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**From The Pastor:
 "The Mind of Christ"**

On one of our youth service projects a couple of years ago, I was participating in a devotional at my work site with a team of five youth. During our conversation one teenage girl said, "I don't think we can know Jesus." My rebuttal was to ask, "Have you ever read the Gospels in the Bible?" "No," was her answer. I then suggested she might read the Gospel of Matthew and see if she began to discover some insight into whom Jesus is. Most of us have learned a great deal about Jesus from reading the New Testament section of the Bible.

Sometimes we learn about Jesus and think that we have done all that is necessary. We know his teachings and his beliefs and we have faith that he is the Son of God. We have purchased fire insurance. We have done enough to get into heaven. If we have enough information to get into heaven, then why go further? The Apostle Paul reminds us that discipleship is more than just knowledge. It is incorporating Jesus' beliefs into our lives. In Philippians 2:1-11 Paul wrote that we should have the same mind as was in Christ Jesus. This is a tough challenge. To be like Jesus takes some willingness to change and be like Jesus in thought and action. I notice that Jesus never said, learn about me. Jesus simply said, "Follow me". The upcoming Lenten season is a great time to recommit ourselves to follow Him. We can commit ourselves to having the same mind as He did.

To help us get a grip on Jesus' thoughts and ideas we will focus our seven week Lenten sermon series this year on some of the key themes that Jesus tried to get his listeners to understand. During this series Jody Topping will also lead a study group

through the same topic during the week it is preached on Sunday morning. I hope you will take advantage of both opportunities. May you take on the mind of Christ.

Grace and Peace,

Fred



The Mind of Christ Sermon Series

In Philippians 2:1-11 the Apostle Paul reminds us that discipleship is more than just knowledge. It is incorporating Jesus' beliefs into our thoughts and actions. Paul believed that we should have the same mind as was in Christ Jesus. In the weeks leading up to Easter we invite you to recommit yourselves to follow Him and try to have the same mind as He did. We hope you will join us for this challenging series.

Feb. 19 – Like Christ

Feb. 26 – Loving Like Christ

March 4 – Servanthood: You First

March 11 – Faithful Suffering

March 18 – Surrender: Letting Go

March 25 – Humility: Humble King

April 1 – Obedience: How Far Will You Go?

The **Lenten Study Series—Living With the Mind of Christ**, led by Pastoral Intern Jody Topping, will be held in conjunction with this sermon series. It begins on Wednesday February 29th. (See details on page 3)

"Following Jesus, Serving Others"



Christian Education

By Katharine Keller

"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."

Time For Summer Camp!



June and July are great months for camp at Mingus Mountain. Brochures are now available through Katharine in the church office. Explorers Camp (grades 3 – 6) is June 4-9 and will be led by Katharine Keller. The Senior High Camp (grades 9 – graduated seniors) meets July 2-7 and will be led by Jody Topping. And, there are other camps in between these dates.

The cost is \$310 per person for all camps, with deadline dates after which there is an additional fee of \$25, so please pick up the brochure soon. If you need scholarship help, please let Katharine know. If you are able to assist those attending camp, please write your checks to GCUMC and memo it: Mingus Camp.

If you are a youth and wish to help at Explorers Camp and you are under 18 years of age you must go through Cabin Assistant Training on Saturday, April 28 at First Mesa UMC. One cannot be a helper unless one goes through the training. The fee for a Cabin Assistant is \$150, however, scholarship monies may also be used for them.

Vacation Bible School Dates Set!

Please save the week of
June 18th to 22nd

for "Operation Overboard" during which we will "go deep with God".

If you would like to be on the planning team for this fun-filled week with children, please contact Katharine Keller in the office.



REMEMBER.....

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2012

It's a *Shore* thing – you will love slowing down, enjoying time with other women and with God. The Women's Retreat Planning Team invites you to be in God's presence and draw closer to sisters in Christ at Seaside Escape, **April 27-29** at the Living Water Retreat Center in Cornville, AZ. This year we are also inviting teen daughters or granddaughters 15 years and older to join in the fun.

Registration tables will be set up after each service beginning March 4. However, you may also pick up a registration form on the Information Desks in either building or in the office. To register and pay online through the website, go to goldcanyonumc.org, click on "online giving", then on "view event calendar" and click on "Women's Retreat."

The cost is \$120, which covers room and board and program materials. A scholarship fund is available. (Please ask Katharine if you need assistance). If you cannot attend, but would like to help send someone, please write a check to GCUMC and memo it: *Women's Retreat*.

The Retreat Planning Team is also sponsoring a Praise Celebration **Wednesday, April 11** at 7 pm in the Koinonia Room. This will be a chance for women, whether they are attending the retreat or not, to praise God through song led by Cindy Hoff. "Beachy" refreshments will follow. We hope you can join us!

Easter Egg Hunt

So, I'm sure no one is thinking this far in advance, but we will have a community egg hunt, activities and burro rides with Teton on Saturday, March 31. Anyone wishing to help plan this fun event, should contact Katharine. Time still to be decided, but it will probably be Noon – 2:00 pm.



Mind of Christ Lenten Study

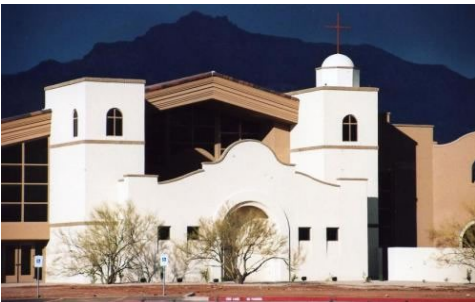
During this Lenten Season, Senior Pastor Rev. Fred Steinberg and Pastoral Intern Jody Topping will once again offer a combination sermon series and study focusing on what it means to have the same mind as Christ, and what it takes to change our own minds (or mind-set) to become more like Christ.

The Lenten Study is being held on **Wednesday** nights. Each class will begin with a light meal at 6:00 pm followed by the study at 6:30 pm. The meal and classes will be held in the Koinonia

Room. Materials will be available the week of February 20th for those who have expressed an interest in joining the study ahead of time. The cost is \$2 for the materials and a freewill donation will be received for the meal.

We hope you will join us as we experience what it means to have the mindset of Christ this Lenten season. To join the study, contact Jody Topping by leaving her a message at the church office or by email at jody@goldcanyonumc.org.

Confirmation Class Update — Katharine and the 6 young women are having fun discussing and learning about the foundational principles of our faith. Some have participated as liturgists in the worship services, we have seen the movie "Joyful Noise," and we worshipped at Primera Iglesia. In addition to enjoying each other's company, we are memorizing a Scripture a week and working our way through the book of Mark as homework. The students are wonderful!



Our Church History

"History of Our Church Music Program"

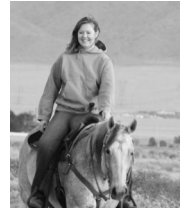
When the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church moved into the Gold Canyon Elementary School the music for the congregation was provided on the piano by Lou Beaulieu, who also directed the singing. A choir was started in the school with just a half dozen singing with our first Choir Director, Beth O'Hara. After a couple of changes in the director, Mary Ann Warren came on board. She was an enthusiastic recruiter and director and the choir started growing. She also recruited Nancy (Bauman) Virden to play the piano. After we moved into the Fellowship Building (our first building) the choir expanded even faster. We completely filled the risers with about eighty choir members. We received a generous donation of a beautiful Roger Organ which would be sufficient when we finally moved into the larger Sanctuary. In 2000, Linda Jones joined the music team as an additional pianist and organist. In 2003, after ten years of directing, Mary Ann Warren decided to retire and move to Twin Falls, Idaho.

Our church had acquired hand bells and started a handbell choir. Mary Ann Warren then recommended for her replacement a friend of hers, Doug Benton, the one who had sold us the handbells. Doug was an accomplished choir director and organist as well as handbell choir director. This meant that we had a music person who could wear a number of hats in our music program.

