



# Gold Canyon United Methodist Church

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NO. 1

## From The Pastor: "107 Year Old Light"



I read of a light bulb that is older than Rev. Hu Rhymes. It is 107 years old and counting. Hu has some catching up to do. An oversized, hand-blown light bulb was installed in a Livermore, California fire station in 1901. Dennis Bernal, the owner of Livermore Power and Light and the manufacturer of the

light bulb, donated the bulb so that when the fire alarm sounded in the middle of the night the firemen would not have to stumble around in the dark. It has continued to light a firehouse ever since. If you would like to learn more about the light bulb or see a picture of it check out [www.centennialbulb.org](http://www.centennialbulb.org).

As I was reading about this incredible light bulb, and it takes something big for an ordinary light bulb to be news worthy, I couldn't help but think about Jesus' words, "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven". I have to say sometimes my light has flickered or grown dim. I have not always been the light to others I should have been. It is a great goal. I have the United Methodist Cross and Flame on the back of my van and I often worry that I might not be driving worthy of that symbol. It makes me reflect on how I treat others.

How do I tip at the Olive Garden Restaurant? How do I drive on Hwy 60? How do I act at the Post Office when the clerk is exceedingly slow? How do I speak to my wife? Did I remember our wedding anniversary? I have to say I am impressed that Wendy and Rev. Hu Rhymes' light has shined among us all these years. May our church community be a light for those who walk in darkness. May the light of the Church be even brighter and longer lasting than the light in the firehouse.

Grace and Peace,

*Fred*

### 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 will be 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 beginning January 4 at 11:00 am!





## FORWARD IN FAITH

By Grover Wallace

It is time to leave the year 2008 and look to 2009 with hope and faith. Putting 2008 behind may be difficult for many believers. The world was in turmoil as we faced war, terrorism, genocide, earthquake, major floods, hurricanes, and many other problems. Here in our nation we encountered an election that produced hatred, mistrust, major divisions, untruths, charges of discrimination, and promises that candidates knew in their hearts that they could not produce the results that the citizens expected. We faced and continue to feel the results of a crumbling economy that has spread world wide. The disappointing collapse of the economy in the United States has brought major banking, financial, manufacturing, professional, service, and other business activities to disastrous failure and created a major catastrophe that must be quickly overcome.

In these difficult days, thousands of people, including many in our neighborhood and even some in our congregation, have lost their jobs which means loss of income, health insurance, and other major benefits associated with their employment. As a result, our neighbors have faced foreclosure of mortgages and evictions from their homes, loss of transportation from repossession due to inability to maintain payments on their automobiles, mounting debts for family medical expenses, unpaid utility bills, and lack of money for food and clothes, and loss of shelter for their families. Through no fault of their own, families throughout our nation and the local area become dependent on the assistance that is furnished by our government agencies, family, friends, neighbors, social and welfare programs, church and

public food banks. However, many assistance programs have been disrupted due to lack of funding or donations. The distress of economic conditions has caused many individuals both mental and physical illnesses and conditions that cannot be treated due to lack of funds.

Throughout the centuries there have been economic catastrophes, tragedies, and devastations such as we are facing today in this country and the world. Many will be glad to exit the year 2008 but they are scared, terrified, and frightened as to what the future will bring to our nation and the world in the coming year. Many fear that the situation will worsen and that they will face more devastation of their economic condition.

Regardless, we must all face 2009 and what the future has in store for each of us. This is the time that God must be trusted and we must all have faith and hope that he will guide us through the current situation. God never promised that we would not face such difficult problems, troubles, and even illnesses. But He did say He would not “forsake” us, but would be “with us” through each troubling situation and we should not be “scared” but have “faith” in him. If you look through the bible you can find many passages regarding your faith in God, facing troubles, problems, the future, and having the courage to face such trials.

*“If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.”*

-Isaiah 7:9 (NIV)

*“Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”*

-Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV)

*“...because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’”*

-Hebrews 13:6 (NIV)

*Jesus replied “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree but also you can say to the mountain, ‘Go throw yourself into the sea’, and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”*

-Matthew 21:21-22 (NIV)

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From Psalms:

*“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.”*

-Psalms 46:1 (NIV)

*“...and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”*

-Psalms 50:15 (NIV)

With faith in God and prayer we can trust that he will lead our nation and individual believers through the problems, trials and tribulations.

