna Johnson	12				
Peter Rahaneotis	13				
Bonnie Lane	13				
Gordon Gasser	14				
Marjorie Kappler	14				
Rosemary Austin	14				
Judy Schmidt	14				
Val Richter	14				
Anne McGinness	15				
Nicole Nanny	15				

Anniversaries



Ada & Michael Adams	5
Bill & Louise Green	14
Bob & Jenelu Burgi	28
Bob & Lu Johnson	25
Don & Doris Miller, Doris	2
Duane & Sue Vorseth	4
Jack & Nancy Virden	28
Jim & Linda Brinkman	13
Kenneth & Margaret Crites	9
Merle & Shirley Matzke	21
Nick & Evelyn Laich	14
Paul & Joyce Fillion	24
Pete & Shirley Plakos	26
Richard & Sheila Haraldson	7



Congratulations!

Congratulations are in order! Phyllis Gray and Melva Houtcooper were awarded Special recognition pins for their dedication to the GCUMC local UMW unit.

Women's Retreat 2009

Registration forms are available in the church office to make your reservation at Mingus Mountain, April 24-26, 2009. Cost for the weekend is \$100 for lodging, meals and programming. April 1st is the cutoff date for reservations unless the event is a sell out before that date. This time spent in the quiet beauty of the mountain top is just the right balance of spiritual renewal, love, and laughter. It always reconnects us not only with ourselves, but with one another. If you need further details about the weekend, please call Diana Linton at 229-0706.

Heart of Women

**Saturday, February 7th
11 am in Sea of Galilee Room**

Come express yourself over a cup of tea. It's uncomplicated, comfortable, and a great way for women to meet. So, come join us. Oh, and bring a friend and your favorite teacup.

UMW Meeting Schedule

There is no formal meeting in February.
Executive Board Meeting Monday, March 2nd at 9 am
The next Unit Meeting is Saturday, March 14th at 9:45 am

United Methodist Women have always had a commitment of mission to women, children and youth both locally and around the world. The March 14th Unit Meeting program will include a Call to Prayer and Self-Denial: "Creating Communities through Information Technology" observance. A special offering will be taken to fund grassroots projects that support local communities with opportunities for computer literacy, information technology training, English-As-A-Second-Language classes, and career enhancement and job-seeking skills.

Marginalized populations, such as the poor, the physically challenged and others – especially women, children and youth – will gain access to information technology. Two such programs include the Women Employed Institute, in Chicago. The institute works with women with low incomes, using web-based tools to broaden their knowledge of career choices and seek better jobs that will aid them in improving their families' lives. And Maquila Worker's Rights Program, part of MADRE, an international women's human rights organization, working in the Barcenas community outside Guatemala City. They offer computer classes to the marginalized so they can gain basic technology skills, which will both enhance their language and job readiness. We have an opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of people all over the world.

Stitches Unlimited

Stitches Unlimited meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday each month from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. So quilters, sewers, knitters, and crocheters bring your lunch! All skill levels are welcome. Please come and see where you can be "in stitches". If you prefer to work at home, quilt kits are available. Questions? Please call Melva Houtcooper

The Page Turners Book Club

The Page Turners Book Club meets the fourth Monday each month at 2:00 pm. We are a diverse group of ladies who read the same book then meet in each other's homes to discuss the book. Book selections for the remainder of 2009 can be found on the UMW Bulletin Board in the Education Building. If you have any questions, please call Diana Linton at 229-0706.



UMW, Continued

UMW Book Drive

Need to clean off your bookshelves at home? United Methodist Women will be delighted to take those books off your hands for resale. We will take all kinds of books including: children's, fiction, non-fiction, hard-cover, paperback, etc. During the month of February receptacles will be located throughout the complex for your donations. **Please bring books appropriate for resale to your church friends.** Then, readers, look for our sale between services Sunday, March 8th and March 15th. The proceeds from the sale will go to maintain UMW programs as well as missions. Thank you for your donations, and your support.



SCRIP Fund

By Betty Rolley

Now that the bus is paid for (thanks to all of you who helped make that possible through your use of Bashas' Community Support Cards and Fry's Gift Cards purchased from the church), after yearly expenses are paid (maintenance, insurance, registration, gas, etc.), there should be an excess of about \$10,000 per year (based on the past few years' receipts).