When we moved into our large Sanctuary, the organ was re-located and connected to the speakers located around the room. We also acquired a beautiful Petrov (nine foot three inch) concert grand piano at half price, with the other half being a gift from the seller. Our church has been very fortunate in receiving many gifts dedicated to the music program in addition to donations raised from the many free concerts Doug Benton has scheduled at the church. Bud Rolley



Gold Canyon UMC Youth



Youth News Update From Wendy:

Wendy Moore, Youth Director



The Youth Sharing a treat at the coffee shop after Youth Sunday

Would you like to change lives?

Consider becoming a shareholder
for our Mission Trip.

Supporting the youth on their mission trip will change the lives of those they serve AND change the lives of our youth. A Full share will pay the way for one youth to serve on the mission trip.

- ~ 1 Full share is \$400
- ~ ½ share is \$200
- ~ ¼ share is \$100

However, any amount of support will be gratefully accepted.

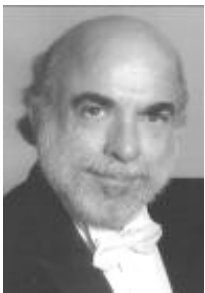
Belonging to a church that so actively and lovingly embraces its youth is a blessing for everyone. We continue to receive many positive comments about Youth Sunday. So many people have told us how impressed they were to hear such thoughtful sermons (that the youth wrote themselves), the prayers, and the joy of seeing so many young people participate.

I want to also thank our Youth Group adult volunteers who help at our weekly youth group meetings, special events, mission trips, and helped support Youth Sunday - Jill Saathoff and Beth Steinberg. Your support is so much appreciated.

Thank you to Uncommon Grace for their music, love and support.

I have said, and will continue to say, what a privilege it is to work with our youth. They are our future, and we want them to know how much Gold Canyon UMC loves and supports them as they grow in faith and mature into adults.

Perspectives: "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."
Abraham Lincoln



Music Notes

As we approach Spring, we think of the beauty of desert flowers, the scent of citrus in the air (at least until allergies attack!) and warmer weather, though we certainly have had a couple of months of "Chamber of Commerce" weather in January and February. We also look forward to our mountain (Superstition) becoming green

again, and going through all the colors during sunrise and sunset.

These little gifts from God are some of the reasons we have chosen to live in this place at this time. These gifts are not necessarily asked for, they are – and have always been – just little blessings given to us by our great God! What can we ourselves do to be more like God? To have more of a mind-set like Christ Jesus?

Our first concert of the month, is our annual **Spring Concert** on **Sunday, March 4 at 3:00 pm**. This program will feature the Chancel Choir, Chancel Ringers, Joyful Noise, Chanters, Women's Choir and Orchestra. Also featured will be the Agape Brass Quintet, *Continued on next page* —>

Linda Jones, Marty Robison, Nancy Virden and I will also be featured on the Rodgers Organ and Petrof Piano. We hope you will come and enjoy an afternoon of great music! No charge, a freewill offering will be received.

Have you ever wished to be in the presence of True Greatness - like basketball great Michael Jordan or perhaps Steve Jobs or Mahatma Gandhi? I had such an experience, totally unexpected, at the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists in Washington, D.C. in 2010. It was Wednesday, July 7, during the hottest summer Washington D. C. had had in a hundred years, well over 100-degrees, with nearly the same humidity! Our bus got to St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church just before the concert started and there was no room to sit, except along the air conditioning vents circumventing the altar space, which, as you can imagine, was pumping out very cold air! Not real comfortable. I even considered skipping this recital, but then the organist began, and I was blown away! I could see her from where I sat as the organ was in the rear balcony. She ripped through her first piece and received thunderous applause! When she stood up to bow, I thought, "she's must be in high school"! Here's this tiny woman in total command of this large pipe organ, playing a very difficult program effortlessly, musically and all from memory! (She is young, having earned her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Juilliard School last year.) The standing ovation she received at the end was immediate, and so long the ushers finally started pushing us outside so we would not be late to our next event.

Of the very many concerts I heard I was so impressed with her I immediately booked her for a concert here as soon as I got back. That concert was last year. I was even more impressed with her performance here last year, so I booked her again for this year. She was so impressed with our organ ("This is perhaps the best installation of a digital organ I've ever played!"), she agreed to the same fee, even though her fee had substantially increased.

Isabelle Demers, that organist, has been referred to as "diminutive dynamo", "petit powerhouse" and "true greatness" by her critics and is now one of the most sought after concert organists in North America. Indeed, Isabelle Demers is a force of nature that *La Presse* in Montreal attributed "vehement virtuosity". She performs for us here on **Sunday, March 19 at 3:00 pm.**

This will be a busy month for her. March 4 she performs at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco; March 11 at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Landisville, PA; March 16 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Akron, OH; then comes to Gold Canyon, rehearses all day Saturday, performs on Sunday, does a workshop for the Central Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists on Monday, then goes to LA to perform on the famous Walt Disney Concert Hall Organ on March 25 (Google this organ – you will be amazed at what it looks like!). And that is just March! This summer she will tour throughout England and Germany. You can

find her on the web at isabelledemers.org

Her concert is open to the public at no charge, a freewill offering will be received. Her concert has already been paid for so all of the proceeds from this concert will go toward the purchase of genuine wind-blown pipes to be added to our Rodgers digital organ. Come experience True Greatness! You will be very glad you did. Bring your family, your friends and your neighbors. They will also be very glad you did!

As always, everyone is asked to please bring at least one non-perishable food item per person for the GCUMC Food Bank to these concerts (see list in the Sunday Bulletin for what is needed). Bring your family, friends and neighbors. These programs are a great way to share your church, and the many gifts God has given, with others.

Our annual trek to **Organ Stop Pizza with Lew Williams** will be on **Wed. March 7 at 11:00 am.** The cost is the same as last year, \$7.50 per person (cash only – there is an ATM in the lobby) which includes the program by Lew, one of, if not *the* greatest theater organist in the world, Pizza buffet, salad and tax. Drinks are on your own. Those who live in Gold Canyon, meet at the church at 10:15 and we will take the bus and carpool. Those who want to drive there, it is located at 1149 E Southern Ave, Mesa, southwest corner of Southern and Stapley, west of Walgreens. Doors open at 10:45 am. Before going in, be sure to walk around the outside of the building to the front and see the monstrous 32' Contra Diaphone (wood) and 32' Contra Tuba (metal) pipes in the front of the building! Sign up sheets are in the narthex of both buildings. I need to call in a head count shortly after the 1st, so please sign as soon as possible.

Speaking of organ, please remember that we are accepting donations for the Organ Pipe Fund. We need \$350,000 which includes 11 sets of Fratelli Ruffatti pipes (600+ actual wind-blown pipes!), renovation of the Choir area for the pipes, and bringing the electronic speakers down from above the Choir to intersperse with the pipes, allowing the entire organ to speak freely, and not so focused. If you would like to make a substantial donation to the Organ Pipe Fund and/or have any questions, please let Pastor Fred know or me know. To date, we have over \$10,000.

If you can read music, sing on pitch and would like to come sing with the Choir, play an instrument in the Orchestra, or join one of our other groups, please give me a call at the church or just come to a rehearsal, but come a few minutes early so we can meet and get you registered. All of our groups are open and are looking forward to having **you** with us!

Blessings to all during this time of Lent as we pursue how we can develop the Mind of Christ,

Doug

Douglas J. Benton
Director of Music Ministries

Healthy Living

*News from the Health and Wellness Ministry of
Monica Ortega-Watters and Susan Malloy, Parish Nurses*

✝ *Wishing You a Healthy 2012!*

Greetings again!

