Gold Canyon
United Methodist Church

Roadrunner

Volume 36 | October 2024 | Number 9=10

From Our Pastors

Rev. Fred A. Steinberg, Senior Pastor

I'm Campaigning for Kindness!

We have distributed about 120 signs so far during our "Campaign for Kindness." I know of two families who showed up at the office wanting to know more about our church because of signs seen in their neighbors' yards. A couple of nonchurch people bought some signs because they thought the time was right for kindness. One church member was kindly challenging his HOA when he was told to remove his sign. He posted the story to nextdoor.com, and there were a lot of positive comments supporting his "Kindness" sign.

A phrase commonly known as the Golden Rule simply states, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." A version of this teaching can be found in almost every major religion. This universal rule has the power to bring people together.

Do Unto Others is a grassroots movement launched by Resurrection, a United Methodist Church in the Kansas City area, to encourage people to be intentional about treating one another with kindness, even those with whom we disagree. A vote for kindness is a step toward overcoming the polarization in our country through civility and respect.

If kindness and love are to return to our community, Christians must lead the way by saying no to division, hatred, and slander. Even though we have different political views, we can love each other. I will see you on Sunday.

Grace and peace,

Fred

Contact Us

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

"...Following Jesus... Serving Others"

Rev. David J. Harriss, Senior Pastor Designate

THE WORLD AT OUR TABLE

The apostles said "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. –Luke 17:5-6

When I was a child, my family ate together every evening. My mother would often pick up the dinner dishes following our meal. I always loved it when my mother would say, keep your fork, because I knew that she had prepared dessert for us. Desert was always special at our home because my mother did not prepare it after every meal. I always felt rewarded and special whenever mom made us dessert.

In the Lukan pericope, notice the change in the disciple's description. They are no longer disciples; they are now apostles or those sent out on a mission. In Luke chapter 9, Jesus sends the disciples out on a mission to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to heal. These 12 disciples have been faithful to Jesus Christ through all their missions and their journeys together. Jesus begins this chapter by discussing a complete forgiveness and condemnation for anyone becoming an obstacle to someone else's faith (Luke 17:1-4). Immediately following this condemnation, the disciples exclaim, Increase our faith!

Do you know what it is like to be devoted and to not receive recognition or reward for your dedication? The common inclination is to think, If I have done what I am supposed to do, I should be rewarded or recognized. The interjection, Increase our faith! Is immediately met with a sharp resistant contrasting statement from Jesus, If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

As Christ's followers, we often think that if we live a good, honest, moral, and ethical existence, we should be rewarded for our Christ-centered behaviors and lifestyle. That is, I should not be plagued by cancer, or Alzheimer's, or Parkinsons, because I have been a good human being. While the parable of the worthless servant (Luke 17:7-10) is an unappealing parable to the masses, it does cause us to contemplate our relationship with God. Do we expect God to reward us for being good Christians? Do we expect to die of old age in our sleep without the possibility of disease or illness because of our godliness? Do we expect special treatment? God does not owe us a thing and we cannot assume that we are worthy of more than what we have received, based on our own achievements and individual merit.

On the other hand, God's grace is available to all. Grace cannot be earned, stored up, or sequestered, and none of us are deserving of special treatment! Spiritual health requires us to realize that none of us are entitled to extra portions of grace and that God loves the cancer victim as much as he loves the spiritual leader.

In the end, we are all sinners in need of divine grace. On the first Sunday of October, we celebrate World Communion Sunday. This is a celebration where the Christian Church Universal observes and participates in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We come to the table as sinners and not as superiors. We come to the table as Christians devoted to our Lord and Savior. And we all come to the table in need of divine grace. And, as we arise from the table, we receive grace, through this divine sacrament. ~ David J. Harriss

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Pastor Katharine Keller

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

OCTOBER BIBLE STUDY

During September both Pastor Fred and Pastor David preached on the topic of kindness, so during October Pastor Katharine is offering a 5-week study on kindness, based on the book In *Defense of Kindness* by Bruce Reyes-Chow. The classes are on Wednesday (mornings only) at 10am from Oct. 2nd—30th (room to be determined) Because Pastor Katharine is only pulling excerpts from the book for discussion, it is not necessary to purchase the book. Please sign up in the lobbies of either building during the month of September.

DISCIPLE

The first half of DISCIPLE 1 (approximately 18 weeks) starts Wednesday, 10/30 from 3:30pm—6pm with facilitator Joy Bliss. If you have questions, her contact is: joyblissd42@gmail.com, if you have questions. The workbook cost is $40. Sign up will begin this month. If you are currently out of town, you may call the Church Office to register. If you have already taken DISCIPLE 1 and wish to teach any of the other DISCIPLE courses, please contact Pastor Katharine.

