



FROM OUR PASTORS



Rev. Fred A. Steinberg, Senior Pastor

“THANKS... AND AN APPOINTMENT”

Beth and I want to express our heartfelt thanks for the beautiful retirement celebration and the generous gifts we received in March. We were deeply touched by your kindness, thoughtful words, and love surrounding us during this special moment in our lives. The retirement party was more than we could have ever imagined. Every smile, every memory shared, and every thoughtful gesture reminded us just how blessed we are to be part of this church family. The gifts—both personal and meaningful—are treasured reminders of our time together in ministry.

Serving as your pastor has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I am humbled by your generosity and grateful for the years we’ve shared in faith, worship, and service. As I retire on June 30, please know that I carry a heart full of love and appreciation for each of you.

With my retirement comes the appointment of a new Associate Pastor on July 1, 2025. Here is the District Superintendent’s letter announcing Pastor Jeremy’s appointment:

Dear Members and Friends of Gold Canyon United Methodist Church:

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

After a time of consultation and prayer, Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut intends to appoint Jeremy Brigham to serve as associate pastor of Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, less than full time, effective July 1, 2025. Jeremy has finished seminary and will be licensed as a local pastor at this year’s annual conference.

Jeremy received his call to ministry as a member here at Gold Canyon and is already preparing to serve less than full time as the pastor at St. Paul’s UMC, Globe. He will use his gifts of compassion and care for the community to walk alongside the people of Gold Canyon as he preaches at the Sunday afternoon service. Jeremy is excited to be making this transition to full time ministry as a pastor in the UMC.

The Bishop and Cabinet are praying for you during this time of transition. We are thankful for the work you will continue doing together as the people of God.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Melissa Rynders, East District Missional Strategist and Superintendent

Thank you again for making this transition so special. I will always be praying for you, cheering you on, and giving thanks to God for the wonderful people of this congregation!

Grace and peace,

Contact Us

6640 S. Kings Ranch Road
Gold Canyon, AZ 85118
www.GoldCanyonUMC.org
Church Office 480.982.3776



Rev. David J. Harriss, Senior Pastor Designate

IN HONOR OF ALL MOTHERS

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. –John 10:27

My father once told me, No one will ever love you like your mother. He was right about that! Mothers always have a special place in children's hearts. There is so much that I learned from my mother that I still honor today. As a young adult, I can remember seeing the East and West Berlin Wall coming down. My mother was excited that the country would be united. This was a mark of socialism coming to an end in East Germany. I can remember my mother saying, "It is exciting that both countries will be unified." This was done after much protesting from West Germany. And then, she gave me a statement that I will never forget. She said, David, remember this, everybody has a right to talk, and everybody has a right to listen. I truly believe that my love for social justice stemmed from these words from my mother.



On Sunday, May 11th, 2025, we honor mothers and the Christian home by celebrating Mother's Day. We honor all mothers on this day. We honor mothers that now have grandchildren and great grandchildren. We honor mothers who are no longer with their children. We honor mothers that are now divorced, single parents, and parents of adopted children. All mothers are honored on this special day.

In John 10: 22-30, the Jewish opposition asks that Jesus to prove to them that he is the Messiah. They say to Jesus, If you are the Messiah, just tell us plainly. I have always hated the idea of having to prove myself to demonstrate my worth as a person, an employee, or a professional. Many people of color feel the pressure to prove themselves in a vocation or in an employment. Women also feel the burden of having to prove themselves in a vocation or in a place of employment. I have always been suspicious of anyone who wanted me to prove myself. In my opinion, this has always been a condescending attitude toward others.

Jesus tells the Jewish opposition that his sheep follow his voice (his teachings, his instruction, his methods). On Mother's Day, we do not celebrate mothers for any personality trait, employment achievements, or status in their community. We celebrate the channeling of Christ's love through women, everywhere. Mothers that have demonstrated at Christ centeredness by being kind, compassionate, understanding, and loving to their family and their community are worthy of honor. On Mother's Day/ the Celebration of the Christian Home, we celebrate Christ's love which has been channeled through mothers. Mothers have shown us acts of mercy and compassion in this world. We honor mothers who have placed candles on our birthday cakes. We honor mothers who have bandaged our wounds. We honor mothers who have held our hands when we needed comfort and love. We honor mothers who stayed at home from work to take care of us when we were sick. We honor mothers who have nurtured us through kindness, support, love, compassion and mercy.

Jesus tells us that his sheep follow his voice. In virtually every church that I have been appointed to, women were the backbone of the church. Women's spiritual groups were always well-attended, and women were the primary population in worship service. I have even heard a statement that says, "God could not be everywhere and therefore, he made mothers." We owe our mothers a huge debt of gratitude. On Sunday, May 11th, we honor all mothers. To all mothers out there, thank you for being who you are!

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

- 4/27–Finding Meaning & Purpose
- 5/4 –Vital Need for Morality & Ethics
- 5/18 –Nature & Existence
of Death / Life Everlasting

Spiritual Exploration



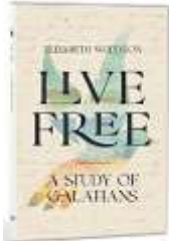


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Pastor Katharine Keller

"...Growing disciples of Jesus Christ and living the Word."