In January we started on an interesting subject, "How the Brain Forms New Habits", from a seminar I attended late last year. We side stepped a bit to provide the reminder of February being Healthy Heart Month. I hope you will tuck that information away just in case you find yourself in the throes of a heart attack. I guess my point would be don't go down the river of "DENIAL" because the consequences could be deadly. Enough said.

On a more positive note, getting from bad habits to good ones takes fortitude and perseverance. Having GOALS at the beginning of the year includes a start and finish date. Whereas, SETTING RESOLUTIONS, allows you to "resolve" to change your behavior and affect a permanent change. Big difference and more lasting positive outcome are the result. One of mine for 2012 is that I resolve to get 8 hours of sleep each night. It looks like a goal, but is in fact a resolution. This is because it is a continuous, nonstop goal; is set with the intention of fulfillment each night until it becomes a (good) habit; and thus becomes ingrained in my daily routine. For me this is not an easy task. I've always been a night owl and find more things to do when it's quiet and there are no distractions like the phone or TV to get in my way.

Even though we are heading into the 3rd month of the year that does not mean that one cannot set a RESOLUTION to improve some aspect of ones life. I want to encourage you to set realistic Healthy Resolutions for yourselves and make time to determine which areas of your life do indeed need your attention. We all have them. Perhaps you'll find you have several. It's OK. My recommendation would be to focus your attention on one of them for each of the upcoming months as it takes 21 days to establish a new habit through the act of resolution.

When determining what areas to focus on, consider all the aspects of your life, give yourself credit for the areas in which you feel you are doing well and pat yourself on the back. Then check out the areas where you need to pay more attention. Here are some resolutions that others have considered in the past: get more sleep; be mindful of what I am eating; cook something new and different once a week; laugh more; be more active; organize and declutter my home; fine tune my business; think posi-

tively; ask for help; read a good book each month; enjoy life (the clock is ticking); spend more quality time with family and grandchildren. WOW!! Those are some awesome opportunities for personal growth.

From a spiritual point of view you may want to include reading the bible daily, praying at least twice a day, volunteering at the church in an area of interest, visiting a shut in, providing a ride to the doctor for someone, helping an elderly person grocery shop, etc. Don't shy away! It will be so worthwhile if you stick with it and offer yourself as God's servant in a new way.

When you choose the things you want to change in your life, take some time to ask yourself "WHY?". Knowing why can be a great motivator to help you along the road to success. For me, the "WHY" was that I expect to feel more rested and energetic when I wake and feel more like going to my water aerobics class 3 times a week. Then I'll eat better because the underlying fatigue will be overcome; be happier, and smile more. All are very good reasons to tackle this area of my life. As I begin to do this, great things are happening and they can for you as well.

So here's to your good health until next time. Next month we'll explore how to get and stay motivated. There are important questions you can ask yourself to help determine what may be holding you back, and identify effective steps to overcome procrastination.

Blessings of Health & Wellness,

Susan L Malloy RN BSN GCUMC Parish Nurse.

[Information gleaned from HOW THE BRAIN FORMS

NEW HABITS Why Willpower is NOT ENOUGH by Brian

E. KING, PH.D. and old orchards resources

"Resolutions " by Kristi Tuck, BS ACSM]

Upcoming FREE Event: FRIDAY, March 9th, 4—5:30 pm, "SPEAKUP AND STAY ALIVE" presentation by Patricia Rullo, author of a book by the same title; held at Gold Canyon Fire Department Community Center on US 60, just east of Gold Canyon RV Resort on the south side of the highway. I recently attended her presentation and highly recommend it. The program offers valuable information that could help save your life or the life of someone you love. Bring a note pad/pen to take notes.

GCUMC Permanent Endowment Fund

The Gold Canyon United Methodist Church has a Permanent Endowment Fund which was established several years ago. Did you know that it is possible to make a difference in the ministry of GCUMC even after you are gone? Gifts to the GCUMC Permanent Endowment Fund are invested and in turn only the gains are used to further the missions and ministries of the Church. The principal of the gift is held in perpetuity. This is a wonderful way for any donor to make a difference for many years into the future. The Permanent Endowment Committee has designated the income to be used for Buildings and Property; Scholarships, especially for those entering the ministry; Missions; and Undesignated. Undesignated can mean that a donor may select where he or she wishes the income to be used or leave it up to the Committee to decide. There is a generous donor who has given gifts over the past few years to the Endowment Fund, which were specifically given for the income to be used for scholarships. This income has provided the funds for the scholarships which the church has given to various members.

The Permanent Endowment can become a strong supporter of the Church and its missions, but only if members and others of the congregation remember the Fund with gifts at any time or with estate bequests of any size.

Please consider gifts to support the Endowment and GCUMC. For more information on how to make a gift, call Pastor Fred at the church or Wally Quanstrom Chairman of the Endowment Fund Committee at 480-982-9314.

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE!

You may give a one-time or recurring donation online by logging on to our church website at www.goldcanyonumc.org and selecting "Click to Give". You will then be guided through the steps to get set up. It's easy and convenient!

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

Save time, simplify your life, and support our church! In this new millennium the church is keeping up with the times by offering our givers a new way to help our ministry. Our new electronic contribution program is an automatic funds transfer program that will allow you to make contributions without having to lift a pen to write a check or reach into your wallet for cash!

Here is how it works: you authorize a specified amount of money to be electronically transferred directly from your checking or savings account to the church's account. You can also specify the frequency of the transfer to allow you to keep your check register up to date.

It is fast, safe, and easy! In fact, it is less risky than checks, as it cannot be lost, stolen, or destroyed in the mail, and the rate of accuracy is high. The electronic transfer will cost you NOTHING and you save the cost of the check. The church will issue you a donation statement for your records, and bank statements will provide you with a record of transfer as additional proof of your contributions. Donations via electronic transfer can be made to our general fund or our building fund. Designations to Missions or the Pastors Discretionary Fund can also be made. Of course you can cancel your authorization of transfer at any time by notifying us in writing. We believe that once you have enjoyed the convenience and savings of this new program, you won't want to go back. Contact the church office now.

DONATIONS AND ATTENDANCE

Let no debt remain outstanding except the continuing debt to love one another... Romans 13:8 (NIV)

January	2010		2011		2012		2011	2012
	Gen.	Build.	Gen.	Build.	Gen.	Build.	Worship All	Worship All
1st	\$19792	\$10109	\$21373	\$8674	18901	8048	1468	1247
2nd	21906	6866	20630	3511	21323	4961	1849	1783
3rd	22617	4599	16193	14269	24910	4799	1845	1922
4th	17645	3792	19300	7802	20068	6425	1821	2071
5th (Christmas Eve)	19413	2715	17454	6672	19749	3194	2007	2165
Total	\$101373	\$24964	\$94950	\$40928	104952	27425	8990	9188

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY

By Hu & Wendy Rhymes, with a little help from Hattie, Muffin (& Sadie, too)



JUST A REMINDER: Please let the Rhymes know at whsadier@earthlink.net or call the church office if you **WANT A NAME REMOVED FROM THE ROADRUNNER or SUNDAY PRAYER LIST** or are having surgery or are in the hospital, if you wish a visit or want to be on the Sunday Prayer List.

FROM THE SADIE RHYMES' MISSION CORNER

When we walk into the office in the morning there are many days when the lobby doesn't have enough chairs for the people who have come for Food Bank assistance. Some days the folks are also waiting outside for their turn. Thank you again this month to Hattie & Muffin's veterinarian, Dr. Munion, for donating pet food. Thanks again to the Agnew & Kimball families & Lolly Skillman for purchasing and/or bagging pet food so our furry friends can eat. We are also very thankful for those Food Bank helpers who are bagging while volunteering - We don't know who you are to personally thank you. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO CONTRIBUTE FOOD & PET FOOD AND THOSE WHO HELP IN THE FOOD BANK.