"50 WAYS TO PRAY" STUDY

This 8-week immersive study starts Thurs., Oct. 3rd from 10am—11am and is for anyone who would like to deepen their prayer life by learning different ways to pray. A reviewer said: "This is a basic, balanced, and accessible guide to the variety, promise and practice of prayer. Read it to deepen your understanding of prayer; use it to deepen your life in God." It is necessary for participants to purchase the book, *50 Ways to Pray: Practices from Many Traditions and Times* by Teresa A. Blythe. One will also need to bring some sort of journal or notebook. Please sign up in the Lobby of either church building, so we can determine the room venue. Pastor Katharine will be facilitating this study.

HIPHOP HOMIES WITH XTRA CHROMIES

On Friday, October 18th at 6:30, we are welcoming this group of teens and young adults. The Hip Hop Homies, a dance group of individuals with Down Syndrome and other disabilities was formed in 2017. Their mission is to return a portion of the love our friends with Downs Syndrome show to all by providing opportunities to live a more fulfilling life while also helping to teach others of their amazing gifts. The HipHop Homies have performed at conventions and other events, and they will share their love of dance and their amazing hearts with us. This free event is open to the community – so please invite your friends! (free will donations will be accepted to support this group.) We'll also have make-your-own sundaes after they perform! For more info, find them on https://www.homeofthehomies.org/.

WOMEN'S FALL WEEKEND RETREAT

Our Women's Weekend Retreat is November 1–3 at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Scottsdale with the theme, *"Fall in Love with Jesus."* The registration deadline is 10/20, and the Form can be found on page 5 of this newsletter and in the Church Lobbies. Invite your friends!

SEPTEMBER BAPTISM

Gold Canyon UMC was blest when of Baby Lily was baptized at our September 15th traditional worship service.

KIDS KORNER

Our Sunday School students are currently learning about the creativity of God. In the picture below we learned that God created human beings and called them good. The chain in the photo holds messages of how the students saw their classmates as being good because they are made in God's image.

The Family Bubble Night in September was a success and provided lots of fun, fellowship and laughter for the over thirty teens, kids and adults who attended!

GOLD CANYON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WOMEN'S FALL WEEKEND RETREAT

"Falling in Love with Jesus"

FRI., 11/1 (4:00PM) – SUN., 11/3 (1:00PM)

FRANCISCAN RENEWAL CENTER – SCOTTSDALE, AZ

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____

Street Address: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ **Other Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ **Phone #:** _____

RETREAT FEES:

☐ **Double Room - $210** *(Per person/2 nights; Includes room & meals)* **Roommate:** _____

☐ **Single Room - $300** *(Per person/2 nights; includes room & meals; Limited availability)*

PLEASE NOTE: NO RETREAT FEE REFUNDS AFTER 10/20/24

LESS Non-Refundable $50 Deposit *(to guarantee spot)*

Allergies/Special Needs/ Dietary Restrictions? ☐ Yes ☐ No **Explain:** _____

Are you able to drive? ☐ Yes ☐ No **How many riders can you take?** _____

Total Amount Due: $ _____

Amount Paid: $ _____ **Cash:** ☐ **Check #:** _____ **Date:** _____ **Remaining Balance:** $ _____

Amount Paid: $ _____ **Cash:** ☐ **Check #:** _____ **Date:** _____ **Remaining Balance:** $ _____

Amount Paid: $ _____ **Cash:** ☐ **Check #:** _____ **Date:** _____ **Remaining Balance:** $ _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

YOUTH GROUP MINISTRY

Valerie Hammons, Youth Director

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

"Learning How to Talk to God (and not break out in hives and actually enjoy yourself)" was our first lesson in August! We went through the Lord's prayer and then each student used that as the basis for writing their own "Lord's Prayer". Powerful Sunday.

The next Sunday we focused on "Listening to Hear God's Voice and not scoot under the bed or break out in more hives"! Kazoos and Basketballs were our props. Not sure we were heard on this noisy Sunday, but the youth do know how important quiet time is and are working on it.

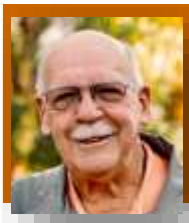
The below photos is from our final lesson in the series that was titled, *"Listening to God and how to be wrapped in His word."*

Danish, one of our youth, taught our Sunday school class how to use chopsticks. We had so much fun eating our noodles and learning more about each other and God!

The below photos are from when some of our Youth Praise Band members participated in worship at one of the September worship services.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for our students and their families!

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor

Once again, I am writing from Maine, and the summer is winding down. The tourists, or at least those with school-age children, have returned home, traffic is easing up, and life is returning to normal here in Boothbay Harbor. We will be flying home on October 8th, and it will be good to get home. We stayed later this year to celebrate Dian's 80th birthday with some of our children. Dian told me all she wants for her birthday is a Lobster Roll from Reds in Wiscasset, Maine, and another Wicked Whoopie Pie. That's a very simple request, and one quickly filled.