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY



Live Free: Everyone longs for freedom – the ability to live life to the fullest, unhindered by difficulty and pain. In this 8-session, verse-by-verse study on the book of Galatians, author and Bible teacher Elizabeth Woodson reveals how it is in the gospel alone that we gain what we desire – freedom from sin and freedom to experience the abundant life Jesus offers. Please join us on Wednesdays, beginning Wednesday June 18 through August 6th at 10am. Please sign up now, so that Pastor Katharine can order books (\$25) for each participant.

FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT



Ladies, be sure to save the date for our Women's Fall Retreat themed, *"Come to the Table,"* set for November 14-16 at the Franciscan Retreat Center, Scottsdale.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP



Pastor Katharine is looking for a few good men and women who love children to be leaders in different roles for this week. This experience can only be offered if we have enough adults or teens. It is important that you let her know right away, since orientation is needed very soon. If you have any questions, please contact her (ladiebug1214@gmail.com or call the Church Office). There is a place for your gifts ... games, snacks, storytelling, small group leader!

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL IN IRELAND



I consider myself quite fortunate to have participated in the Community of Spiritual Formation in Ireland in April. It was a traveler's adventure - all in the best way - the weather was complete sunshine - a rarity, even for the inhabitants- the people of the land were friendly, I

was able to visit the Book of Kells in Dublin, and delighted in riding the trains.



From that aspect alone, the time away was good, but it was the actual retreat at the Drumalis Retreat Center (formerly a convent) with believers from Ireland, England and Scotland, plus a few of us from America, that created a safe sanctuary for sharing, worshiping and learning. Our schedule was pretty much planned from 8 a.m. - 9:30 pm, however, there were still intervals where we could stroll the stunning grounds, go down to the sea, visit downtown Larne and have great community time. Your pastor reveled in the newness of the area, the diversity of deep thinking participants and excellent leadership. A terrific way to begin Holy Week!



PALM SUNDAY IN PICS

The children and some adults processed joyfully with palms waving at both the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services and the children reenacted Jesus' procession into Jerusalem during Sunday School. This is always a happy time of celebration before our more somber thoughts on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday...BUT SUNDAY'S A COMIN!



CHANGEOVER ZONE

On Sunday, March 30, the church witnessed the passing of the leadership baton from Pastor Fred Steinberg to Pastor David Harriss, who will become GCUMC's next Senior Pastor as of July 1st. The baton was passed through every congregation to signify we are now all in the Changeover Zone.



EASTER WEEK IN PHOTOS

Good Friday...





KIDS KORNER

We had a great group of families who served at Feed My Starving Children in Mesa in April! Thanks goes to Stefanie Santangelo for organizing the event that helped package food for the hungry around the world. The word is they had a great time assisting in this ministry to those in need.



Congratulations to Riechia Ralston on her well-deserved retirement! Riechia served as the church's Office Administrator for the past 10 years and is going to be missed greatly in the office. Thank you, Riechia, for all you have given of yourself to benefit our worship experience!



Cindy Hassoun, a long time member, has joined our office staff as our Volunteer Coordinator and we welcome her with open arms! Cindy is as sharp as a tack and is already fitting in well. Please introduce yourself to her (and sign up as a volunteer too!)





GLOBAL MISSIONS

Pastor Katharine Keller



GIRLS MATTER PERIOD



Girls Matter Period will serve 2,000 girls and women in South Africa May 8-20! Local volunteers have packed over 700 reusable hygiene kits, and hundreds more are being assembled in Tempe, Minnesota, and South Africa. The education

and menstrual products we provide make it possible for girls to stay in school for 3-5 years and more likely to graduate and fulfill their potential. Thanks to all of the GCUMC volunteers who have stepped up to help us the past months... it has been amazing!

Please pray for our team members and Blessman International staff as they prepare, travel, and work in South Africa. Pray even more for the girls and women we serve that they will experience the love of Christ and be blessed.

Our GCUMC workshops continue throughout the year as we prepare for the next outreaches. Join us April 24th and May 15th, in the Barnabas Room from 9am—noon. Sewing and non-sewing volunteers are needed.

Contact Tammy Plaski at (920) 779-0359 or www.GirlsMatterPeriod@gmail.com for more info).

RICE & BEANS

We are planning a week of ministry at Rice and Beans in Costa Rica January 10-17, 2026. If you are interested in this mission trip, please contact Pastor Katharine and she can send you a Team Manual to look over. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Katharine in the Church Office.



PASTORAL CARE

Our Pastors are on-call to reach out to members and friends of Gold Canyon UMC. If you know someone in our congregation who is hospitalized, ill at home, needs a listening ear and/or prayers of the community, please send an email to GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com, call the Church Office at (480) 982-3776, or contact one of the pastors directly so they can be included on the prayer list.

