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Vol. 26

January 2013

No. 1

**From The Pastor:
"Who is Jesus?"**

Jesus once asked His disciples a great question, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" When they answered, He then asked, "But who do you say that I am?" That is a great question for us to consider as we start a new year. Who is Jesus? During Advent we reflected on Jesus as a sweet baby who came to show us love but there is so much more than that!

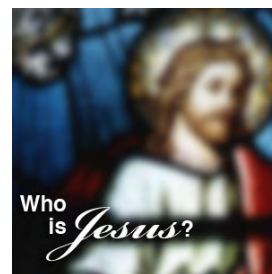
C.S. Lewis coined the famous statement that Jesus must either be "lunatic or Lord". It was a way to stimulate thinking about who Jesus is. The Apostle Peter answered the question with his famous statement "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." But each generation...each person has to answer this for themselves. In our next sermon series we will ask the question, "Who is Jesus?" We hope you will join us as we take a look as some interesting perspectives on who Jesus is.

Don't forget that on January 6th we will launch the *New Traditions Worship* service. I will give the message, Katharine Keller will give the children's message and the choir will sing the anthem. Two hymns will be sung and Uncommon Grace will sing three songs. It will take place for only three months. In April we will return to our format of the Praise service at 10:50 in the Koionia Room. The biggest shift will be for those who currently attend our Praise service at 10:50. We invite you to join in the "New Traditions" service at 11:00 am. You will still be able to hear Uncommon Grace sing. We also invite people who attend the 9:30 service to shift their attendance to the 11:00 service. The traffic will be much less and it will be much easier to get in and out of service. See you on Sunday!

Grace and peace,

*Fred***"Who is Jesus?"
Sermon Series**

Some say Jesus is a myth, some say he was a profound spiritual teacher, still others say he is the Son of God... literally God himself, the divine living in human flesh. The magnitude of his life cannot be called into question. All of human history is split in two marking the time before and after his birth. Time magazine named him the man of the millennium. The book that tells of his life was the first book ever put to print and has been the bestseller every year since. So, who do you think Jesus is? Join us as we explore the life of the man who is God.



January 6 – Grace and Law
January 13 – Miracle Worker
January 27 – Healer

**New Worship Schedule –
Starts January 6th**

8:00 Traditional Worship
9:30 Traditional Worship
11:00 New Traditions
5:00 pm Country Western Worship

"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."

Family Worship ~ We would like to give some opportunity for families to periodically worship together. So, we have chosen five different holiday weekends where the children 1st grade and older will remain in worship with their parents.

Children kindergarten and under will still either be in childcare or in the preschool class; and this will hold true for all services. There will still be a children's message in worship. We trust this will be a special experience for all families with children.

Adult studies ~ Adult studies for Lent and another offering on Sunday mornings are now being considered. These will probably be short term studies in February and March.

Children's Sunday School Mission Money ~ In our Sunday School program this fall we studied about helping to get clean water for Nicaragua. *El Porvenir* is one project that helps rural Nicaraguans provide sustainable water and sanitation projects, as well as provide health and hygiene education and reforestation. Our children raised \$61 through the Sunday School offering alone. Thanks kids for helping others around the world!

Sidewalk Ministry

Welcome to another amazing new year of MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN from all walks of life! Sidewalk Ministry for 2013 is so excited to welcome many new families, totaling more than FORTY precious child-members, sharing in the gospel and deeds of our Lord! New for this season, we anticipate a new design for our fading truck facade and a terrific new cause to support with our Children's Offering.

WE ARE GROWING and thus actively seeking a few more adult members to help Our Youngest children write prayer requests...or even lead them in a prayer or teach them a song. Indicate your interest by email slhussein@mpsaz.org or text/call 242-9397, with the Saturday you are free to serve this month. We can use your skills anytime between 9 and noon the Saturday of your choice at Avalon School.

Come be a part of this rewarding mission!

(Understand the vision! www.ministryWITH.org
Conference Sidewalk Vision: <http://desertsouthwestconference.org/churchmembers/missions/sidewalk/vision/>

Blessings for 2013,
Amy and Sherry



Deadlines:

February Roadrunner is January 10th
Weekly Bulletin Insert is Noon Wednesday

Your GCUMC Publications are brought to you by: Bill Atkinson, Georgia Kirkpatrick, and Kim Shroyer, with help from the Friday Bulletin Team and the Roadrunner Assembly Team.

**Stitches Unlimited****Quilts for St. Andrews Clinic**

Did you know?! The Stitches Unlimited group **makes and donates quilts** to the St. Andrews Clinic. The quilts we make range from infant size (about 40" x 40") to quilts for older kids (about 42" x 60"). Donations of quilts of any size are accepted. We have kits already cut for simple ABC style quilts, directions included. We also have the backing and batting. We **sew toiletry bags** for St. Andrews as well. Those kits and instructions are also available.

Come join us on the **first Wednesday of every month** at 9:00 am in room 101-102. We work **year round**. Bring your sewing machine and sew (we do have a couple of machines here), your rotary cutter and cut kits, iron, or pick up some kits to sew at home.

We will also **gladly take donations** of cotton, flannel, light weight denim, light weight corduroy fabric, and fleece, in solids, tone on tone, and kid friendly prints. Or \$. Slightly used sheets (or new) are good for backing too. For questions or more info call Bonnie Becker at (480) 629-8796.



SCRIP/BUS FUND ~

Welcome back to all of you who have been away over the summer! Over the past ten years, **at no cost to participants**, the church bus fund has earned over \$104,000 from the *Scrip* program (\$86,000 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. **With your continued support we just purchased a new fifteen passenger van to accompany our bus!!** Now we will put funds toward paying off that van, and providing for maintenance and service.

We are asking *all* of you who shop at these two stores to consider using a Bashas' Community Support card and/or Fry's Gift card purchased at the church Information Center on Sunday morning 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. Many of you in the past only used the "number program" at Bashas' which was a separate program - this program was discontinued about two years ago due to economic conditions. If you have any questions, please give Betty Rolley a call at 480-380-0147. Thanks for your continued support.

**GCUMC SINGLES GROUP — We are
 alive and well, and now known as
 "Singles Moving Forward"**

Wakeup Call!! New Singles Group is now forming, so jump right in and be part of the action! Everyone is welcome to join us for the many events we will be planning. And, yes, that means everyone there is NO age restriction! For more information call Judy Wells at 480-646-1713, or Ella at 480-474-1488.

**Please join us for fun, food,
 events and fellowship!**





Gold Canyon UMC Youth



Gold Canyon United Methodist Youth Group News

Wendy Moore, Youth Director

In November we hiked the Hieroglyphics trail to appreciate God's creation and give thanks. Winter sports is in full swing and our youth have been cheering on Mikey at his basketball games. In December we sang Christmas carols, and helped at Sidewalk Ministry. Lessons last month included "Unconditional Love" using dogs as an example of God's unconditional love. Other lessons included how Christ has been pushed aside by Christmas commercialism, and how we can focus again on the true meaning of Christ's birth. Be watching for your invitation to our "Thank You" dinner for our Busby mission trip. The dinner is January 26. If you do not receive an invitation by January 10 please call Wendy at the church office. God Bless you.