After collecting your ideas and suggestions, the consensus is that the supporters of this program would like to see this excess applied to the Stained Glass Window Fund. We hope that many of you who have not participated in the past will join us in this endeavor by buying and using the aforementioned cards at Bashas' and Fry's. It does not cost you anything to participate and it is like receiving free money back just for shopping where you normally do for groceries, meds, etc., and even gasoline at Fry's.

Stop by the "Scrip" section of the Information Desk in the east narthex between services to find out how easy it is to participate in this program and help us to grow this fund in the years to come. Thank you.

Let us
remember to pray daily



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY®**

DEPRESSED?

Any unhappy event in one's life may and most probably will result in some form or degree of depression. Severe depression can be extremely dangerous ~ destroying interest in one's well being, causing physical changes in the person, and even leading to suicide.

Mild and moderate depression will usually abate. If we are severely depressed we generally need help. The totality of our life changes, we withdraw from all that formerly mattered, unhappiness intensifies, we are unable to focus on reality or the reason for living and we are powerless to find our way out alone.

Losing a job, childbirth, terminal illness, divorce, loneliness, conviction of a crime, being a single parent, retirement, hospitalization...are a few of the many downers which can result in some form of depression.

Talking with a Stephen Minister can lead one out of the cyclical maze of depression. If you are mildly or moderately depressed, talking, associating, praying, or simply becoming acquainted with a Stephen Minister can restore your balance. A Stephen Minister can secure professional help thru referral for severely depressed persons.

Your relationship with a Stephen Minister engages a process which treats your difficulty (any difficulty) with God's caring and curing Grace. Always remember that nothing "...shall separate us from the love of Christ..", neither "...trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword...". Should you need a way out, please call the office or a Stephen Minister.

My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding.
Colossians 2:2a

Grief Support Group

Wednesdays at 3:00 pm, Room 101/102

Led by Laurie Christy

Gold Canyon UMC offers Grief Support for those who need someone to talk to. Grief isn't always about death – we all need help at times talking about and understanding our feelings. Anything that may cause sadness in your life is an issue for grief support. Sometimes it is death or divorce or, it could be the fears of relocation or a new job. We are here to listen when you need to talk. For information, contact Laurie Christy at 480-671-5768 or Lchristy20@yahoo.com.

International Missions

"The world is my parish." – John Wesley

By Jackie Douglass

When: Saturday, March 7, 2009, 5:00 pm

Where: Gold Canyon UMC

What: International potluck and program
(Bring a favorite "international, cultural" or simply
tasty dish to share!)

Who: Rev. Stanley Moore &
Mr. John Cogswell, presenting

The presentations will include reflections on their experiences as volunteers in missions in Chile and other places around the world, and the transformation that takes place when we step into the world order of people outside of the United States.

Look for the information and sign-up tables in the narthex on Sundays starting February 1st. You will have a chance to "RSVP" by indicating what dish you will bring to share that either represents your background or is simply a food for which you have a great affinity! The focus of the program will be to introduce us to the concept of International outreach projects worldwide, as well as to learn about specific missions with which we have become involved.

This will be a major fund-raising activity for international missions for 2009 with 100% of the donations going to the International projects which we have chosen to support.

We are very fortunate to have Stanley Moore and John Cogswell as our presenters for the program:

Stanley Moore completed a Masters degree at the University of California and a year of seminary at the Pacific School of Religion, after which he traveled to Chile to serve at the El Vergel Agricultural Institute near An-

gola. Returning in 1960, he pursued further studies at U.C. Davis and U.C. Berkeley in preparation for returning to Chile.

After completing those studies, he spent several months, at the request of the Peace Corps, recruiting agriculturists for South East Asia. On his way back to Chile, he was asked by the Methodist Board of Missions to fill in temporarily in the Office of Missionary Personnel in New York City. During that time he met a missionary from Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Beryl Feather, who was to be his wife.

The couple spent the next 12 years at El Vergel, and then was moved south to do rural development among the Mapuche Indians. Following a four-year home assignment, they were sent to northern Chile, where Stan worked towards the creation of an agricultural school in the Andes Mountains for Aymara Indian youth—the subject of his book, "The Impossible Dream".