Rev. Fred A. Steinberg, Senior Pastor
RevStein78@gmail.com / (480) 982-3776

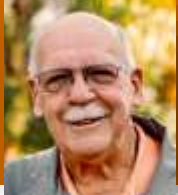
Rev. David J. Harriss, Senior Pastor Designate
DaviJon66@gmail.com / (520) 465-5415

Pastor Katharine Keller, Associate Pastor
LadieBug1214@gmail.com / (480) 888-5411

Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor
GCapen@gmail.com / (919) 357-8474



Caring for others in the GCUMC fellowship of believers is shared by clergy & lay caregivers. In addition to the pastoral staff, trained Lay **Congregational Care Ministers (CCMs)** share a ministry of loving spiritual care: visits, prayer, Holy Communion, music, meals, errands and more. You are invited to join the **Congregational Care Ministry** by contacting the Church Office.



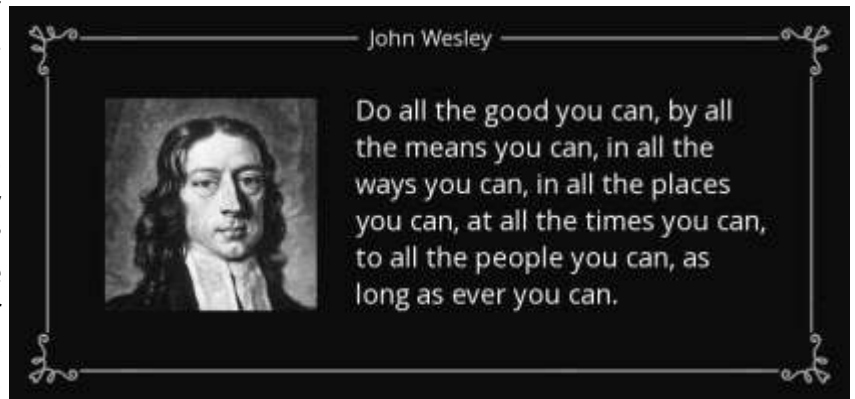
CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor



Biblical scholar Jim Edwards says that Paul, in Romans 5:8, sums up the entire message of the Gospel. Christ died for us. Historically, we see that, yes, “Christ Died,” and then theologically, “for us.” No more remarkable statement has ever been made. We just celebrated Easter, the Risen Christ. He died, and 3 days later, he rose from the dead. We celebrated and danced, sang songs of joy, and heard words of resurrection. We knew the story, we have read the Bible, and it removes the pain and grief of Good Friday when Christ died – for whom?... for us.

The question for us now is: How do we live as Easter People? As people of faith and people who are called to be Christ-like in our daily lives, how do we emulate the risen Christ? Easter People, we know the teachings. We have read the new commandment—love your neighbor as yourself, even your enemies. These are difficult questions for difficult times. Issues of social justice, feeding the hungry, creating affordable housing, creating a future where our children, grandchildren, etc., can grow and live in a world that, through our faith and discipleship, is a world where all people are God’s children.



In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human successes, but on how well we have loved.
- Saint John of the Cross

@EachDayandRepeat

In Paul’s letter to the Galatians 3:26-29, he writes:

“for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.”

We are Easter People, and as Easter People, we shall live for Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again, for whom?... for us. Thanks be to God.



...please send prayer requests to
GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com
or call the Church Office

In Remembrance

We honor the lives and memories of these members and friends, as well as their families and friends who have recently passed...

Jay Daly
Nancy Johnson
Maureen McMartin
William Lineback

Mike Miller
Sandy Sower
Joyce Veysey



YOUTH MINISTRY

Valerie Hammons, Youth Director

"...Growing disciples of Jesus Christ and living the Word."

MEET OUR GRADUATES!

Proverbs 16:9 (NLT). *A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.*

GCUMC Youth group would like to lift up our two high school graduates, who will be presented to our congregation at our church services in either May or June (*date to be determined*), where they will share their hopes and dreams for their futures.



Michael Adams and his family have been with Gold Canyon UMC for many years. Even after moving to Scottsdale, they make the drive to join us on many Sunday mornings!

Maya Harriss is the daughter of Pastor David and his wife, Marisol. She has attended our youth group as she has been able, sharing her time between her high school in Yuma and time with her dad here at Gold Canyon. We are blessed to get to know her!



In June we will be celebrating their past, acknowledge their journeys, mark their rite of passage, and speak of their hopeful futures as they move forward after graduating.

We will be keeping them and their families in our hearts and prayers as we witness the families and their emotional journey and their process to begin to be new kinds of parents to young adults.

This is a great time for these young adults, for their future and ours!

Thank you for your love and support... and most importantly your prayers!

A basket for graduation cards will be at the Welcome Center starting on May 4th if you would like to leave a card of encouragement and prayer.

GCUMC Youth group members are excited to plan and participate in this years' Mission Trip to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota. We are still waiting for our official work assignment, but hoping for a building project. We are looking forward to meeting the people and getting to learn from their culture. We will also be sharing our faith with all whom we encounter during our June 7-14 trip. Thank you to everyone who has donated to make this trip possible.

We'd also like to thank everyone who attended the Youth Shareholders Dinner... we appreciate you!



YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MAY 2025

Tue., 5/1	7pm	Attend Play at AJHS
Sun., 5/4	11am – 12pm	Communion Sunday
	12 – 1:30pm	UMYF (YR)
Sun., 5/11	11am – 12pm	Mother's Day Art (YR)
Sun., 5/18	11am – 12pm	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12 – 1:30pm	Mission Trip Parent meeting and UMYF (YR)
Sun., 5/25	11am – 12pm	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12 – 1:30pm	UMYF (YR)
Sun., 6/1	11am – 12pm	Communion Sunday
	12 – 1:30pm	UMYF (YR)
Sat., 6/7	5:15 am	Meet at AZA Mesa Airport Mission Trip to Cheyenne River Reservation in SD (flight 7am)
Sat., 6/14	1:13 pm	Arrive on return flight at AZA



SCHOLARSHIP MINISTRY



Gold Canyon UMC is pleased to offer a Scholarship Program to our members who qualify for financial assistance. To receive consideration for funds, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Be an active member of Gold Canyon UMC
2. Be a high school or GED graduate, or 18 years old
3. Must complete in detail a GCUMC Scholarship Application Form, and
4. Submit application along with written character references from a non-family member/teacher, and from the Pastor, or Youth Director

Scholarship Application Forms are available from the Church Office and must be submitted to the Office Manager by 4pm on May 30th, 2025 together with corresponding reference letters/materials.

If you would like to speak to a Scholarship Ministry representative about contributing to the program, or would like additional information, please contact the Church Office.

EASTER LILY LIST 2025



Many thanks to all who purchased an Easter Lily(s) in honor of or in memory of loved ones this year (*names below*). They added so much beauty and color to our worship spaces!

NAME	IN MEMORY OF	IN HONOR OF
Anonymous	Carol Ann Gordon	
Bobbie Breuklander	Mother & Daddy	
Bob Burgi		Jenelu Burgi
Mary Butterfield	Jerry Butterfield Michael Butterfield	
Willie Campbell		Jim & Susan Gunn
Karen Chileski	George Chileski	
Dolores Clausen	Family members who have passed	
Lauren Collins-Mitchell	Lee and Foster Collins	
Theresa & Jon Cooke	Helen Oliver Claude & Jackie Cooke	
Doug & Lynn Edney	Our parents & grandparents	
Dawn Gilbreath		Shirley
Susan Gunn	Rachel Gunn Hope Nunemaker	
Judy Hawkins	Tim Dent	Larry Hawkins
Sue & Phil Kench	Family & Friends	
Ron Kohler	Sgt. 1st Class Matthew R. Kohler	
David & Melva Lupton	Mark Lupton	
Lorna Marifjeren	Earl Marifjeren	
Shirley Matthews	Lowell Matthews Troy Matthews	
John & Kathy Nuss	Robert & Evelyn Nuss Merril & Ada Wiedle	
John & Lorayn Perkins		Our family in Michigan
Tammy & Sam Plaski	June Bruss, our mother Grace Plaski, our mother	
Riechia Ralston		Wonderful memories of GCUMC Staff & Congregation
Jan Roller	Don Roller	
Leonard & JoAnn Steckley	Family who have passed	
Carol Thomas	Bud Thomas	
Family of Donna Johnsen		Donna Johnson
Tracie Vanderpan	Monte Eayrs	
Janet Wakefield & Family	Charles Wakefield	
John & Jennifer Wegner	Harold & Vi Wegner Gerald Kraus	
Todd Williams	Doug Williams Doreen Williams	
Tom Wittkopp		Robert & Karen Harris
United Women in Faith		Riechia Ralston





MUSIC NOTES

Dr. Ian Classe, Director of Music Ministries



The heat is on its way! After a lovely Easter, we're well on the way towards Pentecost and the hot weather of an Arizona summer. Many of our winter residents have returned or will be returning to cooler climes, but many of us will be remaining here. All of us working together has made this past season of music making very rewarding, and I want to thank all of you who participated in our music ministries for your continued dedication and support. This goes for all of our groups including the Chancel Choir, Canyon Carillon, Contemporary and Country bands as well as many individuals including our talented accompanists, instrumentalists, and soloists – again, a heartfelt thank you!

While the music ministry winds down a bit in the summer, we'll still be offering our gifts to the summer services and begin preparing for another big season in the fall. Also, we may have some events from time to time so stay tuned.

Upcoming this month, we're hosting a special event on Saturday, May 10 at 11:00 a.m. GCUMC will be hosting the Desert Valley Winds concert band. Desert Valley Winds is a 40-piece ensemble comprised of musicians from throughout the Phoenix metro area purpose-built to encourage interest in music and cultural activities in the surrounding communities. They will present a memorable performance featuring a wide variety of musical styles including patriotic music, Broadway fare, film music, swing, and rock & roll. It's bound to be fun for all ages, don't miss the opportunity to enjoy live music right here in Gold Canyon!

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments about music here at GCUMC, feel free to reach out by phone or email.

Peace and best regards,

Ian

Gold Canyon United Methodist Church
presents
Desert Valley Winds

Desert Valley Winds, a 40-piece concert band, will present a memorable performance featuring a wide variety of musical styles including patriotic, Broadway fare, music from movies, swing and rock.

Fun for all ages! Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy live music!