This makes me think of a saying often used by one of our members: "For a happy life, want what you have." We have everything we want, and we are very happy. This may come from accepting that because of our faith and love for Jesus Christ, we have been provided for in ways far beyond our deepest imagination. Despite facing difficult moments, we have always felt God with us. Over our 76 and 80 years of life, we have been blessed. Have we ever wanted more? Of course, we have, just as everyone has and often wished for, but is it necessary to make us happy? No! I am sometimes amazed at how people will do everything to be more, have more, and do more. It's like the mouse running on the wheel. They run and run until they are exhausted, yet they are no further ahead. How often do we read about people winning the Power Ball or Mega Millions, only to read later that their lives were ruined?

Happiness is not outwardly tangible; it's an inward stillness in our soul, a peace of mind, a quiet moment when we look at the world and know we are so truly happy we could shout it from the mountaintop! One of my favorite poets is Robert Frost, and in his poem "The Road Not Taken," I have often found comfort in the road I have taken. It has led to, I believe, the road which God charted for me. I have gone down many paths in my life, but I have always found myself returning to the path, the road, which God set me on.

I may not always show it or live it, but I know that throughout my life, my faith and love of Jesus Christ have kept me where I am meant to be. And that is my happiness. It is the same that I wish for and pray for everyone. My happiness isn't your happiness – your happiness is within you and only you.

I look forward to our return and to joining you on this journey as a "family of God!"

Peace and Grace,

Gary

PS: It is also with mixed emotions that we leave our church home here in Boothbay Harbor, a church I served for five years and a struggling church. Despite lacking new members and resources, they always look forward to their next mission project. Their hearts are filled with joy as each year they contribute, not only with money but with hearts filled with the joy of helping others. From local missions to global missions!

PASTORAL CARE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In Remembrance

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

Tom Bilensky
Steve Burris (TX)
Ed Joyce
Joanna Rogers
Dick Svoboda

CARING CORNER

Kim Shroyer

YOUR TRUE PURPOSE

Do you ever wonder what your purpose is in life? Whether we are 20, 40, 60, 80 years of age or beyond, I think we have all cycled through phases in our lives where we wonder that very thing. We go through stages of complete contentment; periods of doubt, stumbling self-esteem or periods of misery; and days or months of being on top of the world.

During all these times there are glimpses, or years at a time, where everything clicks. We know exactly who we are, why we are here, why we are doing what we are doing, and that we are contributing in a meaningful way to everything and everyone around us. Then there are those periods where we don't have a clue. We can't figure out what we are supposed to be doing with our lives, what our next step is supposed to be, and there seems to be disarray all about. I recently read something similar to the below:

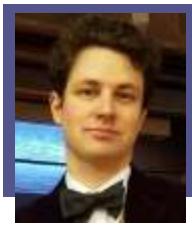
I asked out loud, "What is my purpose in life?" "What if I told you that you fulfilled it when you took an extra hour to talk to that kid about his life?" said a voice. "Or when you paid for that young couple in the restaurant? Or when you saved that dog in traffic? Or when you tied your father's shoes for him?" "Your problem is that you equate your purpose with goal-based achievement. God isn't interested in your achievements… just your heart. When you choose to act out of kindness, compassion and love, you are already aligned with your purpose. No need to look any further!"

Often, the culture of our world colors our views of where we should be and what we should be doing. Listening to the news, viewing social media messages, hearing others chatting in a restaurant, absorbing the opinions of family and friends – all of these things create an environment or culture surrounding us and sometimes it is not one in which we thrive. It can be disconcerting and leave us feeling as if we aren't fulfilling our purpose or that we somehow don't measure up. That's why the underlined portion above resonated with me. It drove the point home to me that the *'little things'* are not only good enough, they are always the pinnacle toward which God wishes us to strive.

Keep in mind that the events of today and the discontentment and divisiveness we may witness around us, are not the first to be seen. Those walking before us have discovered the same feelings of unrest. Abraham Lincoln once said – *"I have been driven many times to my knees, by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day." Sometimes we forget the simplest, yet most powerful, thing we can do is pray. Pray, and remember the words in Matthew 7:12 – "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you…"* During this busy fall season, with dissention and strong differences of opinion we may witness, let us strive to remember what our purpose in life really is.

But if you struggle with contributing positively to the culture around you, or tuning out the noise, please reach out to one of GCUMC's 4 Pastors, who are adept at listening! They minister to members and friends of Gold Canyon UMC, so simply call the Church Office at (480)982-3776 and one of them will respond to your request. After hours, you may call or email one of the pastors directly. You will find their contact information on the Pastoral and Congregational Care page of this newsletter, or you can reach out to the Church Office.