Love, Hu, Wendy, Hattie, Muffin and Sadie too!!!

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Sympathies: Lyle Brewer, upon the death of his brother; Pat & Lil Calahan, upon the death of Pat's son; Ted & Laurie Christy, upon the death of Ted's mother, Beverly Brienholt; Nellie DePoy & family upon the death of Nellie's granddaughter, Talia; Judy Heil, sister-in-law of Jerry & Barbara Heil (Jerry & Barbara were on the ship that went down off the coast of Italy. They have not been found. Judy is a neighbor of Shirley Matzke & the Rhymes.); The family of Bob Meischner, upon his death; Evelyn Showalter, upon the death of her husband, Joe; Duane & Sue Vorseth, upon the death of Duane's mother, Margaret and the families & friends of the above.

Concerns and/or Continued Prayers: Wanda Alsup, Juan Andres, Adam Baker, John Banwell, Chris Barker, Earl Beasley, Bill Bennett, Jeremy Bigler, Bob Bonestell, Barbara Brownfield, Lisa Buscher, on a mission in Peru until June, 2012 (Jeff/Jane Hayes' daughter), Lailoni Capozzi, JoAnn Clark, Robert Clem family, John Coules, Cris Criswell, Chris Denton, Michelle Dorser, Ben Dover, Janet Gaal, Chong Gladson, Dorothy Halstead, Patti Jo Hamilton, Floyd Henry, Dick Hill, Fran Huling, Mike & Mikey James, Ray Kelly (Betty Hammond's brother), Bushie Kostrzeba (Valerie Sheridan's mother), Ardis Larson, Donna Lilienthal, Bill Lochhead, Earl Marifjeren, Tate Mitchell (Linda Crane), Judy Mobley, George Morley, Meghan Nelson (Mary Nelson's granddaughter), Dan Orr, Marilyn Pearson, Michael Peden, Brenda Rahaneotis, Pat Roberts (Rush Tucker's sister), Susan Shamhart, Katee Sharp, Ari Shreffler, Aida Starkjohan, Peggy Tippie, Phyllis Villa, Ray Villeneuve, Gene Wagner (Larry & Don Wagner's brother), Tom Wiff, Loretha Willhite, David Wilson, Bill Wilson and PRAYERS for the families & caregivers of the above. PRAYERS for requests in the "CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER" boxes & UNSPOKEN REQUESTS. Also, those FOOD BANK CLIENTS who have requested prayers. PRAYERS for our MILITARY personnel (Chris Everett, Felipe Gonzales, Matthew Jacobson, Jacob Manbeck & Myles Strange), those in harm's way & those suffering from, PTSD & other maladies as a result of their military service & their families. Also, those who are POOR or HOMELESS & IN NEED OF EMPLOYMENT. PRAYERS for the families of SIDEWALK MINISTRY.

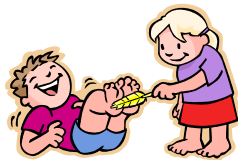
Still in Need of Prayers: John & Doris Adamson, Richard & Eleanor Armstrong, Tom & Dee Ashe, Dorothy Baker, Patti Baker, Barbara Barnhill (Nancy Jonovich's daughter), Bob & Ruth Bennett, Cathy Bird, Irene & Jr. Blake (Paul Fillion's sister), Marge Bos (Dave Bos' mother), Kay Bottomley (Mike Vagnier's mother), Lyle Brewer, Gen Brunk (Jerri Manbeck's mother), Jeff & Karen Brown, Dr. Brad & Arlaine Bryant & Julie Bryant-

Holver, Martha Burkinshaw, Jim & Carolyn Burt, Leon & Linda Schafle-Castonia, Mindy Couch (Don/Diane Parker's daughter), Rev. Bob & June Deits, Chuck Dickinson, Laura Dinges, Adelyne Douglass, Wendy Eagan, John Enright, Kayla Eriksen (Eriksen's granddaughter), Janet Fillion (Paul & Joyce Fillion's daughter-in-law), Peter Fillion (Paul Fillion's brother), Dale & Inge Fitzpatrick, Gen Friesen, Sue & Dave Flitsch, Danna & Andy Gharavi, Ardeena Gillette, Bill Green, Arline Hacker, Gaylord Hart & kids, Kathy & Paul Fabish, Kerby Harms (Roger & Shirley Coad's grandson), Jan Helquist, Neil & Melva Houtcooper, Jim & Suzanne Jameson, Ginny & Joe Johnson, Gladys Kay (Jane Hayes' Mom), Mel & Mary Kilbo, Diane Kissner, Tom & Mariol Knapp, Thelma Lang (Pete 'n Kay Johnson's mother), Bob Lauver, Gerry Legg, Rick & Diane Lockwood Bob & Juana Mahlandt, Sue & Michael Malloy, Tony Masucci (Colette Bos' father), Will Matthews, Bryan McGann (Jeanette Lunstead's son), Corine McGinley (Diane Kissner's sister), Larry & Pat McMann, Wilbur McMann, Linda & Mike Mestek, Bill & Freda Moffatt, Judy Monk, Hedy Moore (Jed Moore's mother), Bonny Nielsen, Ramona Orr (Kris Laux's mother), Catarina Pascual, Charlie Peifer, Shirley Plakos, Sandy & Bob Reisch, Jim & Marcia Ritenour, Peter Ritsch, David & Judy Robertson, Virgil & Rose Scantlin, Debbie Steedy, Lew & Doris Stichter, Rick & Sue Sutter, Marilyn Thomas, Lillian Thomas (Bill & Mary Thomas' mother), Kenneth Tippie (Jerry & Peggy Tippie's son), Gordon & Patty Truckle, Marven & Wanda Tufte, Jim & Charlene Van Slooten & Floy Kilbourn-their daughter, Ray and Nancy Villeneuve, Jack & Nancy Virden, Mary Ann Warren, Garnet White (Jody Topping), Delza Wilson (Jayne Urbach's mother), Pat Zirjacks and the families of the above.

"Laugh a Little" - with Hu

**YOU DON'T STOP
LAUGHING BECAUSE YOU
GROW OLD,
YOU GROW OLD BECAUSE
YOU STOP LAUGHING.**

CHILDREN'S PRAYERS - EVEN GOD LAUGHED



Dear God,
Maybe Cain & Abel would not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother. Larry

Dear God,
If you give me a genie lamp like Alladin, I will give you anything you want...except my money or my chess set. Raphael

Dear God,
We read that Thomas Edison made light. But in Sunday School they said you did it. So I bet he stoled your idea. Sincerely, Donna

Dear God,
Thank you for the baby brother but what I prayed for was a puppy. Joyce

SUPPORT GROUPS

GRIEF

... meets on Wednesdays at 9 :00 am in the Sea of Galilee Room. Email Laurie Christy for more information at Lchristy20@yahoo.com

MIND MENDERS

...meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday each month at 10:00 am in the Education Building. Mind Menders is a support group for caregivers of Alzheimer's and other dementia disease patients. Come join us. *Contact Jeanette Lunstead at 480-671-9888 or the church office for more information.*

CANCER

.....meets each Wednesday at 11:00 am in Room 101-102. This active group provides spiritual support, love, friendship and a helping hand to cancer patients, caregivers and their families. For further information, contact Tom or Dee Ashe at 480-924-5483 or 480-650-6765 (cell) or by email at deenashe7580@gmail.com.



International Missions

"The world is my parish." – John Wesley

"...We will strive to be a church that serves our community and the world, realizing and sharing the satisfying and abundant life Christ brings to all people."