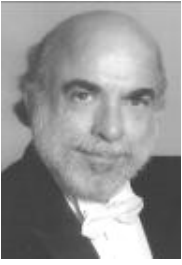
Hiking the Hieroglyphics Trail



Mikey Sheridan—Basketball



Taylor, Alexis, & Morgan relaxing on the rocks



Music Notes

As the song says, "*Christmas time is no time to diet; you can make a resolution on New Year's Eve!*" Well, my lovely wife reminded me that New Year's Eve has come (or will come soon, as I write this during mid-December), so I guess I'd better be

thinking about more healthy eating, and less caloric consumption! But, the Christmas goodies will certainly be long remembered! ("*Yum, yum, yum!*")

Our 11th *Annual Choral Christmas Concert* set another record! We had 2,021 people at the two performances, 18 more than last year, though 6:30 was the packed concert instead of 3:00. Our thanks to all who came and shared the experience of this concert together. You were indeed a blessing to us! My profound thanks to all the musicians who spent countless hours practicing on their own and in rehearsals and sectionals in preparation for this annual event. We are very privileged to have so many great musicians in our congregation! Everyday, I thank God that I am here at Gold Canyon United Methodist Church and doing what God has given me to do! What a blessing for me! **Thank you!!!**

This month we have a couple of events that are looked forward to by everyone every year! **Friday night, January 11 at 7:30 pm**, and **Saturday, January 12 at 3:00 pm** we again host the incredible **George Dyer in Concert!** George completely filled our 1,200-seat Sanctuary to more than standing room only in two performances last year! He was voted Outstanding Entertainer of the Year in Branson, MO. George has what has been called "the voice of the century!" He will sing a new concert of classical, popular, sacred and Broadway music. If you haven't seen George yet, you definitely will want to be here! If you have, I know you will be here! To give you an idea of his popularity, his first concert here in 2010 drew 965 people, 2011 he brought in 1,531 people - in one performance!!! And last year he drew 1,816 in two performances! This year I know we will completely fill both performances as the word is out about this incredible talent! Get here early! Doors will open at 7:00 on Friday, and 2:30 on Saturday. We will close the doors when the Sanctuary is full.

The next event is the always very popular **Legacy Quartet** who will sing for us on **Sunday, January 27 at 3:00 pm**. Returning for their 6th annual concert for us, the Legacy Quartet sings a varied program of traditional Southern Gospel Men's Quartet music and so much more, including Contemporary

Christian and popular music! They always fill the Sanctuary with people who enjoy their incredible close harmonies and great arrangements. Regardless how you feel when you come to hear them, you will leave with a smile on your face, love in your heart and feet that won't stop dancing! You will need to come early to get a good seat for this outstanding group! Doors will open at 2:30.

Both events are no charge as we will receive free will offerings at each. Everyone is asked to bring at least one non-perishable food item per person for the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church Food Bank. Bring your family, friends and neighbors to these concerts - they will thank you and think you are great for asking them to join you!

Several have asked about auditioning for our **Chancel Choir**. No, I don't do that. If you can sing on pitch and read music at least a little, just come and try us out. We rehearse on Thursday evenings from 6:50 to 8:30 pm. Your first time, please let me know you are coming and get here at 6:45 so we can be sure to get you a folder and music. Come join us! We have much more fun than a church group should probably have! But, we are also very serious about giving our best music to the Lord and to our congregation.

Our **Orchestra** is in need of more players, especially string players. Please dust off your instruments and join us on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm in the Music Room. **Kids**, come join **Joyful Noise**, our choir for grades 5-8, directed by Kathy Nuss. We have a great time singing and making a *joyful noise to the Lord*. We rehearse on Wednesday afternoons from 5:30-6:00 pm. **Youth**, come join the **Youth Handbell Team** and see what the fun is all about! We meet on Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45 pm in the Music Room. I look forward to seeing you all then!

As we all look to the coming year, may we be filled with hope and excitement for the blessings and opportunities that God will give us. But remember, we must first be open to Him to receive them.

Doug

Douglas J. Benton

Director of Music Ministries



"David: Seeking a Heart Like His"

BETH MOORE BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study
January 9-March 20
Wednesdays 9-11:30 am
(Childcare available)
and

Wednesdays 6:30-9 pm

David: Seeking a Heart Like His explores the life of **David from shepherd boy to king**. David's life serves both good and bad examples for modern-day Christians. Beth draws spiritual insights and understanding from a man who slew a giant and saved a kingdom.

God will never give up on you. Come find out how **this promises to be true in Beth Moore's updated** version of her bestselling study, *A Heart Like His: Seeking the heart of God through a study of David*.

In this examination of the "man after God's own heart" David will delight and disappoint you. You'll want to be just like him at times and nothing like him at others. If you've ever experienced doubts, temptations, losses, family problems, or personal inconsistencies, this study is for you. Maybe you took this study when it was first released in 1996. The new study features an updated member book and all new video sessions. I can promise you **Beth's hair is not the same!** Sign-up sheets are posted in both buildings. Your leadership team will be in place again this year, so please call Diana Linton, 480-229-0706, Shirley Feather, 480-374-4478, or Diane Heinauer, 480-671-0822 with any questions we can help you with.

Please bring a salad, bread, or dessert to the first session on January 9th at 10:00 am for Session 1 DVD and lunch. Books will be available before the luncheon for \$20.00.

Living Proof Live With Beth Moore

If you wish to join us for Living Proof Live with Beth Moore March 22-23 at Grand Canyon University Arena, we will be collecting money for those tickets as well. Or you can purchase your own ticket(s) at lifeway.com/livingproof for \$69. Transportation will not be supplied by the church, but groups for carpooling will be formed closer to the time of the event.

Farewell - Sort Of!

I can't believe the day has come and gone that I could say I have worked at Gold Canyon UMC for nine years! But it has, and with it came the last day that I worked as your Office Manager.

When I walked into that little office to fill out my application on that December day in 2003, I had no idea that my life had changed. I had pondered the classified advertisement for the position for three days before deciding to apply. I had just graduated from ASU with my BA in Religious Studies. After being a Secretary or Administrative Assistant for 25 years or so, I was ready for a change. I was looking for something different. Yet, for three days when I picked up that newspaper to seek work, this ad kept jumping out at me. **It said something to the effect of "Needed: Church Secretary, \$12/hr. 982-3776."** On the third day, I decided I'd better take the hint.

I thought I'd work here for a few years while I sought a new career. I guess, in a way, that's exactly what happened. I didn't expect "a few years" to be nine! But more than that - I surely didn't expect I'd be called to seek a career as a "woman of the cloth"!

You have all been the most supportive and inspiring group of people I have ever encountered. I have laughed and cried with many of you. You have seen my children grow up - **and I've seen some of your children and grandchildren grow up**. I see some of the kids who were in Sunday School with my children and cannot believe they are the same young people! And what a special group of youth and young adults they have become! You should all be proud of the Christ-like compassion and dedication that you have instilled in them.

I've been privileged to work with the children in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, and even to give the Children's Sermon once in a while! I have worked with you - facilitating Disciple and other studies, as well as a few contemplative prayer groups. While I did these things because I enjoyed them and they gave me experience in the field I hope to work in one day, I was much more gifted simply by your presence in them.

I have learned so much from you, the congregation, about caring and giving. You have been, for me, the Light of Christ in times when I have been down, felt set back, or confused about my purpose. When I left the certification process, you encouraged me and lifted me up, allowing me to hear once again the Call that took me into the process in the first place. When I

Continued on Page 7

Farewell, continued

responded to that Call for the second time, you supported me. You continue to support me as I head into this last semester of school at Claremont School of Theology. I will finally graduate in May, 2013. **I'm a year late and a few dollars short, but God has** been a part of it all along.

I can't give enough praise and thanks for the way the W.O.W. Team, Linda and Ron Walker, Doug, Fred, and the volunteers of the church - and my sister Jane - took hold of my wedding in September, 2011. What I thought would be a rag-tag bunch of family and friends at a casual wedding turned into a dream wedding!

Truly, the Light of Christ shines brightly here at Gold Canyon UMC. I am leaving the office, but I am not leaving the church. As I continue the process toward ordination, YOU are my home church family. I will come to worship with you whenever I can. In the meantime, may you be filled with the Spirit that you might continue to serve as Christ taught us to serve, to love as Christ taught us to love, and to give as God gave us Jesus Christ to be our Lord and our Savior.

May there be peace in every heart as we enter this new year of our lives.

~ Suzanne (Suzy) Jacobson Cherry

Pastoral Care at GCUMC

By Fay Quanstrom

Life can be messy, painful, and sometimes confusing. What do you need when you are hurting? Relief? Hope? Compassion? Someone to listen? Prayer? Anointing? All of these?

Since Hu and Wendy have retired, who is responsible for pastoral care? Pastor Fred, Rev. Bob Deits, Rev. Fay Quanstrom, and Intern Jody will share pastoral care responsibilities.

Why are some requests announced on Sunday morning? Near each door is a stand with a white Prayer Requests binder. Anyone is welcome to write a prayer request in these pages before worship and it will be announced.