John Cogswell is a member of First United Methodist Church at the Chicago Temple and the Co-chair of their Mission Committee. John and his wife, Janice, have led or participated in 80 domestic and international Volunteers-in-mission projects since 1975, including thirty-one trips to Chile; Dominica (eastern Caribbean) 11 times; three times to India and once to Nepal; Bolivia and Peru 3 times and once to Nicaragua; Zaire (Republic of Congo) 6 times, twice each to Namibia, Kenya and Zimbabwe, and once each to Burundi, Liberia, and Mozambique.

We hope you will join us in this excellent opportunity to learn about the experiences Stan Moore and John Cogswell have had, as they inspire us to become more aware of, and involved with, international missions.



**John Wesley's Three
Simple Rules**
Do No Harm
Do Good
Stay in love with God



Current UMCOR Emergencies

To donate to UMCOR on behalf of the following emergencies, please write your check to GCUMC and write "UMCOR Advance ##### (fill in the appropriate number)" on the memo line. 100% of your donation will go to those affected by the emergency.

Hurricane Response
Hurricanes 2008
UMCOR Advance #3019695

Haiti Hurricane Response
Haiti Emergency
UMCOR Advance #481325

Georgia Conflict
Georgia Emergency
UMCOR Advance #250305

For more ways to help, or to donate online, go to:
<http://new.gbgn-umc.org/umcor/>



W.O.W.

If you've attended Sunday services over the last few weeks, you've seen teasers in the bulletin about this program. On January 18th Witness Our Wonder was introduced as a new outreach ministry to draw attention to the Wonder of God's love as expressed by the congregation of GCUMC. Hopefully, you've personally experienced an interaction with one of the core members of this ministry and Witnessed God's love thru them.

This mission is designed to draw in the community and let those unfamiliar with the church know what ministries this church family has to offer. Planned activities include greeting first time guests as well as all service attendees with a warm welcome as they approach the church buildings; assisting those with difficulty walking from the parking lot with a ride in a golf cart or, have an attendant park their car; provide greeting and assistance at funeral and memorial services; man information tables at special events sponsored to attract those in the community; and, other events as developed.

Ron Walker was asked to lead this outreach ministry and has selected a core group of individuals to assist him. However, more individuals are needed to make this ministry a success. If you are genuinely interested in bringing attention to our church and the love of God to the community, please contact Ron through the church office at 480-982-3776 and tell us in what area you are willing to share your time and the love of God.

"I look forward to hearing from you" ~ *Ron Walker*

Let mutual
Love continue.

Do not neglect to show
hospitality to strangers,
For by doing that some
have
Entertained angels with-
out
Knowing it.



Hebrews 13:1-2

Academy for Spiritual Formation Accepting Applications

Applications are still being accepted for the two-year Academy for Spiritual Formation® which begins February 16-21, 2009 at the Mercy Center in Burlingame, California Scholarship assistance is also available, but funds are limited.

This two-year journey into the heart, mind, soul and will of Christ has been offered to clergy and lay participants since 1983. It is one of the most highly regarded programs of its kind, providing a balanced approach to spiritual formation with worship, lectures, silence, covenant groups and spiritual disciplines. Participants gather eight times for five days every calendar quarter - a total of 40 days in retreat. Racial-ethnic participants are encouraged to apply.

More information, including a list of faculty for this Academy, an application and other details can be found by visiting www.upperroom.org/academy or by calling toll-free 1-877-899-2781, ext. 7233.





Volunteers Do Make a Difference

GCUMC *Jane Hayes, Volunteer Coordinator*
982-3776



RAK WEEK: FEBRUARY 9-15

Are you familiar with the Random Acts of Kindness Organization?

If not, please check out their website: www.actsofkindness.org

Each year, they target a week to encourage kindness acts all over the world.

If you are so inclined to join in, you might want to try one idea or ask a few friends to join in and try any of these simple, yet effective ideas.

1) Separate one large bunch of flowers, drop them off at several neighbors, doctors/nurses, or storekeepers you frequently visit. A couple of unexpected flowers does so much to brighten someone's day. Recyclable bottles with a bit of ribbon work as great vases. Include a quote about kindness.

2) Collect trash in a common area used by many.

3) On your calendar, jot down one good deed done each day. After a whole month it will be amazing to see how far you've come!

4) For grandchildren, nieces, nephews, send a non-traditional Valentine's gift. Send a one dollar bill and a ten dollar bill to each challenging them to find a way to do an act of kindness with the one dollar before spending the ten dollars.



Another way to find places to volunteer:
www.USAService.org
Check it out!