You are invited to the **INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS BRUNCH** March 10 @ 10:00 am

This is a **FREE EVENT!**



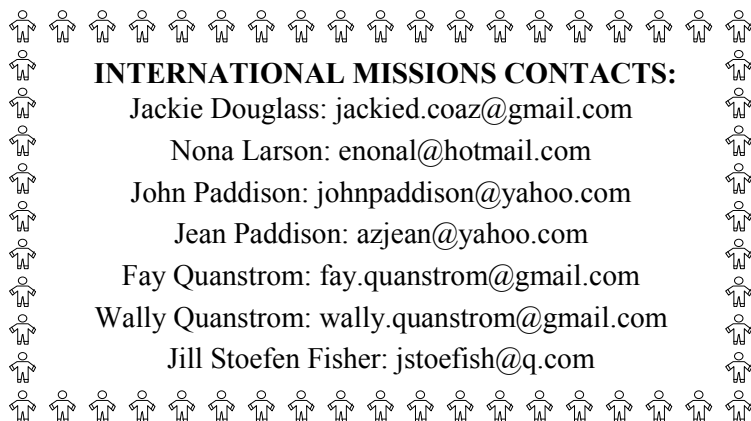
Please *pick up a free ticket* at the Information Desk or coffee sales table so we can plan for you. Bring an item for the food bank. An offering will be received.

The GCUMC Mission Work Team (Linda and Steve Crane, Jane DeRemer, Carol and Don Lindamann, Fay and Wally Quanstrom, Lovenia and Harry Warren) **has just returned from Costa Rica**. The brunch is your opportunity to learn first-hand of the team's experiences at United Bible College in San Jose. You'll also learn about GCUMC continuing support of:

- Wangshi Christian Church, China
- Fellowman International, Honduras
- Prachakittisuk Orphanage, Thailand



You can support these and other International Mission projects through your designated giving to GCUMC as well as your purchase of cards, bookmarks, and fair trade coffee and chocolate from the coffee sales table between worship services on Sundays. Thank you for investing in International Missions!



INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS CONTACTS:

Jackie Douglass: jackied.coaz@gmail.com

Nona Larson: enonal@hotmail.com

John Paddison: johnpaddison@yahoo.com

Jean Paddison: azjean@yahoo.com

Fay Quanstrom: fay.quanstrom@gmail.com

Wally Quanstrom: wally.quanstrom@gmail.com

Jill Stoefer Fisher: jstoeffish@q.com

Current UMCOR Emergencies

To donate to UMCOR on behalf of the following emergency, 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.

Horn of Africa Crisis
(Somalia)
UMCOR Advance #982450

Japan Emergency
Earthquake & Tsunami
~UMCOR Advance
#3021317

Liberia Emergency ~
UMCOR Advance
#150300

Cote D'Ivoire Crisis ~
UMCOR Advance
#982450

U.S. Disaster Response ~
Spring Storms
UMCOR Advance
#3021326

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



Thinking Theologically — By Jody Topping, Pastoral Intern

Have you ever been disappointed by something or someone? Maybe you were disappointed when you weren't offered what you thought was the perfect job, or perhaps your disappointment came from something a friend or family member did...or didn't do. Disappointment is a fact of life, and for some of us, those little (or big) disappointments in life can make or break our overall well-being. Sometimes disappointments, especially if they are allowed to build up, lead to physical or mental illness, depression or anxiety. Sometimes they lead to broken relationships. One thing is sure: if we allow our disappointments to fester, they will take control of our lives.

Over the last few weeks, I've been dealing with what I originally thought was a huge disappointment. At the end of January I interviewed with the Board of Ordained Ministry to be recommended for Commissioning as part of my journey toward Ordination. Going into the interviews I was nervous but fairly confident that they would approve my request for Commissioning. But at the end of a long day of interviews, the Board voted to continue my status as a Certified Candidate for Ministry. They told me of several things they want me to do over the next 12 months and if all goes well, I will meet with them again in a year.

As I left the church where the interviews were held, my heart was heavy with disappointment. For a moment, I even doubted my call. After all, God has been leading me toward this goal, right? Every other time I said "yes" to God, doors were opened and opportunities to grow in ministry presented themselves. So how could the Board not see that I was ready (at least in my own eyes) to be a Pastor in a church?

It's amazing what disappointment can do – how the negative self-talk takes over our thought processes and causes us to question the things we thought we knew and understood with great clarity. This was certainly the case for me: when the Board said "not yet," what I originally heard was "no," and it took me several weeks to figure out that what I had heard was wrong.

When we are faced with disappointment, the best thing we can do is turn to God in prayer. This was certainly my first instinct. And it was through my conversations with God that I was led to seek comfort in the Scriptures. One of my favorites comes from Paul's letter to the Philippians, where he writes "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Phil 4:6). Clearly Paul is telling us that we need to rely upon God *especially* when disappoint-

ment floods our lives and our souls. Relying on God helps us keep things in perspective, and helps us see clearly what God wants us to do and be. Relying on God helps us work through the disappointments in our lives so we can be stronger. Yet another scripture that I am finding especially helpful right now comes from the prophet Jeremiah, who writes "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jer 29:11). God knows what the future holds for each of us, and I think that sometimes what we perceive as road-blocks are actually just bumps in the road.

Now that I've had a few weeks to process my own disappointment, I understand that God's plans are not my own. Perhaps this is God's way of telling me to relax and take some time to grow as both a Christian and as a future church pastor. Perhaps God has other plans for me at this time in my life and is leading me to continue doing ministry here in this church. Whatever God's plans are, I think the most important thing we must do is to stop, pray, and listen for what God is laying on our hearts and how God is working in our lives...even when we are faced with disappointments.

I am thankful that God is working with me through my disappointment. I pray you too will look for the ways God is at work through your own disappointments to bring you closer to God. Amen.

Church Wish List

Want to give back to Gold Canyon United Methodist Church beyond your pledge to the General Budget or the Building Fund? Listed below are some items that will better enable us to fulfill our mission as a church.

- ◆ Pave the North Parking Lot - \$200,000
- ◆ Religious Statue for South Exterior Alcove of Sanctuary Building
- ◆ Playground - \$10,000-50,000
- ◆ Pipes for the Electronic Organ
- ◆ Stain Glass for upper Sanctuary windows - \$105,000 (\$3,000 per panel)
- ◆ Building Fund Loan Payoff

Sister Seminararians



Heather Rodenborg

Hello All. Well I have to admit that I have been struggling with an issue. This week I have been contemplating what it means to be the Church. This is something that I have to write about for my credo. General

Conference is quickly approaching. At this conference the Church will be voting on some really big issues. A lot of these issues revolve around what it means to be the Methodist Church. For me, what I believe it means to be the Church isn't what some of the leaders within the Church believe. For me, I believe that in order to be the Church, we need to truly be a community of grace. We need to be offering grace to those we have pushed away. We need to be offering grace to those who live on the margins of society. We need to be offering grace to those who are oppressed. And, we need to be offering grace to those who society has deemed unworthy. This means welcoming the homeless person off the street, welcoming the same-sex couple that is raising a child, welcoming the drug addict who is struggling with their addiction, welcoming the criminals, and welcoming the broken hearted.

You could actually say, it's welcoming all those who Jesus hung out with. I think that we sometimes forget who he hung out with. Jesus didn't hang out with the perfect people; Jesus hung out with the sinners, adulterers, liars, and criminals. These are the people who are members of the Church. These are the people that we need to be living with in a community of grace. If we don't live in community with these people, are we really doing what God has called us to do?

Until next time, may you live your life giving and receiving grace as Christ does.

Peace, Heather Rodenborg



Jody Topping

I'm afraid I don't have a lot to report on the seminary front this month, since most of my time is spent being in ministry and not in the classroom. This quarter I'm enrolled in one class, the Internship Seminar, which only requires a mini-

imum of "classroom" work (which in my case is done online) but lots of work here at the church. In some ways, I miss being a fulltime student, taking three classes or more, juggling reading assignments with writing assignments and papers... Wait what am I

saying?? By NOT having to spend so much time in class I'm able to spend more time in ministry with all of you... what was I thinking?? I love being a part time student, because it means I get to do God's work here on earth! I should be glad! And believe me, I am!