The congregation of our church always stands ready to provide assistance to those in need through prayer, loving support, and financial contributions. Witness the help provided through our food bank, Christmas Dinner and Gift program, the youth group’s “SOCK” program, pastor’s discretionary fund to help people with utility and rent obligations, Sidewalk Sunday School, our program to feed the hungry and homeless, the Nogales clinic activities, Change for Change program, an international missions program, the United Methodist Women’s program which helps on a local and international scale, and the congregation’s help in disasters through the church foundation’s relief programs. Quite a list which requires major support from every person in our congregation; not only financial support but prayerful support and contributing of our time and talents.

Now, more than ever, our programs need the support of every individual to help others through their difficulties. Please lend your support in whatever way you can. WE CAN BE A PART OF MAKING 2009 A BETTER YEAR FOR MANY IN NEED.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR HELP-ING MAKE A BETTER LIFE FOR THOSE IN NEED.

In the month of November, you contributed \$35,222.00 to our building fund which brings the total contribution to \$273,275.00 this stewardship year. Total contributions for the first nine months represents 54.66% of our goal for the giving year.

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTH, AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

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

-Romans 13:8



DONATIONS  
&  
ATTENDANCE

Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 4:15

November								
	2006		2007		2008		2007	2008
	Gen.	Build.	Gen.	Build.	Gen.	Build.	Worship All	Worship All
1st	\$20322	\$13847	\$27334	\$12582	\$20447	\$12606	997	843
2nd	\$15859	\$24808	\$13079	\$15690	\$14978	\$7647	1057	1076
3rd	\$11452	\$5369	\$26,78	\$11635	\$11784	\$3965	1139	1168
4th	\$12683	\$8247	\$10513	\$3878	\$12509	\$4431	1233	1272
5th	—	—	—	—	\$14822	\$6574	—	1264
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60316</b>	<b>\$52271</b>	<b>\$77104</b>	<b>\$43785</b>	<b>\$74540</b>	<b>\$35222</b>	<b>4426</b>	<b>5623</b>

*The gift of good* **Healthy Living**  
*health...*

By Susan Malloy, RN

**H**appy New Year to each of you. I trust 2009 will be filled with the simpler things of life that help us focus on what's truly important, our family, friends, and most important, our GOD and church family. This past year was filled with tragedy, illness, stress, and financial hardship; and yet God is here willing and more than able to assist us in making wise choices and provide for our needs in unexpected ways if we will humble ourselves and ask.

Hopefully, one of the goals for this new year will be to continue to find ways to improve your health and wellness. Even small changes can add up, so pick and choose the components for your plan of action and set it in motion. Perhaps starting to walk 30 minutes a day is one of them. Start with increments of 15 minutes twice a day. Build up over time to walking at least 30-45 minutes every day. It will strengthen your muscles and your bones, improve your circulation, boost your mood and reduce your stress level.

Another recommendation is to limit your sweets and white flour consumption. Let's face it, we all indulge too much in that and it is proven by the increasing number of Pre Diabetes and Diabetes sufferers. This is a disease that can be prevented, and if not, will wreak havoc on your body in multiple ways. Would you believe that one way to prevent this is to be sure to eat a healthy breakfast?

When our bodies get out of balance...from

eating too many of the wrong things, the result is our hormones and neurotransmitters—messenger molecules of the brain and nervous system (which are involved in our every bodily function) - become altered. These hormones and brain messenger chemicals must work together to keep everything in balance. Neurotransmitters promote communication to your cells, organs and tissues, but they must be properly nourished to accomplish this. They allow us to move our arms and legs. They are essential to our wellbeing in many ways. When we flood our bodies with too much sugar and white flour as well as other less than healthy choices, it disturbs the flow of these neurotransmitters and can modify the way signals are sent. It can and will lead to everything from aging, anxiety, brain aging, depression, attention deficit disorder to high blood pressure, heart disease, cancer, dementia and more. "We are fearfully and wonderfully made."

The good news is that this can be prevented but we must become mindful of what we put in our mouth and that our body was designed to move. If we practice New habits, some of the old "New Year's Resolutions" will happen automatically like weight loss, improved overall health and well being. Here's to a Year full of New beginnings and Wonderful Results.

God Bless,  
Susan

**A Little Bit Country..."**

Drop on by the Country Western Service at 5:00 pm on Sunday. These spirited worship services are led by our own "One in the Spirit" Band, with Rev. Bob Deits giving the message. On the last Sunday of each month, music is led by "The Housers and Gang," featuring the cowboy touch of Ron and Chris Houser and the talented Tara Houser Jones on fiddle. The Country Service meets in the Koinonia Room of the Education Building.