Why are some requests printed on the weekly prayer list and others are not? Needs that are known by Thursday morning are printed for Sunday

distribution. Requests written in the white binders on Sunday are given orally before the pastoral prayer in each service.

Does GCUMC have a prayer chain? Yes, an electronic list of prayer needs is sent each week to those who wish it and updated as special needs become known. Call the church office (480-982-3776) with your information to receive this e-mail or to make a prayer request.

Will someone visit me if I am hospitalized? If you or your family let the church office know, the staff will make every effort to pray with you before surgery and visit you while you are an inpatient. **We can't visit you if we don't know you are hospitalized!**

What if I am hospitalized and need prayer but don't want to be visited? Any of the pastoral care staff are able to pray with you in your home or on the phone. Let us know of your wishes.

What role do Stephen Ministers have in pastoral care? GCUMC has about twenty trained Stephen Ministers who are available at your request to walk with you through difficult times. Perhaps you are struggling with personal problems and need someone to speak with confidentially. A Stephen Minister is just such a person. You can connect with a Stephen Minister by calling coordinators, Marjorie or Don Tonole (480-671-9951) or the church office.

What can I do? We are all ministers of the Gospel, the good news of Jesus, is in what we do and say throughout the week. That means YOU are very much part of pastoral care at GCUMC, sharing prayer, love, and care for others. A warm smile may be just what will bring someone a sense of the presence of Christ. "I'm praying for you," may be the best news someone gets during a difficult time. A cheering call, a personal note, a greeting card, a home visit - **these are all welcome reminders of God's love in human skin.** These are actions any person can take to express Christ's love.



News from the Health and Wellness Ministry of Susan Malloy, Parish Nurse

✝ *Wishing You a Healthy 2012!*

Our aging brainsHow to prevent its decline.

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Hope this finds all of you ready for New Beginnings. The first of the year is a great time to reassess your accomplishments and failures of the previous year(s). We as humans all fail in one arena or another, no one is exempt, but it is what we do/don't do about it that can bring more failure or success. So it is time to put on our thinking caps and rejuvenate our stressed out brains. Life in the 21st Century is Stressful.

One of my favorite sayings is "think outside the box" especially if "box living" has not produced what you wanted it to. When it comes to our brains here are six (6) suggestions to improve and/or delay the onset of age related brain deficiencies to dementia and/ or Alzheimer's.

#1 Re-evaluate your diet and supplement intake. More than 20 years ago it was proven that a person whose memory was declining could improve on recall by taking choline which is found in Lecithin. In the study the subjects were given as much as 9,000 mg of Lecithin without side effects. The subjects did have improved recall by as much as 50%. Now I realize that is a lot of lecithin to swallow but if you added even 1000-2000 mg twice a day- overtime you would see an improvement without harm. You see aging and decrease in dietary choline causes the loss of neurons in the brain and the choline-receptive neurons are the most needy of choline. There are a large number of cholinergic- neurons in the hippocampus – an area of the brain essential for the formation of new memories.

Another very important supplementation is Thiamine, Vitamin B 12, Vitamin C, folate and riboflavin. Again subjects were tested some being given the supplements and the rest were not. The results showed that those with the lowest Vitamin B12 and C levels scored worst on the memory test and those with the lowest Vitamin B12, C, folate, and riboflavin did worst on the problem solving test. As the old saying goes "the proof was in the pudding".

As a part of the aging process our aging brain cells lose dendritic spines, the chemical receptor sites that are critical to being able to pass along information. Too few dendritic spines are like have a poor connection on your telephone. Messages get lost or misinterpreted. This can also be a cause of confusion and memory loss.

Our food supply no longer can give us what we need to meet the demands of our bodies and brains. Therefore, we must think "outside the box" and use supplementation if we want to ward off a deteriorating brain. Here are a few additional dietary considerations: Avoid Processed foods especially those containing High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) found in many foods. Avoid grains, even whole grains will increase your blood sugar and create insulin flooding. Avoid artificial sweeteners especially aspartame as it may cause mental disorders (there are 100's of scientific studies to prove this) Sorry to say but you are better off having a little bit of sugar than using these chemicals as your

liver has no idea what to do with them and that will create a very bad scenario health wise. On a positive note be sure and get an adequate intake of vitamin D 3 (cholecalciferol). Most adults can take as much as 5000IU's twice a day preferably at breakfast and supper. If taken at bedtime it may cause an increase in energy and not allow you to sleep well.

#2 Get 15 - 30 minutes of physical activity/exercise daily. Remember Pain is NOT gain.

#3 Spend 5 minutes every day working on the refinement of a specific small domain of your physical body. Examples: trim your toenails, your fingernails, applying lotion to dry areas and massage it in gently, massaging your head with a healthy essential oil like Rosemary ct. Cineole to stimulate hair growth and/or jojoba oil to moisturize and stimulate the blood supply to the brain and hair follicles prior to washing your hair to name a few.

#4 Spend time engaging in learning something new. Try a new hobby or skill-like jewelry making, woodworking etc. Try memorizing short passages of scripture. Post them where you can see them daily. There are Brain games out there in books and a site called Lumosity that you can purchase sessions to engage your brain in new ways to keep it sharp and healthy.

#5 Practice Mindfulness -focus your attention on the world around you. Feel the breeze blowing in your face, check out the bloom on a cactus or rose bush, watch a gecko move about your yard chasing a bug. Remember to breathe deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth. It will help reduce the stressors that seek to create tension in your body. This will also reduce the flow of cortisol which is harmful to brain and body and creates fatigue and brain fog.

#6 Stay socially active. This is especially crucial for widows and widowers but applies to married couples too. We all need to be heard and learn to listen and engage in meaningful conversation as well as experience caring concern and interactions in different settings with a variety of interesting people.

I trust this has given you FOOD for Thought. We only have one brain and we must protect and nourish it. I pray you will have the desire and willingness to be your own health advocate and preserve that which God has given each of us.....A Marvelous Brain. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Blessings of Health & Wellness,
Susan Malloy RN BSN
GCUMC Parish Nurse

Information obtained from *The Complete Guide to Your Emotions and Your Health* by Emrika Padus & Multiple contributors and *How Innate Plasticity of your Brain allows you to Improve Cognitive Performance and Prevent Age related Decline* Video by Dr. James Mercola and Dr. Michael Merzenic.

DONATIONS AND ATTENDANCE

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

CORRECTION: Last month's entries had an error in the Worship columns.
The following chart provides the correct information.

October	2010		2011		2012		2011	2012
	General	Building	General	Building	General	Building	Worship All	Worship All
1st	\$23581	\$8507	\$20,834	\$12,663	\$16445	\$6016	637	716
2nd	9903	3252	8578	2038	20314	18631	765	895
3rd	12372	4360	10110	4577	12454	11732	733	889
4th	10953	28111	15542	4454	17194	4613	927	1047
5th	14235	5619	12757	12975	0	0		
Total	\$71044	\$24549	\$67,821	\$36,706	\$66407	\$40992	4253	2785

The following chart is the current report:

November	2010		2011		2012		2011	2012
	General	Building	General	Building	General	Building	Worship All	Worship All
1st	\$25161	\$11928	25201	11411	22797	10515	1193	1125
2nd	16962	6269	16067	4584	18732	4102	1217	1123
3rd	16420	3875	15699	5137	16286	3882	1268	1266
4th	12406	3740	13742	3594	16277	4055	1260	1359
5th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$70949	\$25812	\$70709	\$24725	74092	22554	4938	4873

Building Mortgage Update

The Finance Committee would like to provide an update on the status of the GCUMC building mortgage effective November 30, 2012. The figures below are for the existing mortgage on the new Sanctuary Building.

Our monthly payment is \$28,360.00. Of that, \$17,207.00 goes toward principle and \$11,153.00 to interest. The outstanding loan amount owed to Wells Fargo is \$2,634,589.00.

Did you know that you can also make a special gift to the Building Fund IN ADDITION to your annual pledge? In October, one member donated \$3,000 to the principle only!

Thanks to everyone for your continued service and support of Gold Canyon United Methodist Church.