Gold Canyon United Methodist Church
6640 S. Kings Ranch Road
Free and open to the public
Saturday, May 10th, 11 am to 12 noon

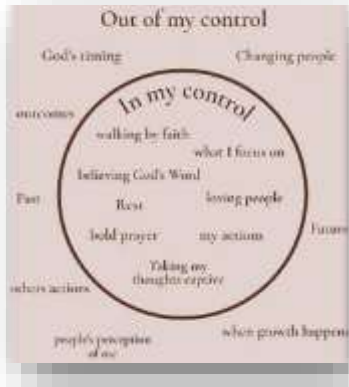
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CARING CORNER

Kim Shroyer

THE MIND'S POWER



My cousin recently shared with me a chart by Christian Author Ashley Morgan Jackson. It depicted Out of My Control and In My Control verbiage. I've seen many versions of this chart through the years, but it's refreshing to see from a Christian

perspective.

Out of My Control includes – God's timing, changing people, outcomes, past, other's actions, future, people's perception of me, and when growth happens. In My Control includes – Walking by faith, what I focus on, believing God's Word, rest, bold prayer, my actions, loving people, and taking my thoughts captive.

For now, let's consider "taking my thoughts captive" and "what I focus on." Those are two very similar, very critical, items on our To Do lists these days. There's lots of material out there on how scripture and neuroscience converge, affirming the power of intentional thinking and how it transforms how we think and live. @thefaithfilledtherapist, on Instagram, describes how Philippians 4:8 - tells us to dwell on what is true, noble and praiseworthy, and why it matters - "And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise." [NLT]:

- Enhances focus – trains the brain for clarity and purpose.
- Reduces cognitive overload – filters distractions to conserve energy.
- Improves emotional well-being – lowers stress by reducing negativity.
- Fosters positivity – builds resilience through gratitude and optimism.
- Encourages healthy thought patterns – breaks fear and worry cycles.

If there were ever a time we should be capable of fixing our sights on such things, one would think it would be immediately following the celebration of the greatest miracle ever, Easter! Jesus' resurrection is all about renewal, new life, a clean slate.

A common theme seems to resonate amongst people I've talked with in the past few years. They're tired. Tired of negativity. Tired of violent movies. Tired of politics. Tired of sad. Tired of mean. Tired of angry. Tired of less than honorable. Now, there's no way to completely avoid all of those, we can't run away from every problem in our lives. But we can choose to look at what Galatians and science tell us – the word of God combined with the brain God gave us.

I believe they still say 21 days is a solid gateway into breaking/creating habits. How about we spend the next 21 days on what's in our control... "taking my thoughts captive" and "what I focus on?" That's really not very long is it? The state of the news in our country was sung about by Anne Murray in 1983 in A Little Good News, and clearly it hasn't gotten better in the past 40+ years. I'm aiming to pass by anything that comes in front of me that isn't a positive human-interest story. If I can't tell from the headline, then I'll skip it. I figure the single-most, significant, positive difference I can make in this world is loving others as Jesus commanded. So right now things like missing most of the news, watching PG movies, not venting about politics, volunteering, spending time outdoors in God's creation, aren't going to affect me in anything but a positive way.

If finding the personal strength to tackle this seems impossible for you, please reach out to one of GCUMC's 4 Pastors, who are adept at listening! They minister to members and friends of Gold Canyon UMC. Please simply call the church office at 480-982-3776 and one of them will respond to your request. After hours, you may call or email one of the pastors directly. You will find their contact information in the bulletin on Sunday morning, (or emailed to you prior to Sunday worship), in the church office or the Pastoral and Congregational Care page of this newsletter.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.~ Romans 12:2 [NLT]



LOCAL MISSIONS & MINISTRIES

SCRIP BUS & VAN FUND



Your continued participation in the SCRIP programs at Bashas and Frys grocery stores who support GCUMC's bus and van programs is so appreciated! It's easy to do... just stop by (or call) the Church Office or visit the Welcome Desk on Sunday if you need help!

When you **Bashas'** shop at any Bashas' store for food or prescriptions and use their rechargeable card that was obtained here at the Welcome Center or the Church Office, GCUMC receives a 6% charity gift from Bashas'.

Go online to link your Fry's VIP Card to their Community Rewards program and choose GCUMC (A#TS438), and they will contribute 3% of your purchases to GCUMC!

they emulate the Eastertide values. We donate quilts to the House of Refuge, who in turn demonstrates acts of kindness and compassion by providing safe transitional housing to families experiencing homelessness. Many

House of Refuge residents arrive with few or no personal belongings, so getting a simple quilt gives them a sense of warmth and hope. The program participants begin to rebuild their lives and turn their transitional housing into a home. The families regain their dignity, heal from trauma, find employment, and ultimately obtain stable housing. Since 1996 the organization has helped families: 90% of adult heads-of-households were actively employed at graduation and 89% of participating families graduated to stable housing. It's profoundly meaningful to help someone get back on their feet, offer them a chance at a better future and foster a sense of hope.



FOOD BANK



STITCHES UNLIMITED QUILTERS

Eastertide is a time of great joy and celebration as we continue commemorating Jesus' resurrection. Giving to others is a powerful way to reflect the spirit of generosity and sacrifice that is at the heart of the Easter story.