**"...and a Little Bit Rock-n-Roll"**

At 10:50 am every Sunday, GCUMC's Praise Band, "Uncommon Grace" leads the music for the Praise and Worship service. This service features music that is heard on Christian radio. It is an uplifting, spirit-filled experience set to a rock-n-roll beat. Rev. Fred Steinberg gives the message. The Praise Service meets in the Koinonia Room of the Education Building.





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 any of you who have not participated in the past will join us in this endeavor by buying and using the these 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 Center in the east narthex after the service 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.



### 3rd Saturday

#### Coffee House & Open Mic Returns!

*Sponsored by the 10:50 am Praise Worship*

**January 23 7:00 pm**

**In the Koinonia Room**

**Do you sing, play an instrument, write poetry or prose, do stand-up comedy or improve? Whatever your talent, come on and share it with us.**

**Don't think you have talent? Don't worry! We need spectators too! Come on out on the 3rd Saturday and join in the fellowship and fun. Refreshments are served.**

## The "Church Lady?" Hardly! Women and the UMC

*From your local representative for the Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW), Suzanne Jacobson. COSROW aims to ensure that the church benefits from the wisdom, life experience, and perspectives of women.*

### United Methodist Women

The organization we now know as the United Methodist Women (UMW) carry on a legacy of the women's missionary societies of eight denominations. There is a rich history of giving that began in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1784. These roots carry through the development of Women's Foreign Missionary Societies of the Methodist Protestant Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, The United Brethren in Christ, The United Evangelical Church, the Evangelical Church, and The Methodist Church (with parallel development in the Evangelical United Brethren Church). When the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church united to become the United Methodist Church in 1968 this history of women's missionary work formed a strong foundation for today's United Methodist Women.

The UMW was instrumental in supporting women as they worked toward gaining Full Clergy Rights. In 1866, Helenor M. Davison was ordained a deacon by the Indiana Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church. In 1894 Sarah Dickey was voted full clergy rights by the United Brethren. In 1920, the Methodist Episcopal Church officially extended the local preacher's license to women through the *Book of Discipline*. In 1956, Maud Keister Jensen became the first woman granted full clergy rights in the Methodist Church and, in 1968, women were affirmed full clergy rights by the new United Methodist Church.

Women have continued to make strides in the United Methodist Church. In 1980, Marjorie Matthews was the first woman elected bishop and, in 1984, two more women achieved bishop status. One of them, Leontine Kelly, was the first black female bishop of the church. In 2005, the United Methodist Church in Germany elected Rosemarie Wenner as the first woman bishop outside the United States.

On July 23, 2008, history was made once again. Rev. Joaquina Filipe Nhanala was elected the first female United Methodist bishop in Africa.

On a local church level, the UMW is active in many areas, ranging from scholarship programs for the annual School of Mission and supporting missionaries outside the US to fellowship groups, mission oriented groups and education support groups.

*To find out what our local United Methodist Women are up to, look for the UMW page in this newsletter.*



## 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."*



**T**he word **January** comes from ancient mythology. It is sheer myth but it was held that Janus, the Greek and Roman god of the gates could see in both directions at the same time. While we don't put any stock in the old myth it might do us all a lot of good in this new month and new year to look back over this past year. We do not create for ourselves a lot of positive living if our whole encounter with life is in the past but we can do ourselves a lot of good if we reflect and learn from the lessons of the past. These lessons from the past can move us toward positive reinforcement of our lives for the future.

Personally, I am not a person who makes New Year's resolutions. But, I do from time to time reflect about and upon what has happened in the past. Reflection and the New Year give one the opportunity to change direction, chart a new path and lay down a new course for one's life. This new direction takes **self**

**will** and a **strong belief** that with God's help we can change. "God is our ever present help," not only in times of trouble but when we need strength for daily living and for renewed faith. Paul wrote, "*I can do all things through Christ who gives me the daily strength*".

Let us all go through a period of self examination and spiritual resolve to move to the higher calling that Christ has for each of us in the more abundant life.



### Confirmation Classes for Children

Parents will be receiving letters regarding the confirmation classes for the children who have reached the sixth grade. Upon completion of the program, children are candidates for Church Membership. These classes will teach about Christian Doctrine, Church history and the Methodist Church. This class will also deal with the responsibilities of church membership, our call to social outreach, and most important, our growth in grace through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If you are interested in having your child be in the confirmation class please contact me at the church, telephone number 982-3776.