"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."
~ Matthew 7:12 [NRSV]



MUSIC NOTES

Dr. Ian Classe, Director of Music Ministries

I can feel it, can't you? What you may ask? The beginnings of cooler weather here in Arizona of course! As a former Midwesterner, I still haven't fully adjusted to the heat of the summers here, even after five years. Of course, as autumn approaches so does the busy season here at Gold Canyon UMC. In the music ministry, that means that choir is back singing every Sunday and soon we'll be hearing the ringing of the handbells by the Canyon Carillon.

Canyon Carillon will begin ringing in October so if you're a member, stay tuned for an email from me. If you're not a member but are interested in joining the handbell choir, feel free to reach out to me and we'll find a place for you. Canyon Carillon rings once a month usually but sometimes more as well as on the Christmas Concert.

If bells aren't quite your interest, but you're an instrumentalist, feel free to reach out to me about performing for prelude or offertory. We're always looking for additional ways to bring new music and musicians to our congregation as well as to praise God.

If you're not an instrumentalist (or even if you are!), Chancel Choir is always open to new members! It's a great group of musicians working to provide our congregation and community with meaningful music. Choir has already resumed rehearsals for Sunday mornings and we're starting Christmas Choir Rehearsals (for the concert) this month on October 3 at 7:30pm. If you're interested in singing on the Christmas concert, reach out to me or come to rehearsal during October.

Also this month, the 'Sunday Sounds Series' continues on October 13th after the 9:30am worship service. If you're interested in hearing and discussing organ, the organ project, or music in general, be sure to attend. We will be discussing some of the things we learned from the organ committee's visit with organ builder, C.B. Fisk, last month.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, comments or just want to talk music, feel free to reach out to me by email or phone.

Peace and best regards,

Ian

LOCAL MISSIONS & MINISTRIES

SCRIP BUS & VAN FUND

Your continued participation in the SCRIP programs at Bashas and Frys grocery stores who support GCUMC's bus and van programs is so appreciated! So far in 2024 SCRIP has raised over **$2,225.03**! It's easy to do… just stop by (or call) the Church Office or visit the Welcome Desk on Sunday if you need help!

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

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

FOOD BANK

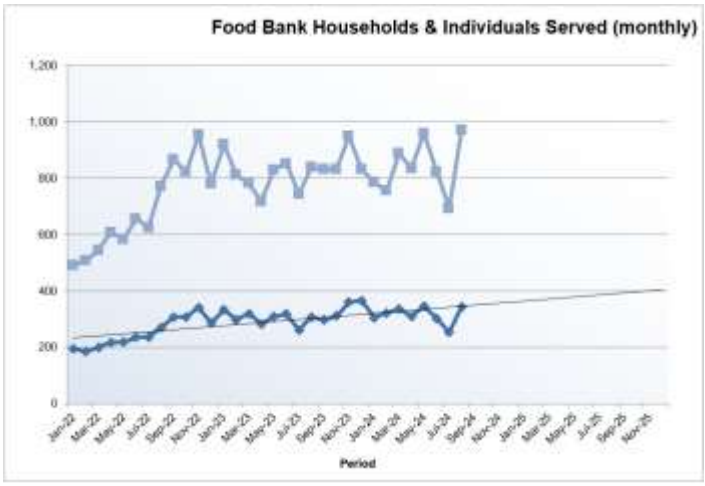
Did you know there is a food bank hierarchy? The GCUMC Food Bank is part of the Feeding America organization. Our local distributor is United Food Bank (UFB). GCUMC Food Bank is considered an Agency Partner. There is some wonderful local history here – St. Mary's Food Bank in Phoenix created the foundation for the current USA national food bank distribution structure (back in the 1970's) which has resulted in organizations like Feeding America that we are apart of.

Recently some volunteers and the manager of GCUMC Food Bank held an onsite meeting with our account representative from UFB. We learned that UFB is seeing a 160% increase in the number of individuals visiting food pantries like ours. The populations most affected: the elderly and students. If you find 'students' surprising, check out the food pantries they have on the ASU and UA campuses. Both demographics typically have lower fixed incomes and may also be burdened with debt.

The GCUMC Food Bank is only seeing a 25% increase when we compare January to July 2024 statistics. In the two most recent months, we served just under 1000 individuals each month. Keep in mind we are open 9 hours a week and not at the most convenient time of day or location, especially for working families. However, we are still serving a significant population of both young and old in our broader community.

The forced relocation of the Genesis Project in Apache Junction creates a potential for increasing our client volume. Even if this soup kitchen that serves 250+ daily can raise the money to transition to a church a mile away, there is the potential there will be a gap in service due to needed infrastructure work or complications receiving local or county approvals. We already serve a sizable client population from Apache Junction at our food bank. We need to begin to prepare for the potential of further impact to our services.