The Quilting group would like you to know about a particular organization we donate quilts to because



A lot has happened in one month! Even though April is considered "Volunteer Appreciation Month," the Food Bank held its semi-annual volunteer appreciation luncheon on March 20th.

Many of our volunteers are winter residents that tend to return home prior to or during the month of April. At the event, we acknowledged the selfless dedication of our volunteer's time and efforts to help our neighbors in need. Donna Talley and Peggy Kinder were recognized for their years of expertise and labor of love that resulted in the successful food bank structure as we now know it. We were blessed with the attendance of all of our pastors and around 37 volunteers. A good time was had by all.

Mary Beth Noe, who is a Needler, brought in a sizeable donation from the Montessa "Needlers" quilting club.

You may have noticed the front-page article on the Food Bank in the Apache Junction Independent! We were visited by reporter Richard Dyer, who spent a

Volunteer Spotlight Featuring Jan Roller

Jan Roller has a captivating and engaging presence, enthusiasm, and a zest for life. These positive traits, which highlight her lively and energetic personality are both inspiring and charming. She blesses the

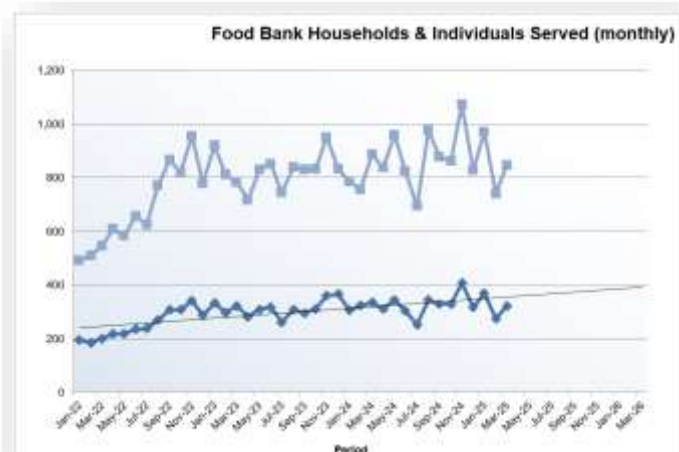
food bank with those very qualities, as well as her time, energy and dedication to helping those in need.

Jan is originally from the Seattle, Washington area, and has lived in Arizona since 2007, having moved south for her late husband's (Don) health reasons. By way of Tucson, the couple finally settled in Gold Canyon in 2014 and joined the church. Shortly after joining the church, Jan began volunteering with the food bank when it was a step further from its closet beginnings, in an actual room at the church. When asked what drove her to volunteer, she impishly replied, "I needed to do something to stay out of trouble!"

Jan was a 2nd grade teacher for 20 years and has a keen interest in children's literature. As such, she has assumed the duties of administering the Child's Book Ministry (previously established) at the Food Bank. Jan's love of shopping combined with her interest in children's literacy provide her with an outlet for both in the form of shopping for gently used, bargain-priced, carefully curated, age-appropriate material that is set out for our neighbors to peruse and choose for their young readers while waiting for their donated food to be brought car side.

Jan's other interests are dogs and jewelry. Jan is well known by the dog owners/walkers in her neighborhood. She makes homemade dog treats for canine friends visiting the dog park neighboring her home. Although she does not currently own a pooch, she has plenty of four-legged friends who seek her treats and attention! When Jan finds time, she loves to make jewelry, primarily earrings. Currently she is crafting dozens of pairs to donate along with the pre-loved purses for Hope's Women's Center Mother's Day event.

Thank you for being you, Jan, and for your selfless dedication to helping others – including dogs! We are truly blessed by your time and talents!



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)



United
Women
in Faith

The UWF had their 2nd annual Messianic Seder Meal. We celebrated with praise, prayer and thanksgiving. We remembered God's deliverance for the Israelites in ancient times and our deliverance through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Following our Seder we had a wonderful potluck lunch.



April 6, 2025 was our annual spring bake sale. Thanks to all who contributed baked goods and to everyone who purchased them. The proceeds totaled \$2,309.00! Forty percent will be donated to our GCUMC youth mission trip and sixty percent will go to UWF local and international missions that benefit; women, children and youth.



g Dates:

- UWF Reading Program meets monthly on the first Wednesday in the MC at 10am. Come to the meeting, choose a book to read, and return to the next meeting to discuss with the group. More info; contact Jane Hansgaard@msn.com.
- **May 17:** UWF regular meeting will have a talk on Gardening in Arizona presented by a member of the Gold Canyon Garden Club. 10:00 fellowship 10:30 meeting. Join us for an informative presentation!
- **November 2025:** Mission Trip to Frontera de Christo—Our 2nd trip to this border ministry in Aqua Prieta.