# Youth Ministries

*With Heather Rodenberg*

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



### Dessert Night

The youth will be having their dessert night on January 25th from 7 to 8 pm. All are invited to come and watch a media presentation from the mission trip and hear about the up and coming mission trip.



### Parents

There will be no youth group the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup>.



### Youth Sock Mission

Our youth raised enough money for 572 pairs of socks for children for Christmas. Way to go GUYS N GIRLS!!  
You Rock!

# Youth Sunday

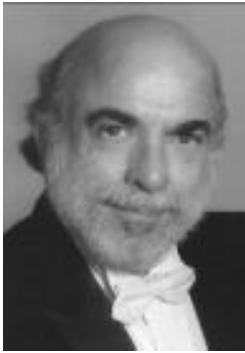
January 11<sup>th</sup>, the youth will be leading Sunday Service. Join us for worship at 8 am, 9:30 am and 10:50 am and see what the youth have to give.



Donate to Youth Mission Trip. It's tax deductible and goes to serving others.

- 1 Share = \$400
- 1/2 Share = \$200
- 1/4 Share = \$100

Please mark Youth Mission when



## Music Notes

**W**elcome 2009! This is a year that promises change, new things, another chance to “make things right”, another opportunity for us to continually strive to be the best that we can be, and to help others as we can. It is also a time of reflection – to remember those who have helped us on our journey of faith, those special blessings others have given us, and certainly all the many gifts we have received and continue to receive from God our Father.

This is also a time for thanks, and I thank God every day for calling me to Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, for **Mary Ann Warren** who, uh, “encouraged” me to consider this church as a place of employment and so much more. Those of you who know Mary Ann, my predecessor, know what I mean! J

I also thank the Chancel Choir, Chancel Ringers, Youth Handbell Team, **David Ballard**, our Associate Director of Music, Uncommon Grace, One in the Spirit, the Housers, soloists, instrumentalists, Sacred Dancers and everyone who so freely gave of their time and effort to participate in our Christmas Concerts, Christmas Eve Services and provided the special experiences during worship and other events throughout the year. Next time you see any of these folks, tell them how much you appreciate their efforts!

Thanks also for my boss, **Pastor Fred Steinberg**, who consistently gives incredibly inspiring and challenging sermons and gives incredible support to the staff and volunteers of the this church. My profound thanks to **Dottie House**, our Choral Librarian who spends many hours each week keeping our choral library, choirs, and myself up to date and organized! This is indeed a big job! My appreciation goes out to our Chancel Choir Section Leaders, **Sue Mott**, soprano, **Mary Catherine Myers**, alto, **Gary Ackerson**, tenor, and **Larry Graham**, bass for their leadership, keeping in touch with members of their sections and helping us to make the Choir experience fun, positive and efficient. Big thanks to **Carol Linedback**, our Choir President for her outstanding leadership and being my friend whom I can call on for advice, which I do often! My great appreciation to **Marty Robison** for many things. She is our “3<sup>rd</sup>” pianist, has a great solo voice, has directed for me while on

vacation, has directed many times for sectional rehearsals and is always willing to help when she can. Marty is a great asset to our choir!

My biggest thanks has to go to the two best accompanists God has created in **Linda Jones** and **Nancy Virden**! Both are incredibly talented musicians and can virtually play anything – without complaints! Very rare! Linda has taken upon herself a new journey in learning the organ and has done very well! In addition to being a fabulous pianist, Nancy is one of the most fun, creative people I know, and really keeps me on my toes! Indeed, these two are incredible blessings to our church in addition to our choir and myself!

We have two exciting performances in our *Performing Arts Series* for January. First, the internationally renowned **Legacy Quartet** will perform for us again on **Sunday, January 25 at 3:00 PM**. This male gospel quartet is truly outstanding! Every time they sing for us, they completely fill the Sanctuary. Doors will open at 2:15 – come early to get a seat, not just a good seat, but a seat! Second is a benefit concert for the Gold Canyon United Methodist Food Bank performed by **Mary Lynn Preiss**, star of musical theater, a resident of Gold Canyon, and a member of our church. She will perform in concert on **Friday, January 30, at 7:30 PM**. Both concerts are open to the public. There is no charge as we well take a free will offering. We do ask everyone who comes to please bring a non-perishable food item per person for the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church Food Bank. Our *Performing Arts Series* is a great way to introduce our church to your friends and neighbors. We do *not* charge a fee or have tickets. The reason being I want everyone who can come to come, especially those who otherwise couldn’t come due to financial limitations. We do have to pay for our performers, but, through the grace of God, there are enough people who are able and do donate to our free will offerings to allow for those who cannot. I see this as Christianity at work today in our church.