"For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God." Hebrews 3:4

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

We will miss being active with the Sadie Mission. We hope none of you will forget our little black schnauzer who gave us 15 ½ years of love. She also gave many of you love when she helped us with some of our visits. We are excited that Les & Marlene Kimball will be in charge of making sure there is pet food in the Food Bank. Lolly Skillman has offered to help bag the pet food for the animals. Also someone else has offered to help bag & talked with Jeff. We don't know who that is, but thanks to all of you from all the furry friends who are hungry. We also want you to know that we have started a Sadie Mission at Primera Iglesia because their food bank didn't have food for pets. It is unbelievable how much pet food goes out of the GCUMC Food Bank each day. We are so thankful for all of you who donate & bring pet food. 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!!!

We want to give RON & LINDA WALKER a **BIG THANK YOU** for all the work they have* *done for GCUMC. You are MISSED and we love you both. Hu & Wendy

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Sympathies: Channan Cassella, upon the death of her uncle, Bob Cassella; Barb Jordan, upon the loss of her husband, Sam; Jerry & Dee Keyser, upon the death of Jerry's mother, Corilda Keyser; The family of Cheryl Smith, upon her death; The Somerville family, upon the death of Robbie's sister, Dana, & Paula & Rush Tucker (Robbie is Tucker's son-in-law); Laverne Workman, upon the death of her husband, Jack and the families & friends of the above.

Concerns and/or Continued Prayers: Bettie Armstrong, Daniel Bates (Carolyn Bates' grandson), Bob Benoit, Bernetta Borstyn, Lucy Carnahan, Bill & Naomi Carter (Jim Carter's brother), Roger Coad, Ken Driscoll, Ellis Falk, Arthur Fuerherm, Phil Gordon. Don Hammond, Angie Hawk, Minnie Hoehm, Elaine Knight, Caroline Long, Bev Mitchell, Marilyn Pearson, Al Przybylski, Barbara Rabbitt, Armin Reichert, John Whalley (Nancy Jonovich's nephew), Dick Wilcox, Tim Williams, Larry Wilson (nephew of Marilyn & Chuck Jungman), & 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 (Ryan Hoff, Matthew Jacobson, Jacob Manbeck, Sierra Nagle, Max Reece, Joshua Rosenberg), 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, Florence Allen, Richard & Eleanor Armstrong, Tom & Dee Ashe, Dave & Linda Austin, Patti Baker, Grace & Bert Bannick, Bob & Ruth Bennett, Irene Blake (Paul Fillion's sister), Marge Bos (Dave Bos' mother), Kay Bottomley (Mike Vagnier's mother), Lillian Boyd (Jeanette Lunstead's sister in-law), Pam Bramlet, Rebecca Bridgewater, Jack & Esther Ann Brown, Jeff & Karen Brown, Royce Brownfield, Gen Brunk (Jerri Manbeck's mother), Dr. Brad & Arlaine Bryant, Maggie Bryant, Bob & Jenilu Burgi, Martha Burkinshaw, Jim & Carolyn Burt, Lisa Buscher, in Rome, until March 2013 (Jeff & Jane Hayes' daughter), Sandy Campbell, Leon & Linda Schafle-Castonia, Charlie Clark, Toby Clement (Rita Hawkin's son), Millie Covill (Randy Olson's friend), Rev. Bob & June Deits, Chuck Dickinson, Rev. Jim & Eve Dinkel, Kaelin Dirlam (Grace Rhodes' granddaughter), Eulalia Pascual Domingo, Adelyne Douglass, Kayla Eriksen (Ritchie & Norm Eriksen's granddaughter), Sue Flitsch, Peter Fillion (Paul Fillion's brother), Inge Fitzpatrick, Dee Dee Frazer, Eddie Gardner, Danna & Andy Gharavi, Ardeena Gillette, Arline Hacker, Jack & Mary Carol Hall (Rick Hall's parents), Neil & Melva Houtcooper, Joe & Ginny Johnson, Gladys Kay (Jane Hayes' Mom), Lynn Kerr (Gary Stemple's sister), Mel & Mary Kilbo, Gene Kruscheck, Thelma

Lang (Pete 'n Kay Johnson's mother), Ardis Larson, Gary & Kaye Loutzenheiser, Sue & Michael Malloy, Sally Marvinaino (Suzanne Cherry's sister), Marva Masters, Scot Maitland (Suzanne Cherry's cousin), Bryan McGann (Jeanette Lunstead's son), Anita Mendoza (Lucy Kidwell's mother), Judy Monk, Hedy Moore (Jed Moore's mother), Elgin & Claudia Morris, Bill & Alice Myers, Calder & Lavoyce Nolan & family, Delores & Lester Norton, Sharon Olsen, Ramona Orr (Kris Laux's mother), Bob Parker (Don Parker's brother), Catrina Juan Pascual, Clarence & Lois Penninger, Deb Peterson (Diane Kissner's daughter), John Renfrow (Ruth Ann Thacker's brother), Tom & Marty Robison, Virgil & Rose Scantlin, Tamii Schrum, Debbie Snyder (Judy Oakes & Rhymes' friend), Dorothy Sturgeon, Rick & Sue Sutter, Lillian Thomas (Bill & Mary Thomas' mother), Kenneth Tippie (Jerry & Peggy Tippie's son), Jim & Bev Toppin, Bronwynn Torgerson (Suzanne Cherry's friend), Gordon & Patty Truckle, Wanda Tufte, Sam & Jack Twa, Nancy Villeneuve, Nancy Virden, Jack Viviani, Louise & Merline Wade (friends of Sherry Blankenship), Kathy & Dick Wagner, Delza Wilson (Jayne Urbach's mother), Laverne Workman, Pat Zirjacks and the families of the above.

DESIGNATED GIFTS FROM MEMORIAL/FUNERAL SERVICES

DAVE FLITSCH-Memorial Gifts to GCUMC Statue Base Fund or the paving of the north parking lot
RANDY GARDNER-Memorial Gifts to GCUMC Stain Glass Fund

December, 2012

"Laugh a Little" - with Hu

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

At the Sunday School picnic, Pastor Jones stacked a pile of apples on one end of a table **with a sign saying, "Take only one apple, please—God is watching."** On the other end of the table was a pile of cookies on which one of the students had placed a sign saying, **"Take all the cookies you want-God is watching the apples."**

KIDS' DEFINITIONS OF BIBLE TERMS

ROUND JOHN VIRGIN: One of the twelve opossums

ADAM: Hoss Cartwright's brother

CONVERSION: The point after a touchdown

EPISTLE: The wife of an Apostle

JOAN OF ARC: Noah's wife

HYMN: The bottom of a lady's dress

LENT: That fuzzy stuff under your bed

LAVATORY: That place where you go after you die

FAITH: Knowing something even when you don't know it

DEAR CONGREGATION,

We want to thank you for the fantastic celebration of our ministry among you for the past fourteen years. It was, indeed, beyond our expectations in every way. Your generous gifts and expressions of love and appreciation were overwhelming. While it is not practical for us to THANK each of you personally, please know we appreciate all of your gifts and words of encouragement.

To those of you who have asked what we were going to do in the future, rest assured that our work for the Lord is not over. We feel a definite call from God upon us to continue the work we have begun with the small congregation in downtown Phoenix, Primera Iglesia Metodista Unida, where Rev. Rosemary Anderson is pastor. We also are involved at Lodestar Day Resource Center and hope to become more active in this ministry among the homeless.

We covet your prayers and support as we continue the work of the Lord.

Blessings, love and prayers,
Hu and Wendy Rhymes & Hattie and Muffin



Global 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."

Meet the 2013 International Missions Work Team!

Janet and Steve Dulaney moved to Gold Canyon in 2012 from Colorado, where they owned their own companies. They have an abundance of construction skills.

Carol and Don Lindaman came to Gold Canyon in 2011 from Texas and participated in the first trip to Costa Rica.

Linda and Steve Crane are long time Arizonans, owners of a construction company, and returning to the Costa Rican work after investing themselves last year in the foundational aspect of the project.

Katlyn Crane, Steve and Linda's daughter, is rolling up her sleeves to experience for herself what her parents have been talking about.