MAY CALENDAR

(Calendar is subject to change;

For more info, please visit www.GoldCanyonUMC.org or call the Church Office)

Thu May 1	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri May 2	8am	GC Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat May 3	7am	Community Market (S Pkg Lot)
Sun May 4	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon May 5	All day	Cinco de Mayo
Tue May 6	9am	MTG: Food Bank Staff (MC-M)
	3pm	Canyon Carillon Rehearsal (S)
Wed May 7	10am	MTG: Superstition Astronomical League (MC-M)
	10am	UWF Reading Program (MC-B/Patio)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu May 8	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri May 9	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat May 10	7am	Community Market (S Pkg Lot)
	11am	CONCERT: Desert Valley Winds (S)
Sun May 11	All day	Mother's Day
	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon May 12	-	-
Tue May 13	9am	Gold Canyon Garden Club (MC-E)
	9am	Stitches Unlimited Quilters (MC-B&Patio)
	10am	MTG: UWFaith Leadership Team (MC-S)

MAIN CAMPUS	YR = Youth Rm
EB = Education Bldg.	MISSIONS CENTER
ER = Emmaus Rm	MC-B = Barnabas
K = Kitchen	MC-E = Esther
KR = Koinonia Rm	MC-M = Martha
MR = Music Rm	MC-S = Stephen
NAR = Noah's Ark Rm	
P = Patio	(Calendar is subject to change;
S = Sanctuary	For more info, visit
SoGR = Sea of Galilee Rm	www.GoldCanyonUMC.org
WR = Wesley Rm	or call the Church Office)

	3pm	Canyon Carillon Rehearsal (S)
Wed May 14	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu May 15	9am	Girls Matter Period (MC-B)
	4pm	WEDDING REHEARSAL: Ritter & Sack (S)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri May 16	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	8am	GC Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	4pm	WEDDING: Dawn Ritter & Raymond Sack (S)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat May 17	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	7am	Community Market (S Pkg Lot)
	8am	MTG: PEO (MC-E)
	10am	MTG: Monthly UWF (MC-B)
Sun May 18	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon May 19	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
	All day	Mission Trip: Girls Matter Period
Tue May 20	3pm	Canyon Carillon Rehearsal (S)

ROADRUNNER & BULLETIN DEADLINES

Please send content for the
June 2025 Roadrunner

via email to

ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org

BEFORE 8am on Monday, 5/15/25

Weekly Bulletin & Flower Orders

12pm on the Wednesday prior to the Sunday Service

	3pm	MTG: GCAC (MC-S)
Wed May 21	10am	MTG: Superstition Astronomical League (MC-M)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu May 22	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri May 23	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat May 24	7am	Community Market (S Pkg Lot)
	8am	MTG: PEO (MC-E)
Sun May 25	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon May 26	All day	Memorial Day
Tue May 27	9am	Stitches Unlimited (MC-B)
	3pm	Canyon Carillon Rehearsal (S)
Wed May 28	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)

	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu May 29	All day	Ascension Day
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri May 30	8am	GC Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat May 31	7am	Community Market (S Pkg Lot)

Get involved!



For more info contact Ian in the Church Office
or IClasse@GoldCanyonUMC.org

Sundays at 4pm in the Koinonia Room

Do you like to sing the old gospel hymns? Can you carry a tune? Consider singing at the Country Worship

Service. Contact David Ballard:

480-760-3277 or dcballardsaz@gmail.com

GOLD CANYON UMC

Uncommon Grace

"I will be glad and rejoice in You;
I will bring praise to Your name,
O Most High!"
- Psalm 9:2

Praise & Worship

Sundays at 11am in the Koinonia Room!

Join us as we lift our hearts,
souls and spirits... and you'll
be sure to feel uplifted and
energized when you leave!

Contact David...

(DCBallardsAZ@gmail.com)

...if you are interested in
getting involved with the
Praise or Country
music teams!

STAY IN THE KNOW!

Scan to sign-up
for Gold Canyon UMC
communications
via email!





MAY CELEBRATIONS

*If your name is missing, or you find an error, please call the Church Office.
We truly don't mean to make mistakes or to leave anyone out!*

Happy Birthday!

Kench, Sue 05/01
Mullins, Victoria 05/02
Alford, Keith 05/03
Gunn, Jim 05/03
Paone, Albert 05/03
Voorhees, Deb 05/03
Kness, Dee 05/05
Larson, Joyce 05/05
Campbell, Sandy 05/06
Forest, Betty 05/06
Steckley, Leonard 05/06
Rowley, Cheryl 05/07
Speidel, Mark 05/08
Weidner, Harold 05/08
Fitzgerald, Susan 05/09
Rowe, Ella Mae 05/09
Giddings, John 05/10
Luse, Carol 05/10
Rohrbach, Linda 05/10
Schuler, Phalen 05/10
Alford, Jo 05/11
Hughes, Doug 05/11
Shaughnessy, Mike 05/11
Barber, Ann 05/12
Matthews, Shirley 05/12
Andreyka, Janice 05/14
Braatz, Patrick 05/14

Carpenter, Wes 05/14
Hanson, Shawn 05/15
Miller, Geri 05/15
Morton, Maureen 05/15
Hartman, Lorna 05/16
Wirtz, Catherine 05/16
Engbrecht, Don 05/17
Hunter, Gary 05/17
Heppner, Ronald 05/18
Davenport, Mary Ann 05/19
Edney, Doug 05/19
Togstad, Pamela 05/19
Graham, Claudia 05/20
Heft, Bob 05/20
Woode, John 05/21
Mulhair, Delna 05/22
Nord, Faye 05/22
Weidner, Gloria 05/22
Twa, Jack 05/23
Arehart, Larry 05/24
Barks, Chloe 05/24
Burris, Joanne 05/24
Kennedy, Tom 05/24
Kosanke, Karen 05/24
Nefzer, Kathy 05/24
Voorhees, Steve 05/25
Greenlee, Bill 05/26
Otterstein, Karen 05/27
Talley, Donna 05/27

Houser, Chris 05/26
Nichols, Sam 05/26
Storbakken, Linda 05/28
Eddy, Janice 05/29
Fuher, Mavis 05/29
Ancell, Bob 05/30
Rhodes, Grace 05/30
Workman, Janice 05/30
Vorseth, Duane 05/31

Happy Anniversary!