God’s blessings and all good things for you in this New Year!

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

We continue to thank you for your donations of pet food and money to purchase pet food for our FOOD BANK clients. There are more requests with our present economy as it is these days.

We love you, Hattie and Muffin Rhymes

**Sympathies:** The family of Helen Elsea, upon her death; The family of Bill Geddes, upon his death; Jim Jeffers, upon the death of his mother, Winifred; Harmon Leonard, upon the death of his wife, Joey; Pat McMann, upon the death of her father; The family of Milt Manoukian, upon his death; Gloria Sheridan, upon the death of her mother and the families & friends of the above.

**Concerns and/or Continued Prayers:** Bill Albright (Monty & Gary Gingrich's cousin), Barbara Baker, David Baker, Patti Baker, Bauman family, Nancy Binting, Chris Bisted, Pat Burgesser, Bob Burgi, Michelle Cassella, Laurie Christy, Pat Colmer (Sharyn Bennett's mother), Bruce Conley, Jeanette Cook (Marian Bonestell's sister-in-law), Peggy Cousins, Kathy DeAngelis, Nathaniel Delaney, Roger Dickey, Theresa Dunphy, Ritchie Erikson, Claudia Freeman (Ron Walker's cousin), Patti Gerardi, Ross Hacker, Paulette Hall, Bill Hanes, George Hayes (Jeff Hayes Dad), Dennis Heil, Gloria Hines, Clarence Hodges, Tina Ingram, Roy Jones, Wanda Katzman, Kristi Keast, Dora Lou Keast, Katherine Klein, Peter Koch, Phyllis Krebs, Jim & Betty Kremer, Sharon LeMar, Caroline Long, Larry Long, Jeanette Lunstead, Angie McCormick, Pat McCormick, Lloyd McNeece, Bob Mahlandt, Melissa Minatree (Michelle Cassella's sister), Jerry & Addie Muratore, Rich Nielsen (Bill Nielsen's brother), Pat Osbakken, Merri Phelps, Birney Powell, Louann Rodenberg (Heather Rodenberg's mom), Bob Rosenstein, Virgil Scantlin, Gladys, Dave & Brian Schafranski, Kathy Serrine, Michael Sheridan, Becky Spencer, Dorothy Stewart (Bev Criswell's mom), Art Swanson, Kasey Thompson, Dave Traugh, Nancy Traugh, Emma-

gene Turner, Ted Vermillion, Edie Vivani, Kathy Weigel, Diane Werk, Sandy Westlund, Grace Wroebel 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, Bob & Eleanor Chesney, Mark & Donna Cleary, Craig Cmar (Marines), Bob & Marcia Cole, Weldon & Ellie Conger, Frank, Carol & Jason Crosswhite, Jenny & Bob Crow, Clifford & Lorraine Davidson, Chuck Dickinson, 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, George & Beth Hayes (Jeff Hayes' parents), 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, 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

*Continued on next page*

*Within the Church Family, Continued*

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.

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#### **MIND MENDERS SUPPORT GROUP**

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.*

#### **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.

#### **DESIGNATED GIFTS FROM MEMORIAL-FUNERAL SERVICES**

We are not aware of any gifts at this time.



### **“ LAUGH A LITTLE” with Pastor Hu**

#### **LONG-WINDED PREACHER**

A lady was visiting a church one Sunday. Everything was fine until the preacher started to speak. He went on and on and while the sermon seemed to go on forever, many in the congregation fell asleep. In an effort to stay awake, the woman pinched herself, twisted her fingers and counted floor tiles. Finally, the preacher wound down and the ordeal was over.

Feeling somewhat guilty about her lack of interest, she walked up to a very sleepy looking gentleman, extended her hand in greeting, and said, “Hello, I’m Gladys Dunn.” The gentleman replied, “You ain’t kidding, lady! I’m glad it’s done too!”

#### **GOD THE PAINTER**

A little boy was spending the weekend with his grandmother after a trying week in kindergarten. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful. His grandmother remarked, “Don’t you think it looks like a beautiful painting? Maybe God painted this just for you!”