Mabel and Ooman Koshy are both retired physicians from Illinois, experienced in international mission work. Mabel is also a pastor specializing in pastoral care needs in the East Indian population.

Beth and Fred Steinberg have led and worked on many youth mission trips and now join this project.

Randi Olson is a nurse by profession and travelled to Chile with the 2010 GCUMC Mission Team.

Katharine Keller, our Christian Education Director, is eager to experience her first international mission work trip.

Fay and Wally Quanstrom are passionate about international missions, particularly in Central and South America, and serve as facilitators for the group.

These fifteen representatives of GCUMC leave on January 10 for a week of work at the Universidad Biblica Latinamerica in San Jose, Costa Rica. Each person has paid his/her own transportation and in-country expenses. Half of GCUMC's Christmas offering has contributed to the cost of the construction materials the group will be using on the job. The group will roll up its sleeves to continue

construction on four modest homes that will house seminary students and their families. In 2012 our team did foundation work - preparing rebar, and hauling sand and gravel for concrete. Teams from many churches have contributed to the building in the last year so the dwellings are now ready for electrical, drywall, and tile.

We ask that you pray for our physical strength and safety, our spiritual growth as individuals, our relationships with our missionary, Becky Harrell, and all of the nationals we encounter, and all the group dynamics. **Pray that the words of this year's theme song, "Sanctuary," will not only describe the commitment of each of the participants, but will become the testimony of each one.** "Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you."

Hear all about this amazing adventure for God at the FREE Global Missions Brunch, Saturday, February 9, at 10:00 am. Sign-up sheets and tickets will be available at the coffee table beginning January 13. We'll be expecting you!

Buy a Handcrafted Cross to Support Global Missions!

The Global Missions team is selling hand crafted wooden crosses to support Global Missions. Wally Quanstrom and Harry Warren, the creators of these crosses, are members of the Global Missions Team and mission team to Costa Rica. The workmanship in these 18" high by 12" wide crosses is exquisite. Original design crosses will be sold for \$30.00.

Custom made (special requests for particular scriptures or other wording) crosses are also available for \$40.00.

Please look for the crosses at our Global Missions table in the courtyard this Fall.





Imagine No Malaria

**\$10 will save one life from malaria.
How many lives can you save?
Contact the church office for more
information!**

GLOBAL 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 Stoefen Fisher: jstoefish@q.com
Jane DeRemer:
walksonmountain@wavecable.com

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE! ~

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

[www.goldcanyonumc.org]

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 and/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.



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 goes to those affected by the emergency.

Wings of Caring - Projects ~ Advance #08595A - Supports evangelism, education, transportation & medical emergencies in rural areas

Midwest Emergencies - Projects ~ Advance #901680 - Responding to emergency victims of tornado, flood, etc.

Disaster Response, International - Projects ~ Advance #982450 - Quick response to meet emergency needs around the world.

Japan Emergency ~ Earthquake & Tsunami ~ Advance #3021317

Liberia Emergency ~ Advance #150300

Cote D'Ivoire Crisis ~ Advance #982450

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

For more ways to help, or to donate online, go to:
<http://new.gbmgm-umc.org/umcor/> -
You can also follow UMCOR on Twitter at
@UMC_UMCOR



Jane Hayes, Volunteer Coordinator

GCUMC
982-3776

Volunteers Do Make a Difference

January
Inspirational Values
SHARING
Family Sharing in
GCUMC is at a record.

If you are willing to participate as a volunteer using your spiritual gifts, please do.
WE WELCOME YOUR HELP!
Please call 982-3776 .

CHRISTMAS MISSION
REVISITED
ANGEL TEAM WINS!
46 FAMILIES
151 children

What a successful Christmas Mission 2012! Thanks to the efforts of all of us, we were able to complete the tasks. Yes, it takes all of us to come to a completed project like this. I cannot possibly personally thank everyone who knitted or quilted blankets, set up and decorated three Mission Trees, wrapped gifts, baked over 1,000 cookies, duplicated the 800 tags and prepared them to hang on our three trees, made cash donations, bought food, gifts, and gift cards, shopped, delivered gifts and food to families, made phone calls to families and gift cards to verify the amounts on each card, purchased supplies, donated wrapping paper, boxes, packed 46 food boxes appropriate to the family's size, wrote Christmas cards and added food cards, moved furniture and food, greeted our families to pick-up their gifts and food, sorted over 1,000 gifts, boxed 900 items of clothing in tissue paper, added socks and tissue paper to over 150 pairs of shoes . This list is only a part of the whole project as the organization and implementation is another dimension. Thousands

of volunteer hours were involved from October 3rd - December 22nd alone. I am very pleased to have NEW friends and volunteers as well as NEW families. We made a BIG IMPACT and helped supply our local Meals on Wheels and Senior Center with cookies as well as giving them some entertainment by Mother Christmas Sharee Sifferath, Elf June Welker, Musicians John and Carol LaViolette, and NUMEROUS OTHERS involved in letter writing and companionship.

PLEASE SEND ME NAMES OF
THOSE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS
TO RECOGNIZE!



Do you have the time?
No, I don't mean your watch! 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, at the information center, or church office, 480-982-3776.**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Job</u>
50 min.	Greeter
40+ min.	Monthly Sunday Coffee
60 + min.	Bulletins
	Registration
	Mailings

Name _____

Phone _____

Birthdays

January Celebrations

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Kay Bennett | 18 Ann Schwartz |
| 1 Doris Kingery | 19 Lauren Collins-Mitchell |
| 1 Sheila Zieglofsky | 19 Julie Johnson |
| 1 Marjorie Kimball | 19 Sharon Larson |
| 1 Dena Sohocki | 19 Amanda Mitchell |
| 1 Phil Gordon | 19 Nancy Trout |
| 2 Brikel Aguilar | 19 Carol Wion |
| 2 Marietta Doan | 19 Mickey Wenzel |
| 3 Nancy Russell | 20 Bob Bonestell |
| 4 Sonja Holbrook | 20 Shelby Olson |
| 4 Don Wilson | 20 Louise Broadley |
| 4 Rhonda Short | 21 Jim Burt |
| 5 Nancy Virden | 21 Rita Hawkins |
| 5 Robin Alton | 21 Sharan Norin |
| 5 Ruth Clymer | 21 Kellie Valentine |
| 5 Ron Logan | 22 Jerry Keyser |
| 5 Lloyd Potter | 22 Rich Krull |
| 6 Brenda Oldham | 22 Shirley McMahon |
| 8 Pat Calihan | 23 Justin Ballard |
| 8 Channan Cassella | 23 Rachel Barnes |
| 10 Theodore Carl | 24 Matthew Anderson |
| 11 Troy Matthews | 24 Abed Mogharbel |
| 11 Nicholas Saathoff | 24 Arthur |
| 12 Gloria Charette | 24 Janet Hergatt |
| 12 David Osborn | 25 Tim Carpenter |
| 12 Charlie Palmer | 25 Jim Ritenour |
| 12 Mark Eilers | 26 Jaci Allensworth |
| 13 Bill Beebe | 26 Phyllis Gray |
| 14 Myra Berry | 26 Gene Johnson |
| 15 Karen Mogharbel | 26 Gail Yoder |
| 15 Janine Tirrito | 27 Art Gibbs |
| 16 Kathryn Hughes | 27 Gene Kellough |
| 16 Kay Johnson | 27 Reg Head |
| 16 Peggy Williamson | 28 Donna Gavin |
| 17 Troy Gingrich | 28 Fred Scharringhausen |
| 17 Ian Jacobson | |

- 29 Patti Baker
 30 Shirley Feather
 30 Carol Wehle
 31 Linda Kewell
 31 Cheryl Carpenter



Anniversaries

- 1 Janet & Bay West
 6 Helen & Howard Flowers
 8 Connie & Dick Dauenhauer
 9 Michelle & Robert Pappalardo
 9 Beth & Fred Steinberg
 10 Norma & Donald Gaulke
 15 Darlene & Gene Huffman
 15 Katharine & Julius Keller
 17 Barb & Will Rodgers
 17 Kathy & James Serrine
 18 Carol & David Ballard
 19 Ginny & Joe Johnson
 19 Bonnie & Mike Weaver
 20 Mary & Melvin Kilbo
 24 Rosalie & Joe Eubanks
 25 Jayne & Vern Rolf
 28 Judy & Jim Watters
 29 Shirley & Roger Coad
 31 Neta & Ward McCleary

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.