Thank you as always for your support. We will do our best to keep you updated as to how your generous donations are being used. Rest assured, all your monetary donations go into a designated fund that is strictly maintained and used for only Food Bank purposes. Lately, product donations are usually out the door right away. The overall community is truly blessed to have your support!



"BETTER TOGETHER" DESERT DINERS

Want to meet new friends and enjoy fellowship with one another outside of our church building? Here's your opportunity!

We are excited to kick off a new season of Desert Diners where you can get to know your church family by sharing a meal together either in your home or in a restaurant. If you have not participated before, here's how it works:

A group of 6-8 names (couples will be placed together as well as singles) are randomly chosen to share a meal together once a month.

The Congregational Life Team will initially coordinate the groups, and provide guidance and assistance as needed.

Your group will decide whether you want to meet for lunch or dinner either in your home or in a restaurant.

Host will provide the main course and guests will divide up who brings an appetizer, salad, dessert etc. If you choose to meet in a restaurant, the host will buy an appetizer or dessert.

The experience of sharing a meal together provides lifelong friends we might not have met otherwise and builds a strong church community. We hope you will enjoy the fun and fellowship together.

Registration forms will be at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Call, text or email Dee Ashe at 480-685 -7175 (or email at deeashe7580@gmail.com) or Pastor Katharine for any questions you may have.

WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

United Women in Faith

Valerie Hammons, GCUMC Director of Youth Ministries, was the guest speaker at our August meeting, where she discussed the importance of youth ministry, leading youth in Bible discussions, views on standing up for what is right, and choosing friends. Thank you Valerie for all you do for our Youth Ministry at GCUMC!

Ladies, you're invited to join us on Sat., October 19 in the Missions Center *(10am fellowship; 10:30 meeting)* when Jennifer Balabrin, board certified clinical specialist in geriatric physical therapy, presents on *Movement is Medicine*. Jennifer and Michael Balbarin are the owners of Vitality Physical Therapy, located at 6804 S. Kings Ranch Road in Gold Canyon.

Jennifer will be talking to us about the importance of physical activity and exercise and the enormous benefits it gives for our health. You'll hear her talk about exercise programs that include the activities you enjoy! Movement is a medicine for creating a positive change in our emotional and physical lives. *Move it, move it…* and hear about movement as medicine!

Upcoming Dates and Events:

- **Reading Program: Wed., 10/2**, 10am, Missions Center, contact Jane Hansgaard for more info, hansgaard@msn.com
- **Book Review:** *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants* by botanist and author Robin Wall Kimmerer. Kimmerer is trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. Here, she brings these two lenses together. Drawing on her life as an Indigenous scientist and a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. She circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness requires acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. United Women of Faith, SPIRITUAL GROWTH selection
- **Leadership Team: Tue., 10/15**, 10am, Missions Center. Susan susanblyons@gmail.com for more info.
- **October General Meeting: Sat., 10/19**, 10am fellowship; 10:30am meeting/program, Missions Center. *Movement is Medicine* presented by Jennifer Balbarin, board certified clinical specialist in geriatric physical therapy.
- **House of Refuge Tour:** The House of Refuge provides housing and services for families who are homeless, and they are the beneficiary of 40% of the proceeds from the Christmas Tea. You're invited to join us for an on-site tour on **10/25** at 10am. Meet at at the Missions Center at 9:15am to carpool. For more info contact Carol (602)750-2008 / caroljohnsonaz@yahoo.com.
- **November General Meeting: Sat., 11/16,** 10am fellowship; 10:30am meeting/program, Missions Center. Salt Tasting Program and World Thank Offering, presented by Rebecca Russel, vice president UWF.

- **Christmas Tea & Fashion Show: Sat., 12/7,** 2pm, Koinonia Room. Come for delightful tea, savory and sweet treats, enjoy the fashion show and of course, stay for the fellowship! The fashion show will feature our own Sunday School children and young men and women from our Youth Ministry! Tickets are $30 per person. Contact Joy Bliss to reserve your seat (505)270-7085 / joybliss42@gmail.com. Proceeds benefit the House of Refuge, Mesa and UWF ministries. If you would like to host a table at the tea, please contact Carol Johnson.
- **December General Meeting: Sat., 12/21,** 10am fellowship; 10:30am meeting/program, Missions Center. Installation of 2025 officers and Rev Julius Keller will present a program on Racial Justice.

For more general info about United Women in Faith, contact Susan, susanblyons@gmail.com.