Brogren, Ann & Neil 05/01
Hoefs, Ed & Wendy 05/01
Formento, Kathy & Russ 05/04
Noe, Jim & Mary Beth 05/05
Turner, George & Lisa 05/08
Cloud, Jeanne & Pautzke, Donavon 05/17
Luther, Jeff & Mavis 05/17
Fendley, Cecil & Penny 05/18
Snyder, Lorrie & Toby 05/20
Butterbrodt, Sandy & Bill 05/21
Rasmussen, Al & Diane 05/22
Wehle, Carol & Peter 05/27
Welker, June & Larry 05/28
Witucky, Michelle & TJ 05/29
Miller, John & Ameda 05/31
Williams, Karen & Todd 05/31



Add/update your photo and contact info — and more using GCUMC's online directory, AccessACS!

If you aren't using it, but would like to, email:

ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org

with "**AccessACS**" in the subject line and we'll send you login instructions. You can also view our Church Directory on your phone using the ChurchLife app (*if you already have it*) or through your phone's browser!

NOT HEARING FROM US?

If you don't receive our weekly worship bulletin, monthly newsletter, or quarterly giving statement emails, you may have unsubscribed by accident. Please contact the Church Office to get back on the list! Don't be left out!





CONTRIBUTIONS & ATTENDANCE

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

- Romans 13:8 (NIV)

March	2022			2023			2024			2025		
	General Fund	Building Fund	Worship All	General Fund	Building Fund	Worship All	General Fund	Bldg/FH Fund	Worship All	General Fund	Bldg/FH Fund	Worship All
	109,611	52,013	7205	159,309	42,339	7679	136,473	29,400	9380	126,936	20,173	5239

Please note when requesting IRA donations be sent directly to the church from your financial institution, please be sure to request they include your name either on the check or on the stub. We often receive checks with no identification and due to privacy laws, we are unable to ascertain who should be provided an acknowledgement.



To give to Gold Canyon UMC beyond your pledge to the General Budget or Building Fund, below are Wish List items that will better enable us to fulfill our mission as a church:

- Fellowship Hall (\$3 Million needed; \$1,846,589.08 raised)
- Organ Fund (\$258,029.40 raised)
- Pave Mission Center Parking Lot (\$200K needed; \$0 raised)
- Playground Shade Structure (\$55,243 needed; \$0 raised)
- Pave Mission Center Parking Lot (\$200,000 needed)
- Building Fund Loan (Paid off 2022)
- Stain Glass for upper Sanctuary windows (Completed 2022)



Electronic giving is a great way to make contributions, including recurring and additional/special gifts.

- ✚ **AccessACS:** Very easy to set-up/modify 1-time/recurring donations; Call Church Office for info.
- ✚ **eGiving:** www.GoldCanyonUMC.org and click “Make Donation” button. This link now takes you to AccessACS electronic giving, a secure site.
- ✚ **TEXT** your gift by sending “goldcanyonumc” to 73256 and follow screen instructions.



GIFTING YOUR HOME... ... is a practical way to reduce the size of one's estate

... reduces taxes ... simplifies life for heirs and executor (personal rep)

... eliminates the hassle of having home on the market ... helps reduce the church's debt

... can be done through a lifetime estate, allowing a person to continue living in the home.

CONTACT US

Senior Pastor	Rev. Fred A. Steinberg	RevStein78@gmail.com
Senior Pastor Designate	Rev. David J. Harriss	DaviJon66@gmail.com
Associate Pastor	Pastor Katharine Keller	Ladiebug1214@gmail.com
Associate Pastor	Rev. Gary Capen	GCapen3GCUMC@gmail.com
Office Manager	Jennifer Rhine-Walker	ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org
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Prayer Chain		GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com



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[@goldcanyonUMC](https://twitter.com/goldcanyonUMC)



GOLD CANYON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Phone: 480.982.3776

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Email: ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org

Web: www.GoldCanyonUMC.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

- ✝ 9:30am TRADITIONAL (*Sanctuary*)
- ✝ 11am PRAISE (*Koinonia Room*)
- ✝ 4pm GOSPEL (*Koinonia Room*)

(Childcare available at morning worship services)

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Children's Sunday School classes are held in the Education Building. Please bring your child(ren) to church with you, where they will be escorted to Sunday School, and you can pick them up after the church service.

- 9:30am Children Sunday School (*Educ Bldg*)
- 11am Children & Youth Sunday School (*Educ Bldg*)
- 12pm Youth Praise Band & Fellowship (*Educ Bldg*)

Addressee or Current Resident