Thinking Theologically with Jody Topping—



For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

The New Year is always a time for new beginnings. We make New Years' Resolutions to help us stay on track as we try to lose weight, quit smoking, or try to be less cranky toward our family members. Since spring is right around the corner, some of us make plans in January for how we are going to make improvements to our homes, or plant a vegetable garden. Some of us might even make plans to clean out the garage or do some much needed spring cleaning! Face it: the New Year is a time **when we think about all the things we didn't do the previous year and try to make plans to do them this year...am I right?**

Well, for me, the New Year is bringing new responsibilities and exciting opportunities. Beginning January 1, 2013 I will be a full time staff member at Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, and while most of my time will be spent in the area of pastoral care, there are also plans for me to work on several projects that will help strengthen our ministries here at GCUMC. **This is an exciting time for our church, and I'm excited to be a part of the ministry team as we move forward into this New Year.**

I don't know about you, but whenever I start something new, I get a little nervous. Will I do and say the right things? How will I know if I'm headed in the right direction? What if I mess up? What if this new thing that I'm work-

ing on goes horribly wrong? Doubts often fill my head when there's something new and different placed in front of me. So when that happens, I know I need to turn to Scripture and let God talk me through the nervousness and the stress. One of my favorite verses is the one from Jeremiah quoted above. "For I know the plans I have for you." I find great comfort in knowing that God's got it all figured out! Verses like this help me remember that I'm not alone in whatever I do...that God is walking beside me, and when I stumble and all those doubts start pouring into my head, that God will carry me through the difficult times and I'll come out a better person on the other side. God is with us, no matter what we do, right or wrong, bad or good. God stands by us...and I have to say, as I start this new endeavor, I'm comforted in knowing that God is by my side.

I also want to take this opportunity to **say a special "thank you" to Hu and Wendy Rhymes.** They have been such a great help to me and have walked with me on this journey into full time ministry. The love I have **for them is endless, and they will be missed...** not just by me, but by many of you as well. No one can replace Hu & Wendy. Their ministry will live on here at Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, and I know I join the many who have benefited from their loving and caring spirits in wishing them a wonderful, joy-filled retirement.



BIBLE BANTER

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



Children's Book: *When Your Grandma Forgets*

Rev. Bob Deits has co-authored a new children's book that helps children understand and cope with the changes in a grand parent who has Alzheimer's disease. It is also an important view of the disease through the eyes of a child for adults. *When Your Grandma Forgets* is available in the church office. The cost is \$14.99.

More information on the book is found at:
www.becausehopematters.com.



A Note From Bob...

Country Western News

The attendance at 5 is steadily growing. It's hard to say which state is represented most among our winter residents-maybe Minnesota. You can always tell them because they still have icicles on their eye brows!

However, the fellowship is warm and the welcome mat is out, so bring your friends and drop by at the Country Western Service on Sundays. **Someone is sure to greet you with a "Howdy, Pardner."**

One In the Spirit will provide the music on all but the last Sunday when the Houser's and friends take over.

We will look forward to seeing you.

Bob Deits and David Ballard



Our Church History ~ History Committee Update ***Memories by Bud Rolley***

We learned about the existence of Gold Canyon United Methodist Church from our friends, Ken and Hollie Cornelius, residents of MountainBrook. We had known them for years from our square dancing days back in the Chicago area. They invited us to the church in the **early 1990's, when the meetings were held in the multi-purpose room of Gold Canyon Elementary School.**

I remember setting up and putting away all the chairs, the pulpit, and a rug that was used for the area where the children sat for their part of the service each Sunday. It seemed that every Sunday we needed to put up more chairs.

David McPherson was assigned as a replacement for Jim Wood, who had been the founding pastor. We all liked Jim, and since the change was made during the summer while we were back east, **we wondered what it was going to be like when we returned in the fall.** Dave's warm personality and open preaching style soon won over the congregation that continued to grow and finally reached the point that we used every adult chair (about 200) in the building. We even used some of the folding picnic tables that the school used for their lunch room set up.

We knew we had to do something about the crowded situation. The Conference sent out a representative to survey the area and talk to a number of the members of the church. He came back with the a recommendation that we were tied so tightly to David McPherson that if he left, the church would fold and that the nature of the community could not continue to support building a church. Dave and the Administrative Council disagreed and determined that to fulfill our mission of serving the community, we had to have a building of our own. In 1994 we started a building program to establish the funds to build our church.



Confidentiality Guaranteed

When something happens to upset our lives, we need someone to talk to. The things that upset us are not always the kinds of things that upset others. What is devastating to you might be only sad for me. There is no shame in finding yourself in need of talking to someone. Yet, sometimes finding someone to trust is difficult. Family members are not always the best confidants. Posting your issues **on Facebook isn't exactly the best way to gain moral support** either. At best, these are ways to share our concerns, but if confidentiality is important, neither way is a guaranteed source of comfort and trust.

Stephen Ministers always maintain the trust of their care receivers. A Stephen Minister will not even share with anyone other than you that they are your **Stephen Minister! It's alright if you choose to tell** others who your Stephen Minister is - but they will never tell!

That's why I don't even go to Stephen Ministry meetings. You see, when Stephen Ministers meet for support, advice, and continuing education, every precaution is taken to ensure that your identity is never revealed. However, as your Office Manager for nine years, I know a little bit about many of you! Those of you who have stopped by the office over the years to chat with me know that we have exchanged much about our lives that would reveal who we are in a conversation with another. For instance, there are many of you who would know who **I was if I was described as "was a single mother of three, remarried last year, works full time, and commutes to California for school."**

Most Stephen Ministry Care Receivers aren't as visible in the church as I am, but sometimes, I will know who you are just by a short description. In order to maintain full confidentiality in the Stephen Ministry context, **I simply don't go to the meetings.** I share this with you to illustrate the assurance you can have that your Stephen Minister will never reveal who you are, even by accident.

Though I have been a Stephen Minister since 2005, I have never had a single Care Receiver. No - I have had MANY Care Receivers! Most Care Givers have one Care Receiver at a time for long as the

Care Receiver needs help. I have been blessed, however, to be able to sit with many people in their hour of need.

Some of those I have provided care for have only had the need to spend a little time with someone who would listen, without judgment. A few moments of unrestrained tears or the sharing of a secret that has been kept on the heart for so long that they could no longer bear the burden alone. Together, we have given the sadness, anger, frustrations, or fears over to God. Holding hands or simply sitting next to one another, we have prayed together, asking God to lift their burdens, to guide their paths, to open a door to show them where they could find solace, and later, to bring solace to others.

Whether I have spent an hour once or a half an hour twenty times with a person who needed my shoulders for a little while, I have been blessed by the time I have spent with them. If you have been one of those who have sat with me thus, you and I and God are the only ones who know what you shared with me. It will always be so.

So it is with any Stephen Minister. If you have a crisis, a great need of the heart, pain you cannot bear alone, always remember that you can give it to God in prayer - **and if it doesn't seem to help,** you can request a Stephen Minister. Just call the church office and talk to Kim.

This will be my last Stephen Ministry article for GCUMC, I suspect. As I transition from the Office Manager position, I know I am leaving it in good hands. Kim is also a trained Stephen Minister. **She also has many years' experience as a police officer,** providing support for people in crisis. Confidentiality and compassion are her second nature. I know without a doubt that Kim will provide support to everyone who comes to her in need. And, she will set you up with a meeting with the Stephen Ministry coordinators, if you just give her a call at 480-982-3776.

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ~ James 5:16

W.O.W. Corner

(Our Hospitality and Outreach Team—Witness Our Wonder)

Many thanks to those greeters and ushers who dressed up as carolers for the Church Concert and those who donned biblical costuming for the Christmas Eve services. You all really added a fun dimension to the events/services! We always have openings for more people to join us, so think about it for next year!