The boy said, “Well, if so, he did it all with just his left hand.” This confused his grandmother, and she asked him, “What makes you say God did this with his left hand?” “Well,” said Bobby, “We learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God’s right hand!”



Dear Church Family,

We want to thank you for prayers, cards, memorials and love following the death of my husband Jim and our father.

Hu, Wendy and Fred were so kind to visit our home and pray with us so many times in Jim’s last days. It meant so much to us all.

The memorial service was so comforting. Pastor Hu, along with our nephew Rev. Ron Barnett made it very special for us. Mary Lynn’s beautiful solos, and Linda and Nancy at the piano, contributed so much to the service. We also want to thank Ron Walker and all the volunteers who prepared and served the lovely luncheon after the service.

How blessed we are to be a part of this wonderful church!

With Love,  
Lorna Hartman, Susan, Doug and Family

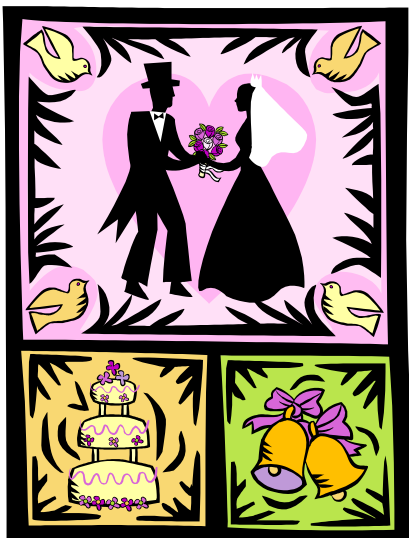
# January



# Birthdays

## New Year Babies

Marjorie Kimball	1	Myra Berry	14	Darrell Dinges	23
Doris Kingery	1	Karen Mogharbel	15	Justin Ballard	23
Sheila Zieglowsky	1	Roger Rasmussen	15	Abed Mogharbel	24
Kay Bennett	1	Kay Johnson	16	Jim Ritenour	25
Marietta Doan	2	Peggy Williamson	16	Joanne Cate	25
Brikel Aguilar	2	Kathryn Hughes	16	Herb Grills	25
Nancy Russell	3	Ian Jacobson	17	Carpenter, Tim	25
Ron Van Englehoven	4	Tory Gingrich	17	Jaci Allensworth	26
Lisa Sharp	4	Lowell Reiners	18	Phyllis Gray	26
Don Wilson	4	Julie Johnson	19	Gene Johnson	26
Sonia Holbrook	4	Nancy Trout	19	Art Gibbs	27
Lloyd Potter	5	Lauren Collins-Mitchell	19	Reg Head	27
Ruth Clymer	5	Louise Broadley	20	Roger Sinkler	28
Nancy Virden	5	Bob Bonestell	20	Patti Baker	29
Robin Alton	5	Marvin Boles	20	Bill Pedigo	30
Logan, Ron	5	Shelby Olson	20	Linda Schow	30
David Patterson	6	Rita Hawkins	21	Terry Bose	31
Brenda Oldham	6	Jim Burth	21	Nancy Russell	31
Pat Calihan	8	Sharan Norin	21	Linda Anderson	31
Troy Matthews	11	LeRoy Johnson	21		
Nicholas Saathoff	11	Kellie Mendez	21		
David Osborn	12	Jerry Keyser	22		
Charlie Palmer	12	Rachel Barnes	23		
Gary Palmer	13	Edith Viviani	23		



# Anniversaries

Howard & Helen Flowers	6
Bob & Michelle Pappalardo	9
Don & Norma Gaulke	10
Gene & Darlene Huffman	15
Jim & Kathy Serrine	17
David & Carol Ballard	18
Joe & Ginny Johnson	19
Mike & Bonnie Weaver	19
Mel & Mary Kilbo	20
Joe & Rosalie Eubanks	21
Gordon & Linda Lofgren	29
Neta & Ward McCleary	31



*The United Methodist Women includes all women of the church. We are dedicated to fellowship, friendship and service. We welcome all GCUMC women.*

### UMW Meeting Schedule

Executive Board Meeting  
Monday, January 5, 2009  
9:00 am

Room 101/102 Education Bldg.

Unit Meeting  
Saturday, January 10, 2009  
9:45 a.m.

Program: "Food and Faith: Where Would Jesus Sit?"

Room 101/102 Education Bldg.