Believe it or not, one thing I do miss about not being in any other classes is traveling to Denver to be with my classmates in the Journey Program. Just a few weeks ago I found myself reveling in their Facebook posts about how much fun they were having, reconnecting with each other, spending time together in class, then hanging out at one of the local restaurants that we tend to take control of when we are there. Even though they had to endure a snowstorm and very cold temperatures (which for this desert rat is quite unbearable!), they were having a great time, enjoying each other's company and studying together in class. I miss my friends, but I'm so glad that we are able to stay connected in a variety of different ways.

I know that in the weeks and months to come, many of you will be returning to your summer homes, and those of us who are here year-round will miss seeing you in worship and in classes. One of the greatest joys I've had over the last few weeks has been leading small group study on World Religions and Denominations...although there have been many weeks when the groups haven't been all that small! Many of the people in these classes are winter residents, and it has been such a joy getting to know them and spending time together in a learning environment. I'm so grateful for the friendships I've made over the last few months, and like my seminary friends who live all across the country, I will miss you when you go back to your other homes. But like my seminary friends, I encourage all of you who will be leaving to stay connected with your Arizona church family through the church's website, newsletter, and Facebook page. Being connected is what makes us a community of believers, even when that community is scattered across the country.

So, if you haven't done so already, I encourage you to "bookmark" the church website at www.goldcanyonumc.org, put in a request to receive *The Roadrunner* newsletter by email, or friend us on our Facebook page. You can even stay in touch with the church by email at churchoffice@goldcanyonumc.org, or with me personally at jody@goldcanyonumc.org. Oh, and for those of you who are really geeky, you can even follow us on Twitter!! Ain't technology grand?! Until next month...Jody



Suzanne Cherry

I was recently reminded of a Gospel story about Jesus healing a man who suffered from leprosy. Jesus had just given a very powerful speech on the side of a hill. That speech included what we now call "The Beatitudes." It was a long speech, filled with passion. Even after spending so much time sharing himself with the community, Jesus was willing to heal one who asked.

I am working on a collection of short stories – actually more like vignettes – about people who were healed by Jesus. When I heard this story the other day, I thought about the story I wrote called "The Leper." This month, I am going to share the beginning of this story with you. It will run as a serial in two parts. Please feel free to let me know what you think. So, without further adieu, here is the first installment of "The Leper:"

The Leper

The young man walked slowly away from the only place he knew now as home. As he moved through the noisy streets, children scattered, leaving behind the small footprints of play. Their leftover laughter reverberated among the close-walled buildings, echoing in a never-ending reminder of his anguish. The house he had just left was filled with others like him, unwanted, unwashed and weary. Any other person, standing back in the shadows and watching him pass, would think him old, much older than his years. Bent and misshapen, he limped every other step. He wore a tattered robe, hood pulled up over his head and hanging into his face. From a distance, he seemed a ghoulish figure except for the look of melancholy that hung about his eyes. There was no malice in this man, only a deep sense of sadness as he hobbled upon toeless feet. His hands were bent like old tree branches; the bones were thinned down and the distal ends had already begun to dissolve within. Of course, he had no thought of how his finger-bones curled and slowly degenerated; he only knew the pain of his necrotic flesh, the feel of the wounds that festered beneath his extra-large hood. Ancient he seemed, like a withered cedar on a drought drained hill.

There had been a time, not so long ago, that this man had a name and a family. Joseph ben Abraham had once been a successful baker in the village. He had a robust and jolly wife to share his life, and three young children. Not yet thirty, he had not reached his age of wisdom, but he had become respected among the men. Like most other men of his village, Joseph had studied scripture since he was a young boy. He had ideas about the meaning of things, and he held his own in the constant discussion that took place in the corners of the Synagogue in the after-dinner evenings.

How he had enjoyed walking those nights alone, having kissed his two daughters and his son good night, squeezed Rebekkah tightly and left her to clean up the dinner mess and tuck the children into bed. The warm breezes always made him stop and think about the sacredness of all; he thought of the breath of the Most High that gave life into the smallest creatures. Some of his thoughts he kept to himself, for he never knew if they might sound silly to the old men chattering beside the Synagogue about the Law.

Now things had changed. He had gotten sick and before long it was clear that he had been cursed. He had become so ugly – a monster who could never again speak to his own children for fear that they too would be cursed with this horrible affliction. This night, he was making a trek toward his home – the home he would never again enter. He had heard the children playing in the streets and thought of his own. His heart had twisted in spasms of pain and anger at his predicament. Why had this happened to him? He had gotten up from his chair, and donning the hooded cloak that acted as a mediocre disguise, had passed through the open door into the evening. It was his new presence in the alleyway that had chased the children away. They feared him, thought him "unclean," believed that they too might catch this disintegrating disease. With no thought for his utter loneliness, children scattered like so many cockroaches. Adults were not so far behind. Now here he was across the street from the home his heart inhabited. He could see Rebekkah's profile as she trimmed the lamp-wicks so they would be ready for the evening. It was not yet the Sabbath, so Rebekkah would be planning a busy evening of mending before imparting the wise words of scripture to the children and scooting them off to bed. Joseph stood in the shadows across the street and watched. From somewhere to his left, the direction from which he had come, there was laughter and the sound of running feet. He receded further into the darkness as he watched his son and youngest daughter come running past and right into the building before him. His heart flipped and settled in deeper darkness as he wondered if his children had been among those who had run from him only minutes before. Sighing, he leaned against the shadowed wall. Standing in contemplation, it seemed to Joseph ben Abraham that for one long moment time was suspended. Silence surrounded him, enclosing him like the womb. This was not an empty silence, but the pregnant silence of holiness: he was not alone. Confused, he lifted his eyes and found himself locked in visual contact with a man he had never seen before.

To be continued in the April *Roadrunner*...



Jane Hayes, Volunteer Coordinator

GCUMC

982-3776

Volunteers Do Make a Difference

PERSEVERANCE



Perseverance means steady persistence in a course of action, a purpose especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement.

James, Jesus' brother, says how we obtain completeness and maturity is through perseverance. He tells us that when we are experiencing problems, we must ask God for whatever we need, but notice that James 1:6 says something very key to perseverance.

CHRISTMAS MISSION REVISITED

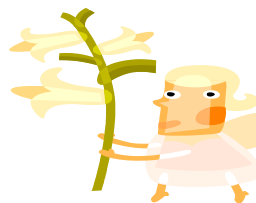
ANGEL TEAM

I am looking for a team of angels for our Christmas Mission 2012.

Together, we will divide up the tasks and meet as a committee to tackle this huge program including planning, setting up trees, duplicating tags, inventory, constant moving of items donated, phone messages, food storage and delivery, sorting, shopping, wrapping, and delivery.

Several of you have been instrumental in the success of this program. Give me a call or send an e-mail if you would like to be on the 2012 ANGEL TEAM. It's not easy finding the halos, so I may have to do a special order to have them ready.

Remember, our angels are not just women!!!



GREETERS

Each week we have 16 greeters scheduled at our doors to assist with bulletins and passing on a welcome to our visitors and congregation. Greeters may obtain a reserved sign for their seats while performing their duty.