On the last Saturday of January the 26th, our church will be open for tours for the throng that will be attending the Arts Council Art Festival on our property. If you would like to be a host, telling folks about the church (the statue, the stained glass, etc), please call Katharine in the church office. We will give you all the information you need to be "in the know". (and you don't have to dress up for this one 😊)

Our team is also in the planning stages for our spring event, so stay tuned for details - we will certainly need lots of volunteers!

We love people, because Jesus first loved us!!



Commemorative Mugs!!!

Have your coffee, tea or hot chocolate in an attractive Gold Canyon United Methodist Church Commemorative Mug! They also make great gifts! Proceeds from the sale of the mugs are used to support outreach to the community. Only \$5.00 each at the Information Center or the office.

Lost & Found ~ Have you ever lost something and it may have been while you were at church? There is a Lost and Found box in the Church office that contains things like keys, jewelry, sunglasses, umbrellas, etc. If you think your item may be with us, stop by the office.



Folders For Sale

GCUMC Folders, bearing the Church logo, are for sale at the Information Center and church office. The cost is \$12.00 each and all ***proceeds go to the North Parking Lot Fund.*** Thanks for your support!



COOKIE EXCHANGE: A SWEET, SWEET SUCCESS!

The special Elves were busy bagging and delivering cookies last month!

85 bags for Meals on Wheels and 40 bags for the December 18th Christmas doings by Elf-kinds and mother Christmas. Volunteers wrote cards for seniors and shared cookies and good cheer!

Thanks so much to the volunteer elves & cookie bakers, who worked hard to make a special Christmas for many people. You are so appreciated! You should **have seen the coordinator's** face when she saw ALL those cookies!

I wish I could send you each a picture. It was priceless.

See YOU next Christmas!
Mother Christmas



GCUMC

Permanent Endowment Fund

Benjamin Franklin said something like this, "The only things for certain are death and taxes." One can make many observations and arguments about this but the basic point is sound, that all humanity has certain things in common and not living forever is one of them. Therefore, it follows that everything we have will sometime in the future belong to someone or something else. Therefore the real question is *"will we determine what will happen to our possessions, or will it just happen?"*

During my brief tenure as chairman of your permanent endowment committee, I have learned a bit of how GCUMC functions and how we relate to our Desert Southwest United Methodist Conference. One of the resources we have available is the Desert Southwest United Methodist Foundation, DSWUMF. The DSWUMF has financial planning capabilities that it would be very difficult for a local church to match, and I wanted to share with you some of these. These capabilities can facilitate some creative decisions for you and your family, and possibly save some taxes as well.

Let's look at just a few in the immediate gifts category. You could donate your home or real property to our church and receive an immediate tax deduction, and avoid capital gains taxes. You could designate the church as the beneficiary or owner of an insurance policy as a future gift to the church. You could make a

retained real estate gift, where you designate the ownership of your home to the church while continuing to occupy it for your lifetime. There are several other ways in this category including gifting appreciated securities which avoids capital gains taxes and earns an income tax deduction.

Deferred gifts include having a bequest in your will, a living trust, and a charitable gift annuity. With a charitable gift annuity you can enter into a contract with the DSWUMF, and the DSWUMF pays your designated annuitant a regular fixed payment for life, and then distributes the remainder to your church. There are certain tax benefits to this as well.

Life income gifts include Charitable Remainder Trusts, providing fixed income for your lifetime, Charitable Remainder Unitrust, a hedge against inflation, and a Charitable Lead Trust that can reduce gift and estate taxes.

Many of the above are complex and of course must be done in compliance with all tax regulations. This is what the DSWUMF can help you do. If any of this sounds like it would work for you, please **contact the Pastor in the Church Office or Wally Quanstrom, Chairman of the Permanent Endowment Committee, at 630-309-3298.** One last thing - you can designate your gift for any purpose within the mission of our church that you would like. There is no charge for consultation.

Habitat for Humanity – Winter 2013 Project



We are so excited to move forward with our Habitat Project this year, which is renovating a home with a family in Apache Junction. We are always looking for volunteers to assist in the renovation, in providing lunches, and cash gifts in any amount to support this special ministry.

For more details and information, please contact Joe and Maureen Morton, 602-284-2826 or E-mail:



2012 – 2013 Events and Performances at Gold Canyon United Methodist Church

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
10/14/12	Sun	3:00-6:00	Day of the Cowboy Picnic, Western Service
11/11/12	Sun	3:00 pm	Celebration of Veterans for the entire community
11/16/12	Fri	7:30 pm	* La Catrina String Quartet
12/8/12	Sat	3:00 pm	11th Annual Choral Christmas Concert
12/8/12	Sat	6:30 pm	11th Annual Choral Christmas Concert
12/24/12	Mon	4:00 pm	Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service
12/24/12	Mon	6 & 8 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Services with Choir & Bells
12/24/12	Mon	11:00 pm	Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service
1/11/13	Fri	7:30 pm	George Dyer , outstanding Tenor soloist from Branson, MO
1/12/13	Sat	3:00 pm	George Dyer , outstanding Tenor soloist from Branson, MO
1/18/13	Fri	7:30 pm	* Spanish Brass Luur Metalls Brass Quintet
1/19/13	Sat	5:00 pm	Uncommon Grace our Praise Team (Koinonia Room)
1/26/13	Sat	9:00-4:00	Canyon Arts Festival Arts, crafts, music and food
1/27/13	Sun	3:00 pm	Legacy Quartet , men's southern gospel quartet
2/10/13	Sun	3:00 pm	Jerry Nelson , outstanding Christian Pianist
2/15/13	Fri	7:30 pm	* Together Again for the 1st Time Broadway duet
2/17/13	Sun	3:00 pm	Don Engbrecht and Friends Outstanding Baritone
2/24/13	Sun	3:00 pm	The Houser Gang! Annual Country/Western concert
3/3/13	Sun	3:00 pm	John & Chris Rice Piano & cello child prodigies!
3/8/13	Fri	7:30 pm	* Charles Lindberg, the Lone Eagle Steve Carroll
3/10/13	Sun	3:00 pm	Christine Anderson Incredible Handbell Virtuoso
3/17/13	Sun	3:00 pm	Brass, Reeds & Winds, Oh My! Agape Brass and others
3/28/13	Thu	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service with Communion
3/29/13	Fri	7:00 pm	Good Friday: Dubois' Seven Last Words of Christ
3/31/13	Sun	6:00 am	Easter Sunrise Service w/Communion
3/31/13	Sun	8, 9:30, 11	Easter Festival Services w/Choir, Bells, Brass
4/5/13	Fri	7:30 pm	* The Clarinet and All That Jazz The Stoltzmans
4/14/13	Sun	5:00 pm	One In the Spirit (Koinonia Room)
4/20/13	Sat	12-3 pm	Spring Fling , our annual Spring Community event
4/21/13	Sun	3:00 pm	** 2nd Annual Gold Canyon Interfaith Choral Festival
5/19/12	Sun	3:00 pm	* San Tan Choral & Orchestra

* Indicates a ticketed event for a fee, sponsored by the Gold Canyon Arts Council, *Canyon Sounds* or the *San Tan Chorale*. All other concerts are sponsored by Gold Canyon United Methodist Church *Performing Arts Series* and are open to the public at no charge though a free will offering will be received. We ask that everyone please bring at least one non-perishable food item per person for the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church Food Bank.

** This year's Festival will be at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, north of GCUMC.



The love and support shown to our family has been overwhelming. With the help of Fred, Hu, Jody, and Nancy, the service to **honor and celebrate Dave's life** was very personal and comforting. The lunch was great, too. Thank you all!

Sue, Dan, and Steve Flitsch

My heartfelt thanks to all our friends for your prayers and kind expressions of sympathy at the time of **George's passing** on August 12th in Elko, Nevada. Thank you also for the many contributions to the memorial fund in his name at GCUMC.

Mavis Morley and Family

SUPPORT GROUPS

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.

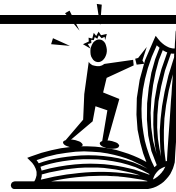
GRIEF

Led by Rev. Bob Deits, this group meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month from 11 am to noon in Rooms 101/102-Ed. Bldg. The group is open to anyone who has experienced a major loss such as the death of a loved one, divorce or job loss. If this fits you or someone you know, this group will provide great help. For more information call Bob at 480-629-8796.