### Who's at the Table?

There's a great tradition of sharing meals as a form of fellowship in United Methodist Women. But answering the question "Who's at the Table?" in a broader way in today's world is complex and reveals great divisions in our society: divisions of age, race, income, ethnicity, education and access to health care, to name a few. As United Methodist Women members answer the question, we live into our call to be in mission with the world. We are called to be a supportive fellowship, and practice and share a life-giving and justice-seeking faith. We are moved to critically analyze things as they are and advocate for change when necessary.

This month's program helps participants seek and discover who they are as individuals and who they can be as the body of Christ. As healed and wholesome people, participants take their seats at God's table of grace and hospitality, offering others the same hospitality, which God in Christ extends to us in sheer mercy, generosity and steadfast love. Food and Faith: Where Would Jesus Sit? Join us.

### The Heart of Women

Saturday January 7

11:00 am in the Sea of Galilee Room

Where friends enjoy an hour of respite from the work-a-day world. Bring your favorite teacup and invite a friend.



### St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

Maybe you noticed. The St. Andrew's collection boxes were removed during the holiday season to make room for our church's Christmas Angel Mission project. The boxes are in place once again (with a list of items needed right on the box); and it is once again time to start collecting items to deliver to Nogales in March.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic's mission is to provide free medical treatment to disabled children of impoverished parents from Mexico. Thousands of volunteers make it possible for hundreds of children to be seen or treated on clinic day the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month. These children have serious medical problems including Spina Bifida, Down's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, orthopedic, vision, and speech and hearing conditions.

On a typical clinic day the clinic is buzzing with activity. Doctors are examining children. Medical students are observing. Interpreters are conveying messages in Spanish to parents. Volunteers are comforting children and parents, handling patient records, and making lunch for patients, families, and volunteers. Weary children and parents wait patiently in very long lines waiting to be seen.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic has been a mission project of GCUMC United Methodist Women for many years. Your donations and contributions help to keep the center running.

Give from your heart. . . and Thank You.

### 2009 Women's Retreat

What to do..... or not to do...that is the question we face looking ahead to the 2009 Women's Retreat. Is there an area you would like to oversee. . .program, fun activity, closing worship, music, etc.? We could use your knowledge and expertise. Please call Diana Linton (480-229-0706) if you can attend the first planning meeting for the 2009 Women's Retreat Wednesday, January 7 at 4 pm. The more ladies involved, the better the experience for everyone. And, if you don't think this planning phase is for you, I encourage you to participate by prayerfully lifting up the planning committee and hope this fun event offers a good dose of refreshment, reinvigoration, and inspiration for the women in our church.

### Coming January 21, 2009

#### Beth Moore Bible Study

Sign Up Today

Ladies, get ready for the updated version of A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place, an 11-week Bible Study by author, Beth Moore. It is about God coming to dwell with man. You will come to love the Old Testament! If you are a fan of HGTV, you are going to love this. So, put on your construction hat and come help build the Tabernacle; all the while discovering the parallel's of the Tabernacle's building and your life as a chosen vessel of God. A fresh word awaits you. Questions? Call Diana Linton at 229-0706.

Sponsored by United Methodist Women

## COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

During 2008 our program to provide communion for the homebound and patients in local care facilities had some request for our service but less than we anticipated at the outset of the program. However, we have volunteers ready and willing to carry the communion elements to the homebound and patients in local care facilities and hospitals.

All volunteers participating in this program are trained communion servers. The elements are blessed and consecrated by Pastor Fred during the regular communion service on Communion Sunday.

We will be available to provide this service on January 4, 2009 upon request. Please call the church office, 982-3776, or Grover Wallace, 982-8755, with any questions regarding communion service available on January 4th or on any future Communion Sunday.



# STEPHEN MINISTRY®

*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

The single CHRISTMAS gift for ALL of US IS FORGIVENESS! The gift must, however, be accepted. NOT AN EASY TASK!! We can begin our acceptance during our annual celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Sinfulness builds walls of presumed alienation that are difficult to abolish. Acknowledging the wrong and speaking of it with a Stephen Minister can restore one's relationship with God and our fellow humans. In your discussions with a Stephen Minister about whatever wrong you may have done, you will not be rejected or chastised even though what you reveal may be patently shocking. A Stephen Minister is there to help. He or she will take time to listen and will really help you fully unload any burdens of guilt, rejection, failure and sin you have. Only then will the gift of absolution have been accepted. IT STARTS AT CHRISTMAS—BE JOYFUL!!!