Arrive 40 min. prior to service. CALL by Friday at 4:00 pm if you cannot make your assigned Service

Do you have the time? No, I don't mean your watch! Are you willing to volunteer your spiritual gifts? Please look over this list of volunteer needs. If you can help with one or more of the

following, **complete and place this form in the collection plate, take it to the information table, or send it to the church office, 480-982-3776.**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Job</u>
30 + min.	Hospitality
75 min.	Shut-in Meals
40 min.	Greeter
60 min.	Bake Cookies
240 min.	Office Receptionist

Name _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

March Celebrations



Anniversaries

Steven & Linda Crane	5	Mary Virginia Waldorf	6
Marvin & Gwen Murcek	5	Sandy Pino	6
Paul & Robin Toner	8	Henrietta Johnson	7
Warren & Ruth Rikli	9	Jonathon Sheridan	7
Gary & Betty Lou Hunter	11	Bobbie VanderRoest	7
Ernie & Dorothy McMurry	12	Mike Weaver	7
Larry & Jean Graham	13	Marjorie Finley	8
James & Charlene Van Slooten	14	Inge Fitzpatrick	8
Rev. Bob & June Deits	15	James Fleck	8
Joe & Willa Ficarra	15	Bob Norin	8
Wesley & Marjorie Kappler	18	Ron Walker	8
Gene & Roxie Kruschek	18	Flo Junkermier	8
Gary Diane Sauerbrunn	21	Richard Kinder	9
Neil & Melva Houtcooper	23	Marva Masters	9
Rex & Charlene Smith	24	Rex Smith	9
Rod & Becky Reid	26	Mark Bird	10
Mike & Cheryl O'Donnell	27	Dorothy Bose	10
Mark & Shirley Johnson	30	Richard Ervin	10
Ranford & Dorothy Warren	30	John Lane	10
Harry & Lovena Warren	30	Mary Catherine Myers	10
Orville & Maxine Slagle	31	Brenda Patterson	10
Don & Linda Webber	31	Charlene VanSlooten	10
		Mylet Rush	10
		Don Leach	11
		Dorothy Warren	11
		Erin Keenan	11
		John Allensworth	12
		Nancy Bradshaw	12
		Casey Reid	12
		Joan Carns	13
		Dolores Cecil	13
		Carolyn Schlager	13
		Peg Wilson	13
		Jim Potter	13
		June Deits	14
		Charles Lang	14
		Bill Shafer	14
		Loren Riley	15
		Noreen Beatty	16
		Patrick Hughes	16
		Marilyn Pearson	16
		Pat Shroyer	16
		Arline Hacker	17
		Elizabeth Miller	17
		Suzanne Cherry	18
		Jack Richter	18
		Beth Steinberg	18
		Julie Krull	18
		Gloria Sheridan	19

John Toner	19
Jenna Hunt	20
Cecilia O'Brien	20
Timothy Steinberg	20
Jhustise Aguilar	21
William Bennett	21
Baylee Kimble	21
Ann Rasmussen	21
Baylee Kimble	21
Paul Fillion	22
Lori Bachler-Palmer	23
Monty Gingrich	23
James Morganegg	23
Hope Minatree	23
Gordon Gavin	24
James Primeau	25
Joyce Scharringhausen	25
Alyssa Schenck	25
Gary Mueller	26
Wendy Rhymes	26
Velma Carlson	27
Barbara Sebring	27
Neil Johnson	28
Dean Mansdorfer	29
Ted Fite	30
Richard Oldham	30
James Riedel	30
Joy Fite	31
Nellie Moore	31
Jennifer Adams	31

Birthdays

Bettie Armstrong	1	
Barbara Brownfield	1	
Doris Miller	1	
Stan Oolman	1	
Art Schlee	1	
Frank McMahan	2	
Shirley Bobier	3	
Brodie Broderson	3	
Kathryn Moore	4	
Claudine Nielsen	4	
Pete Peterson	4	
Peggy Tippie	4	
David Enerson	4	
Hailey Houseman	4	
Johnny Minatree	4	
Nancy Bilensky	5	
Lavoyce Nolan	5	
Maxine Slagle	5	
Arne Eisentraut	6	
Ellis Falk	6	

If your name isn't on this list (or you know of someone who should be), please call the church office with the information. We truly don't mean to leave anyone out.

W.O.W. Corner

We have golf carts available and need volunteers to drive them. Our goal is to have golf cart service from the parking lots at the 9:30 service as well as special events like Easter and concerts, etc. Won't you volunteer? Its fun, you get to meet lots of really nice people and help those who need assistance getting to the Sanctuary. Call Ron Walker at 480-671-3881 or the church office to sign up.

Special plans are in place for Palm Sunday, April 1 and Easter on April 8 so this will be the last meeting to finalize plans for these special events. Then, with Spring Fling on April 14 finalization of those plans is at hand as well. These events require **many** individuals to organize and staff so that activities run smoothly. Although we have a basic outline for these special events, we are ALWAYS open to new ideas. Please join us at the upcoming meeting and share yours.

Please consider attending our next meeting on March 6th at 6:00 pm in the Education Building and share your ideas and our excitement. There is nothing you need to do to become a member ~ just come to the meeting(s) and volunteer for activities, we'll be delighted to have your help!

W.O.W. means "Witness Our Wonder" ~ the wonder of God's love as exemplified by the congregation of Gold Canyon United Methodist Church wherein one should have a WOW!!! experience each time he/she attends a service or other event.

Team members dedicate a lot of time to this Hospitality Mission and provide a wonderful representation of our church family. THANK YOU one and all!!!!

Commemorative Mugs!!!!



Wouldn't you like to enjoy your morning coffee or tea or perhaps hot chocolate in an attractive Gold Canyon United Methodist Church Commemorative Mug? Stop by the Information Desk or the office and pick one up for only \$5.00 each. They also make great gifts!

Your W.O.W. team designed the mugs and proceeds are used to support their outreach mission.

Sidewalk Ministries

***Sidewalk Ministries
(otherwise known as Sidewalk Sunday School)
reporting in!***

We are well into our first year meeting at Avalon Elementary School and all is going well. Our numbers maintain – we had 35 children this last Saturday. Children move and that is our loss while new children arrive and that is our gain. We have had the pleasure of new shepherds joining us and they are always welcomed with open arms.

Some of these children come hungry. How can you help? Make a financial gift to the SM lunch program, become a shepherd (2 hours on Saturday morning) but MOST IMPORTANTLY pray for these children.

And always remember, you are most welcome to visit and just check us out! We will even give you a hot dog lunch (or whatever we are having that day)!

Donations for Student Financial Assistance

Have you ever considered financially helping a student to advance his or her education and/or career training but weren't sure how to go about finding qualified applicants? If so, GCUMC can now be of assistance. A new scholarship program has been established to help students, young and not so young, with their financial needs.

There are established criteria that must be met before a potential recipient may receive any available funds. Brochures describing the criteria, along with more details about the program, are available in the "Information Rack" found in the church narthex.



STEPHEN MINISTRY®

A Care Receiver is one with a need which is born of some stress, grief, or personal problem which compromises the ordinary joy of living. A Stephen Minister's caregiving is born of, and dependent upon, the eternal and all-inclusive love of God. Both have important boundaries which are to be maintained if the caring relationship is to flourish.

A Stephen Minister is trained to recognize, and will not intrude upon or violate, the boundaries of one who is troubled. If such a person is unable or so deeply hurt that he or she is unable to set or maintain boundaries, the Stephen Minister can help with decision making, build trust, demonstrate values, teach the art of saying "no", relieve anxiety and feelings of anger, and help one discover that God is a loving God upon whom everyone may depend for answers through worship, prayer and fellowship with Christians.

If you are overly sensitive to criticism, feel responsible for the feelings of other people, tend to take on the moods of those around you, frequently feel angry or sad, and regularly feel anxious or afraid, OR IF YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK WITH, please call the office for the help of a Stephen Minister.

Give me , Lord, a stout heart to bear my own burdens, a tender heart to bear the burdens of others and a believing heart to lay all my burdens on You , for You care for us.

*"This is the message you heard from the beginning:
We should love one another."* 1 John 3:11

Easter is Just Around the Corner



Now is the time to order lilies for this year.