GOLD CANYON
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2024-2025
PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

11/22/24	Fri	7:00pm	*	**GCAC Concert: The Gentlemen's Quartet**...*a Contemporary Classical Jazz quartet!*
12/01/24	Sun	7:00pm	*	**GCAC Concert: The Swingles**...*a vocal group from England!*
12/14/24	Sat	3:00pm		**23rd Annual GCUMC Christmas Concert** ...*features our music ministries & more!*
12/24/24	Sun	4:00pm		**Christmas Eve Worship** ...*Join us for worship w/ candlelight!*
12/24/24	Sun	6:00pm		**Christmas Eve Worship** ...*Join us for worship w/ candlelight!*
01/17/25	Fri	7:00pm	*	**GCAC Concert: The John Pizzarelli Trio**...*an instrumental Jazz Trio!*
01/26/25	Sun	2:00pm		**The Rice Brothers** ...*both are virtuoso pianists and cellists*
01/27/25	Sat	9:00pm		**GCAC Arts Festival**...*a much-anticipated community celebration!*
02/02/25	Sun	2:00pm		**Sam & Josh Stefanski**...*local talent bringing music from every decade!*
02/14/25	Sun	7:00pm	*	**GCAC Concert: Carion Woodwind Quintet**...*an ensemble from Denmark/Latvia!*
02/21/25	Sun	6:00pm		**Silent Film Gala w/ organist, Matt Gender**...*film with improvised accompaniment!*
03/05/25	Wed	7:00pm		**Ash Wednesday Worship** ...*join us as we begin the journey through Lent*
03/07/25	Sun	7:00pm	*	**GCAC Concert: Mancini Centennial**...*big band playing song from Juke Box Age!*
03/23/25	Wed	2pm		**Nicole Pesce, Jazz Pianist**...*local talent playing blues, classical, jazz and more!*
04/13/25	Sun	8 & 9:30am		**Palm Sunday Worship** ...*join us as we begin the journey through Lent*
04/13/25	Sun	11:00am		**Palm Sunday Praise Worship** ...*join us as we begin the journey through Lent*
04/13/25	Sun	4:00pm		**Palm Sunday Gospel Worship** ...*join us as we begin the journey through Lent*
04/17/25	Thu	7:00pm		**Maundy Thursday Worship** ...*special service with communion and ashes*
04/19/25	Fri	7:00pm		**Good Friday Worship**
04/20/25	Sun	6:00am		**Easter Sunrise Worship** ...*in north Parking Lot facing the Superstitions*
04/20/25	Sun	8:00 & 9:30		**Easter Celebration Worship** ...*Christ is Risen with Brass, Bells and Choir*
04/20/25	Sun	11am		**Easter Praise Worship** ...*Uncommon Grace leads our Praise of the Risen Lord*
04/20/25	Sun	4pm		**Easter Sunset Worship** ...*our Gospel celebration of Christ Alive*

** Indicates a ticketed event for a fee presented by the Gold Canyon Arts Council's Canyon Sounds Series.*
Inquires and/or ticket information can be received via phone (480)493-6731 or online at www.GoldCanyonArts.org.
All other concerts are presented by the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church's Performing Arts Series
and are open to the public at no charge as an offering will be received.
We ask that everyone please bring at least one non-perishable food item per person for the GCUMC Food Bank —
and is always in need of cereal, tuna, Ramen, Saltines and macaroni-n-cheese. Thank you for your patronage! -

6640 South Kings Ranch Road • Gold Canyon, AZ 85118 • (480)982-3776 • www.GoldCanyonUMC.org
Revised 9/17/24

BITS-N-BYTES

LISTENING TOUR SESSIONS

We've added additional dates, so hosts are needed to accommodate and 8-10 guests (plus Pastor David and his driver) in their home, as well as provide a simple snack and beverage. These important sessions are helping Pastor David Harriss get to know our church community and learn about our culture. He has very much enjoyed the gatherings he's attended, and looking forward to the ones ahead! If you can help, please email ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org or call (480)982-3776 and let Riechia Ralston know what date you could host, the time (2pm, 4pm, 6pm) as well as how many guests you could accommodate.

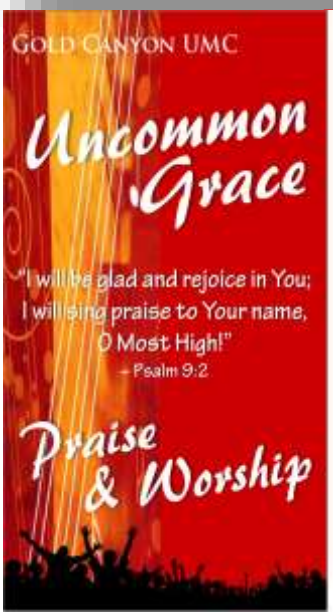
If you haven't yet attended a listening session, please prayerfully consider it. At these sessions, attendees have the opportunity to respond to these questions:

1. What is one thing that I, as the new Pastor, need to know about this congregation?
2. What is one way that we are going to reach new people in this area?
3. What is one dream that you have for our church?

Sign-up sheets will be put in the building Lobbies as new hosts sign-up, or call the Church Office. Please pray about the above questions, so you can share at the session you attend.