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
 Playground - \$10,000-50,000
 Stain Glass for upper Sanctuary windows - \$105,000 (\$3,000 per panel)
 Organ Pipes
 Video Projector for Sanctuary \$30,000
 Building Fund Loan Payoff
 (In 2012 we prepaid \$25,825 on loan)



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 at the Information Center in the narthex.

GCUMC Calendar January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 OFFICE CLOSED —New Year's Day	1 OFFICE CLOSED —New Year's Day	1 OFFICE CLOSED —New Year's Day	2 11 am Cancer Suprt—SofG 4:30 pm Spirit Club-SofG 5 pm Disciple 3—101/102 5:30 pm Joyful Noise —M 6 pm Youth Handbell-Sanc. 6:30 pm Girl Scouts—SofG 7 pm Orchestra-M, S	3 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 7 pm Choir — M	4 9 am “de-Greening” of Church 2 pm Sam Twa Funeral 5:30 pm—AA— 101/102	5 10 am Sidewalk Ministry -Avalon Elementary
6 8 am Adlt Sun. Schl-SofG 8 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Chld/Yth Sun. Schl—Ed. 9:30 am College/10+ Sun. Sch.-Fred's Office 11 am New Trad. Service—Sanc. 10:50 am Chld Sun. Schl—Ed. 5 pm CW Worship—K 6:30 pm Youth—Ed.	7 9:30 am Bible Banter Mtn Brew Coffee House 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 3 pm Stephen Min.-101/102 5:30 pm Disciple 4-Feather's 7 pm Al-Anon— 101/102	8 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 11 am Grief Support—101/102 1:30 pm Disciple 2-SofG 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 6 pm One/Spirit—K Rm 6 pm Disciple 2-Feather's 6:30 pm Admin. Council—M 6:30 pm Canyon Carillon-Sanc	9 9 am Beth Moore Bible Study—Ed. 11 am Cancer Suprt—M 4:30 pm Spirit Club-SofG 5 pm Disciple 3—101/102 5:30 pm Joyful Noise —M 6 pm Youth Handbell-Sanc. 6:30 pm Girl Scouts—SofG 7 pm Orchestra-M, S	10 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 7 pm Choir — M	11 10 am Mind Menders—101/102 5:30 pm AA—101/102 7:30 pm George Dyer Concert—Sanc.	12 10 am Sidewalk Ministry -Avalon Elementary 2:30 pm George Dyer Concert—Sanc.
13 8 am Adlt Sun. Schl-SofG 8 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Chld/Yth Sun. Schl—Ed. 9:30 am College/10+ Sun. Sch.-Fred's Office 11 am New Trad. Service—Sanc. 10:50 am Chld Sun. Schl—Ed. 5 pm CW Worship—K 6:30 pm Youth—Ed.	14 9:30 am Bible Banter Mtn Brew Coffee House 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 5:30 pm Disciple 4-Feather's 7 pm Al-Anon—101/102	15 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 1:30 pm Disciple 2-SofG 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 6 pm One/Spirit—K Rm 6 pm Disciple 2-Feather's 6:30 pm Canyon Carillon-Sanc.	16 9 am Beth Moore Bible Study—Ed. 11 am Cancer Suprt—M 4:30 pm Spirit Club-SofG 5 pm Disciple 3—101/102 5 pm Food Bank Dinner—K 5:30 pm Joyful Noise —M 6 pm Youth Handbell-Sanc. 6:30 pm Girl Scouts—SofG 7 pm Orchestra-M, S	17 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am Gentle Yoga—K 12 pm Assemble Christmas Cookie Packages—Kitchen 7 pm Choir — M	18 89 am Arts Council Workshop—Sanc 10 am Mind Menders—101/102 5:30 pm AA—101/102 7:30 pm GCA Canyon Sounds—Sanc.	19 10 am Sidewalk Ministry -Avalon Elementary
20 8 am Adlt Sun. Schl-SofG 8 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Chld/Yth Sun. Schl—Ed. 9:30 am College/10+ Sun. Sch.-Fred's Office 11 am New Trad. Service—Sanc. 10:50 am Chld Sun. Schl—Ed. 5 pm CW Worship—K 6:30 pm Youth—Ed.	21 9:30 am Bible Banter Mtn Brew Coffee House 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 4 pm Stephen Min-101/102 5:30 pm Disciple 4-Feather's 7 pm Al-Anon— 101/102	22 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 11 am Grief Support—101/102 1:30 pm Disciple 2-SofG 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 5:30 pm Houser Gang—K Rm 6 pm Disciple 2-Feather's 6:30 pm Canyon Carillon-Sanc. 6:30 pm Coffee w/Pastor—M	23 8 am Newsletter Team—Narthex 9 am Beth Moore Bible Study—Ed. 11 am Cancer Suprt—M 4:30 pm Spirit Club-SofG 5 pm Disciple 3—101/102 5:30 pm Joyful Noise —M 6 pm Youth Handbell-Sanc. 6:30 pm Girl Scouts—SofG 7 pm Orchestra-M, S	24 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 7 pm Choir — M	25 10 am Mind Menders—101/102 5:30 pm AA—101/102	26 7 am GC Arts Council Arts Festival—S. Pkg Lot 10 am Sidewalk Ministry -Avalon Elementary
27 8 am Adlt Sun. Schl-SofG 8 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Traditional-Sanc. 9:30 am Chld/Yth Sun. Schl—Ed. 9:30 am College/10+ Sun. Sch.-Fred's Office 11 am New Trad. Service—Sanc. 10:50 am Chld Sun. Schl—Ed. 5 pm CW Worship—K 6:30 pm Youth—Ed.	28 9:30 am Bible Banter Mtn Brew Coffee House 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 4 pm Stephen Min-101/102 5:30 pm Disciple 4-Feather's 6:30 pm Admin. Council—M 7 pm Al-Anon— 101/102	29 9 am Yoga—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 1:30 pm Disciple 2-SofG 2 pm Disciple 1-K Rm 6 pm One/Spirit—K Rm 6 pm Disciple 2-Feather's 6 pm Trustee Mtg—Fred's 6:30 pm Canyon Carillon-Sanc.	30 9 am Beth Moore Bible Study—Ed. 11 am Cancer Suprt—M 4:30 pm Spirit Club-SofG 5 pm Disciple 3—101/102 5:30 pm Joyful Noise —M 6 pm Youth Handbell-Sanc. 6:30 pm Girl Scouts—SofG 7 pm Orchestra-M, S	31 9 am Yoga—K 9:30 am Speak Up & Stay Alive—K 10:30 am—Gentle Yoga—K 7 pm Choir — M	Key AA=Alcoholics Anonymous Music or M =Music Room 101/102. Kit = Kitchen Wonder (Outreach) K = Koinonia Room SofG =Sea of Galilee Room Building Sanc =Sanctuary 101/102 =Room WW =Witness our Ed. =Education	



Gold Canyon United Methodist Church

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Associate Director of Music	David Ballard ballardsaz@earthlink.com
Director of Youth Ministries	Wendy Moore GCUMCYouth@earthlink.net
Pianists	Carol Ballard/Linda Jones/ Marty Robison/Nancy Virden
Office Manager	Kim Shroyer: churchoffice@goldcanyonumc.org
Administrative Associate	Katherine Keller
Volunteer Coordinator	Jane Hayes
Parish Nurse	Susan Malloy
Nursery Care Giver	Sherry Hussein
Facility Care Taker	Rick Ceynar

E-mail Prayer Chain: gcumcprayers@mchsi.com



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@goldcanyonUMC

Addressee or Current Resident

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 & 9:30 AM

Traditional ~ Sanctuary

11:00 AM

New Traditions ~ Sanctuary

5:00 PM

Country Western ~ Koinonia Room

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
- ✚ 11:00 AM ~ Children

**Roadrunner Email-If you would like to
receive your Roadrunner via email,
please send US an email at
churchoffice@goldcanyonumc.org!**