If you wish to order an Easter lily or lilies, please complete this order blank and include a \$10.00 payment for each flower ordered. The form, along with the payment, may be mailed to Gary Stemple, 8295 E Sweet Acacia Dr, Gold Canyon, AZ 85218-6998; placed in the offering plate; or put in Gary's box in the office. Please make all checks payable to the church and mark it "Easter lily." The Easter Lilies will be placed in the Sanctuary and the Koinonia Room for your enjoyment on Easter Sunday. You may take your lilies home **after** the Sunday services.

EASTER LILY ORDER BLANK

Please order an Easter lily in Memory of _____

Please order an Easter lily in Honor of _____

Total amount attached: \$ _____

Your name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Please call Gary or Sharon Stemple, 671-4307, if you have questions.

Roadrunner Email

We encourage you to sign up to receive your Roadrunner by email. Complete the information below, tear it off and drop it in the collection plate or send it in to the church office.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Name: _____

Email address: _____



Please join the **United Methodist Women (UMW) of Gold Canyon** for Fellowship and Ministry!

Book Sale Alert

The UMW will sponsor a book sale on Sunday March 11th, outside the education building. The presence of anyone who has a little time to help set up at 9:30 on the morning of March 10 would be appreciated. This will be the March UMW Meeting, but EVERYONE is invited to help set up! We are still accepting your already read books so bring them to the church for donation.

Last year the book sale raised \$1,000.00 and the funds were split among the GCUMC Youth Group, Sidewalk Ministries, and the Hope Women's Center in Apache Junction. Funds from the sale this year will be given to local missions.

Have a wonderful month, and we hope to see many women at the next meeting. Carolyn Burch (480) 983-9943.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Calling all Knitters and Crocheters!

If you like to knit or crochet, enjoy meeting new friends, and like to do things for others, you are invited to check out the prayer shawl ministry. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday morning of each month during the winter months, at 10:00 am in room 101/102.

Our group makes shawls to give to church members and their families who are ill, grieving, dealing with cancer or those who are in crisis. We have patterns and supplies to get you started.

If you have questions, please call Nancy Miller at 480-882-3226 or email her at fnmiller61@msn.com.

BIBLE BANTER



MEETS EVERY MONDAY, 9:30-10:30
AM

MOUNTAIN BREW COFFEE HOUSE
6832 S KINGS RANCH RD #5

(NEAR THE NW CORNER OF US 60 AND KINGS
RANCH RD)

Join us for coffee and stimulating conversation as we discuss ways we can live as faithful Christians in today's world. Don't forget to bring your Bible and any theological topics of conversation you would like us to explore!! All are welcome!

STITCHES UNLIMITED...

...meets on the FIRST Wednesday of each month at 9:00 am in Room 101/102. Contact Melva Houtcooper for more information.

TAX HELP AVAILABLE ~

If you are struggling with preparing and funding your 2011 tax return, we might have a solution for you. A church member has volunteered to be available by appointment to help. Call the church office at 480-982-3776.

GCUMC SINGLES GROUP
Come Get To Know One Another!

Who: Any Single over the age of 50
What: Gold Canyon Singles Monthly
 Potluck and Game Night
When: 1st Saturday of every month
 Meet at 5:00 pm, Plan to eat at 5:30 pm
Where: Gold Canyon United Methodist Church- Koinonia Room

We will be meeting the 1st Saturday of every month for our main get together and branch off into groups of interest for other events to be announced at the monthly meeting. Bring your own table service and drink. Also, please bring the recipe for any homemade dish for our Cookbook. Questions? Call Rhonda Rapp at 480-357-1574.



A Note From Bob....

The Houser's were leading the music. The guys from Legacy

Quartet showed up to sing two songs at the beginning of the service—and the Koinonia Room was packed! Those who tried to count attendance said it was like trying to count a can of worms. We do know there were more than 335 people singing along, clapping their hands and celebrating the love of God.

It carried over to Super Bowl Sunday when (to my great surprise) there were way more people at the 5 o'clock serviced than I expected. There were more Giant fans than Patriot fans, but I don't know if that affected the outcome of the game.

One thing I have learned from our years of doing the Country Western Service is that you can have fun in worship and still worship in the deepest sense of the word.

If you haven't tried it yet, gather a few friends and drop in at 5:00 pm in the Koinonia Room. Don't worry about finding it, there is a sign out front to guide you.

As we begin the season of Lent and head toward Easter, I am going to present a sermon series titled "Huge Outcomes Possible Everyday". If you read just the first letter of each word, you will get the drift of what it is all about. Y'all come, ya hear? Bob Deits

Bashas'



Fry's

SCRIP/BUS FUND

~ Did you know?????..... Over the past ten years, **at no cost to participants**, the church bus fund has earned over \$104,000 from the *Scrip* program (\$85,000 from Bashas', \$18,000 from Fry's). This is fantastic!! This money was used to purchase our bus and pay for gas, insurance and maintenance.

Now that we need to purchase a fifteen passenger **van** to accompany our bus (we are about \$10,000 short to buy this van before the youth go on their Mission Project to Busby, Montana this summer), we are asking *all* of you who shop at these two stores to reconsider using a Bashas' Community Support card and/or Fry's Gift card purchased at the church Information Desk on Sunday mornings or at the church office during the week. Each card starts with \$20, \$50 or \$100, and you recharge it as often as necessary just before you check out at the store (or at Customer Service), using your personal charge card, a check or cash; then use the card to pay for your purchases, and you can even use it for gas at Fry's!

Bashas' gives the church 6% of every dollar you load onto the card, Fry's 3%. Bashas' cards are honored at Bashas' grocery stores, A.J.'s Fine Foods and Food City. Fry's cards are accepted at Fry's grocery stores, Fry's Marketplace, and all other Kroger-owned stores throughout the US.

For many of you who in the past only used the "number program" at Bashas' which was a separate program and only earned 1%, be advised that it has not been in place for the past two years since they had to make a choice of their charitable programs at that time. If you have any questions, please give Betty Rolley a call at 480-



Gold Canyon United Methodist Church
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Phone: 480-982-3776
Fax: 480-671-0028
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www.goldcanyonumc.org

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Permit No. 64

GCUMC Staff

Senior Pastor	Fred A. Steinberg
Minister of Pastoral Care	Hu Rhymes
Associate Pastor	Bob Deits
Pastoral Intern	Jody Topping
Director of Education	Katharine Keller
Director of Music Ministries	Douglas J. Benton
Associate Director of Music	David Ballard
Director of Youth Ministries	Wendy Moore
Pianists	Carol Ballard/ Linda Jones/ Marty Robison
Office Manager	Nancy Virden
Administrative Associate	Suzanne Cherry
Volunteer Coordinator	Katherine Keller/Kim Shroyer
Parish Nurse	Jane Hayes
Nursery Care Giver	Susan Malloy/Monica Ortega-Watters
Facility Care Taker	Devona Brown
	Rick Ceynar

Addressee or Current Resident

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 & 9:30 AM

Traditional ~ Sanctuary

10:50 AM

Praise ~ Koinonia Room

Music led by *Uncommon Grace*

5:00 PM

Country Western ~ Koinonia Room

Music led by One in the Spirit or the Housers
Childcare Provided at ALL Services

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

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

☩ 8:00 AM ~ Adult ~ Room 101/102

☩ 9:30 AM ~ Children

☩ 9:30 AM ~ Youth

☩ 10:50 AM ~ Children

Deadline for April Roadrunner

— March 10

Weekly Bulletin Insert Deadline: **Noon** Wednesday
Your GCUMC Publications are brought to you by: Bill
Atkinson, Georgia Kirkpatrick, Kim Shroyer, Jody
Topping & Suzanne Cherry with help from the Friday
Bulletin Team and the Roadrunner Assembly Team