ACCESS ACS

Add/update your photo and contact info — and more using GCUMC's online directory, AccessACS! If you aren't using it, but would like to, email: ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org" with "**AccessACS**" in the subject line and we'll send you login instructions. You can also view our Church Directory on your phone using the ChurchLife app *(if you already have it)* or through your phone's browser!



Sundays at 11am in the Koinonia Room!

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

Contact David… (DCBallardsAZ@gmail.com) …if you are interested in getting involved with the Praise or Country music teams!

STAY IN THE KNOW!

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

OCTOBER CALENDAR

(Calendar is subject to change;
For more info, please visit www.GoldCanyonUMC.org or call the Church Office)

Tue Oct 1	9am	GriefShare (ER) ***TENTATIVE***
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
Wed Oct 2	10am	CLASS: Kindness (TBD)
	10am	UWF Reading Program (MC-B/Patio)
	10:30am	Cancer Support Group (ER/K)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Oct 3	10am	CLASS: 50 Ways to Pray (TBD)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-B)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR)
Fri Oct 4	8am	GC Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sun Oct 6	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	12:10pm	Youth Band Rehearsal (KR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
	5:30pm	The Chosen (KR)
Mon Oct 7	-	-
Tue Oct 8	9am	Gold Canyon Garden Club (MC-E)
	9am	GriefShare (ER) ***TENTATIVE***
	9am	Stitches Unlimited Quilters (MC-B&Patio)
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
Wed Oct 9	10am	CLASS: Kindness (TBD)
	10am	MTG: Superstition Astronomical League (MC-M)
	10:30am	Cancer Support Group (ER/K)
	2:45pm	MTG: GCAC (MC-S)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Oct 10	10am	CLASS: 50 Ways to Pray (TBD)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-B)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR)
Fri Oct 11	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Oct 12	8am	MTG: PEO (MC-B)
	2pm	MEMORIAL: Lowell Matthews (Offsite) Where: 2208 W Baseline Ave, Apache Junction, AZ 85120
Sun Oct 13	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	10:30am	Sunday Sound Series (S)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	12:10pm	Youth Band Rehearsal (KR)
	1pm	MEMORIAL: Warren Sifferath (KR)
	2pm	MEMORIAL RECEPTION: Warren Sifferath (KR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Oct 14	All day	Columbus Day
Tue Oct 15	9am	GriefShare (ER) ***TENTATIVE***

MAIN CAMPUS

EB = Education Bldg.
ER = Emmaus Rm
K = Kitchen
KR = Koinonia Rm
MR = Music Rm
NAR = Noah's Ark Rm
P = Patio
S = Sanctuary
SoGR = Sea of Galilee Rm
WR = Wesley Rm
YR = Youth Rm

MISSIONS CENTER

MC-B = Barnabas
MC-E = Esther
MC-M = Martha
MC-S = Stephen

(Calendar is subject to change; For more info, visit www.GoldCanyonUMC.org or call the Church Office)

	10am	MTG: UWFaith Leadership Team (MC-TBD)
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
Wed Oct 16	10am	CLASS: Kindness (TBD)
	10:30am	Cancer Support Group (ER/K)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Oct 17	10am	CLASS: 50 Ways to Pray (TBD)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-B)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR)
Fri Oct 18	8am	GC Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
	6:30pm	PROGRAM: HipHop Homies w/ Extra Chromies (KR/ER)
Sat Oct 19	10am	MTG: UWFaith (MC-B/Zoom)
Sun Oct 20	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	12:10pm	Youth Band Rehearsal (KR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Oct 21	-	-
Tue Oct 22	9am	GriefShare (ER) ***TENTATIVE***
	9am	Stitches Unlimited (MC-B)
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
Wed Oct 23	10am	CLASS: Kindness (TBD)
	10am	MTG: Superstition Astronomical League (MC-M)
	10:30am	Cancer Support Group (ER/K)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Oct 24	9am	Girls Matter Period (MC-B)
	10am	CLASS: 50 Ways to Pray (TBD)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-B)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR)

ROADRUNNER & BULLETIN DEADLINES

Please send content for the

November 2024 Roadrunner

via email to ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org

BY 8am on Monday, 10/14/24

Weekly Bulletin & Flower Orders

12pm on the Wednesday prior to the Sunday Service

Fri Oct 25	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sun Oct 27	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	12:10pm	Youth Band Rehearsal (KR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Oct 28	-	-
Tue Oct 29	9am	GriefShare (ER) ***TENTATIVE***
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
Wed Oct 30	10am	CLASS: Kindness (TBD)
	10:30am	Cancer Support Group (ER/K)
	3:30pm	DISCIPLE 1 (ER)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Oct 31	All day	Halloween
	10am	CLASS: 50 Ways to Pray (TBD)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-B)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR)

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

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

Happy Birthday!