## 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.

*Let us*

*remember to pray daily*

## Living & Dying Class

Classes will begin January 27 or 29 depending on popular demand. This six week course will meet from 10—11:30 am. If you are interested, please sign up in the Narthex so we can see which day will work for the most people. This is more than a class for Seniors, young adults will find help for dealing with their parents and end of life issues.

Retired UMC Minister and university professor Dr. John Phillips will lead the class. John taught in this field at the University of Puget Sound and also to adults in the community. This class is very helpful in learning how to live and cope with grief.

Some of the areas covered are:

- Accepting our death
- Dealing with fear, denial and guilt.
- Kubler Ross's five stages of dying.
- Preparation for our death through Living Wills and Durable Power of Attorney.
- Right to die issues.
- God's role in death and our faith in all this.
- How shall we live knowing we shall die?

All this plus any other areas the class wishes to discuss.

## International Missions

"The world is my parish." —John Wesley

By Jackie Douglass

We are planning an International Missions program for March 7, 2009. We will hold a 'no-host' potluck that evening with participants bringing international dishes to share, representative of individuals' backgrounds, or international foods for which you simply 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: "After The Wave" is a Thailand based non-profit charity established to help the disadvantaged students at the Bang Sak School receive all necessary support for improving their lives by furthering their education; assisting the congregation of a new Christian Church in Wangshi, China, who are currently building and equipping a new sanctuary; ongoing support of a mission project in Iquique which is in the Northern part of Chile.

We are very fortunate to have joining us as presenters, two people with a depth and breadth of experience in the field of international missions, Stanley Moore and John Cogswell.

**Stanley Moore's** call to missions began one night in his room, during his senior year of high school when he felt the call to be a missionary, specifically an agricultural missionary. The words of Jeremiah 1:4-10 touched him deeply and oriented him towards a vocation he never dreamed he would enter.

After completing a Masters degree at the University of California and a year of seminary at the Pacific School of Religion, he traveled to Chile to serve at the El Vergel Agricultural Institute near Angol. 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".

In 2000 the Moores retired to the Pilgrim Place Retirement Community in Claremont, CA. They have four adult children and ten grandchildren.

**John Cogswell** is the president of Cogswell Design Corp. and a Machine Designer dealing with printing, binding, converting and packaging industries. He 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 been married 46 years. They have two daughters, four granddaughters and one grandson. They currently live in Arlington Heights, IL (A northwest suburb of Chicago). John's only sister, Ruthmary Anderson, lives in Gold Canyon and is a member of Gold Canyon United Methodist Church.

John and 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.

**More details of the program will follow in the February newsletter, but mark this date, March 7<sup>th</sup>, in your calendars now so you can be a part of this interesting and inspiring evening!**

### **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.gb-gm-umc.org/umcor/>



# Volunteers Do Make a Difference

GCUMC  
982-3776

Jane Hayes, Volunteer Coordinator

## Gold Canyon United Methodist Family Achieves a Christmas Mission Success!

**More than 30 Families with 100+ children received  
over 500 gifts and holiday meals for all.**



Thanks to all of you who joined hands with me by donating your time, money, gifts, food, shoe boxes, wrapping paper, gift boxes, and love with our needy community. Your generosity is an amazing blessing. I so appreciate all you have given this year. We can be most proud of our accomplishments.



After shopping for over 100 pairs of shoes, I have a whole new appreciation for personal shoppers and learned a valuable lesson that shoes are very important to kids and their families.

**AND AS DR. SUESS SAID SO WELL**  
**(and you proved him to be correct)**  
***“You have brains in your head.  
You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself.  
Any direction you  
choose.”***



### Habitat for Humanity

Our church is a member of the Superstition Coalition of Churches which will be sponsoring the building of a Habitat for Humanity house in Apache Junction. The build will be starting on January 10, 2009. As a member of the coalition, we will be helping provide funding and volunteer support for the build. If you are interested in making a donation, working on the building of the house, or helping provide lunch for the workers, please contact Jerry and Ruth Ann Thacker at 480-982-9173.

### Volunteers of the Month For December

Dr. Valerie Sheridan  
Bob Norin  
Laurie Christy  
Calder Nolan

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

1. Custodial Assistant
2. Information Table
3. Office Assistant
4. Hospitality Team
5. Greeter
6. Funeral Dishes
7. Sunday School

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_





**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

**Non-Profit Organization**  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Apache Junction, Arizona  
 Permit No. 64

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, East Mesa New Church Start	Julius Keller
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 Rodenborg
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.*

†8:15 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*

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**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*