Citrus Gleaners Needed

Volunteer to pick citrus at private homes for Mesa United Food Bank. Carpool from church at 8:15 Friday mornings through March. Call Terry Parsons for information at 480-982-



****Circle one or more of these options to and place the form in the collection plate on Sunday, or drop by the office! Thanks.**

- 1. **Easter Breakfast**
- 2. **Information Table**
- 3. **Office Assistant**
- 4. **Hospitality Team**
- 5. **Greeter**
- 6. **Sunday School/ Substitute**

Name _____

Phone _____

Give the Gift of Life

In 2004 at the age of 6, Rowan Grace Maisey was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia. Rowan is the youngest granddaughter of Barbara and Royce Brownfield. She underwent 28 months of rigorous chemotherapy and her family and treatment team were cautiously optimistic that she was cured. Unfortunately, in September 2008, Rowan suffered a relapse and has embarked upon another, more rigorous course of chemotherapy. Her doctors now believe that the best course for Rowan is to undergo a bone marrow transplant which is now tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2009.

Due to Rowan's unusual blood type, the transplant team has not yet been able to locate the ideal donor that they and her family wish her to have. There are options, but no really good matches have been found as yet. So, Rowan needs as many of her friends and supporters as possible to be willing to donate. This involves being tested, typed, and signing up for the bone marrow registry. Those who are selected and agree to donate will not know whose life they may have saved with their incredibly generous gift. But the rewards are great as are the needs.

Being tested, typed, signing up to donate, and donating bone marrow is incredibly painless and easy these days. The National Marrow Donation program has a web site at www.marrows.org. On this web site anyone between the ages of 18 and 60 who wishes to donate bone marrow, and in so doing give the gift of life, can answer a few simple health questions to determine eligibility, arrange to be tested for blood type in the comfort and privacy of their own home, and be placed on the national registry. In doing so, those who donate are quite literally giving the gift of life to someone in desperate need.

Anyone who has questions is welcome to call Barbara or Royce Brownfield at 480-671-0962 or to visit the web site that Rowan's family has designed to keep her friends, family, and supporters up to date on her journey back to wellness. It is at <http://caringbridge.org/az/rowangrace>.



Gold Canyon United Methodist Church
 6640 S. Kings Ranch Road
 Gold Canyon, AZ 85218
 Phone: 480-982-3776
 Fax: 480-671-0028
 Office Email: GoldCanyonUMC@MindsPring.com
 www.goldcanyonumc.org

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Monthly Newsletter Deadline: 10th of the Month
 Weekly Bulletin Insert Deadline: Noon on Wednesday
 Flower Order Deadline: Noon on Wednesday
 Please note that flowers are \$30.00

GCUMC Staff

Senior Pastor	Fred A. Steinberg
Minister of Pastoral Care	Hu Rhymes
Associate Pastor	Bob Deits
Director of Education	Ellis Falk
Director of Music Ministries	Douglas J. Benton
Associate Director of Music	David Ballard
Director of Youth Ministries	Heather Rodenberg
Pianists	Carol Ballard, Linda Jones, Marty Robison Nancy Virden
Office Manager	Suzanne B. Jacobson
Administrative Associate	Margaret Ball
Volunteer Coordinator	Jane Hayes
Parish Nurse	Sue Malloy
Nursery Care Giver	Susan Kenyon
Facility Care Takers	John LaViolette



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
 SCHEDULE**

*All Children's Sunday School classes begin
 in the Worship Service with their families.
 Children are led to their classrooms after the
 Children's Sermon.*

**†8:00 AM ~ Adult Sunday School
 Meets in Room 101/102**

**†9:30 AM ~
 Children's Sunday School
 Pick Up in Rm 101/102**

†9:30 AM ~ Youth Sunday School

**†10:50 AM ~
 Children's Sunday School
 Pick Up in Classrooms**

**WINTER II SERVICE HOURS
 January through Easter**

*8:00 AM—Traditional Worship
 *9:30 AM—Traditional Worship
 *11:00 AM—Traditional Worship

In the Sanctuary

*10:50 AM—PRAISE
 Service

In the Koinonia Room
 Music led by *Uncommon Grace*

**Childcare Provided*

5:00 PM—Country Western Service
 Music led by
One in the Spirit

On the Last Sunday of the Month
 Music will be led by *The Housers*