Hanson, Carter 10/01
Fish, Herb 10/02
Ramacher, Marcielle 10/02
Cajowski, Kyle 10/03
Potter, Penny 10/03
Shank, Linda 10/03
Tabor, Jill 10/04
Becker, Jack 10/05
Cajowski, John 10/05
Capen, Dian 10/05
Douglas, Marilyn 10/05
Douglass, Jaclyn 10/05
Rasmussen, Al 10/06
Hosler, Mary Lou 10/07
Wion, Sheldon 10/07
Zander, Helen 10/07
Hunter, Betty Lou 10/08
Lunder, Nancy 10/08
Muir, Barbara 10/08
Becker, Bonnie 10/09
Behan, Connie 10/09
Merrel, Kay 10/09
Scott, Jay 10/09
Burgi, Jenelu 10/10
Ewing, John 10/10
Johnson, Pete 10/10
Poppe-Smart, Kimberli 10/10
Miller, Royce 10/11
Roberson, Rinda 10/11
Larson, Craig 10/12
Cascaden, Lisa 10/13
Graves, Donna 10/13
Miller, Fred 10/13
Bradshaw, Jack 10/14
Breuklander, Paul 10/14
Eubanks, Rosalie 10/14
Lindholm, Lynn 10/14
Pautvein, Joan 10/15
Reynolds, Kally 10/15
Tollefson, Kathy 10/17
Norton, Lester 10/18
Rogers, Shirley 10/18
Workman, Paul 10/18
Adams, Robbie 10/19
Dudley, Mary 10/20
Liles, Cheryl 10/20
Rowland, Debbie 10/20
Sims, Gail 10/20
Thomas, Bill 10/20
Adams, Michael 10/21
Dauenhauer, Dick 10/21
Brown, Ariella 10/22
Charette, Carl 10/22
Elek, Tim 10/22
Elieff, Jim 10/22
Fendley, Alexis 10/23
Fendley, Cecil 10/23
Neumann, Eleanor 10/23
Tabor, Charles 10/23
Corey, Fred 10/24
Kopnick, Pamela 10/24
Tucker, Rush 10/24
Hager, James 10/25
Johnson (Korver), Carol 10/25
Lunn, Ed 10/25
Myers, Bill 10/25
Williams, Kateland 10/25
Gersonde, Lori 10/26
Miller, Mike 10/26
Schorer, Manny 10/26
Daniels, Jan 10/27
Lindholm, Paul 10/27
Maetzold, Keith 10/27
Crandall, LeWain 10/28
Holmes, Rose 10/29
Pautzke, Donavon 10/29
Elieff, Sue 10/30
Hassoun, Cindy 10/30
Hays, Doran 10/30
Martin, Darla 10/30
Weinhold, Eldon 10/30
Gibson, James 10/31
Graba, Sylvia 10/31

Happy Anniversary!

Enevold, Connie & Jeff 10/01
Peterson, June & Rick 10/01
Hoerter, Coleen & Daniel 10/02
Winkler, Don & Sarah 10/02
Cajowski, Barbara & John 10/08
Rowland, Debbie & Phil 10/11
Fuerherm, Donna & Roy 10/15
Klaers, Mary & Nick 10/15
Hanson, Renee & Shawn 10/16
Lunder, Nancy & Wayne 10/21
Hardcastle, April & Ned 10/23
Heft, Bob & Lenz, Kathy 10/30
Tabor, Charles & Jill 10/30

CONTRIBUTIONS & ATTENDANCE

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

AUGUST	2021			2022			2023			2024		
	General Fund	Building Fund	Worship All	General Fund	Building Fund	Worship All	General Fund	Bldg/FH Fund	Worship All	General Fund	Bldg/FH Fund	Worship All
	68427	22041	4823	59609	13498	5189	53043	12474	4199	57247	1581049	4015

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

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

- *Fellowship Hall ($3 Million needed; $1,585,821.90 raised)*
- *Organ Fund ($217,246.86 raised)*
- *Pave Mission Center Parking Lot ($200,000 needed)*
- *Building Fund Loan (Paid off 2022)*
- *Stain Glass for upper Sanctuary windows (Completed 2022)*

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

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

GIFTING YOUR HOME…

… is a practical way to reduce the size of one's estate
… reduces taxes … simplifies life for heirs and executor (personal rep)
… eliminates the hassle of having home on the market … helps reduce the church's debt
… can be done through a lifetime estate, allowing a person to continue living in the home.

CONTACT US

Senior Pastor	Rev. Fred A. Steinberg	RevStein78@gmail.com
Senior Pastor Designate	Rev. David J. Harriss	DaviJon66@gmail.com
Associate Pastor	Pastor Katharine Keller	Ladiebug1214@gmail.com
Associate Pastor	Rev. Gary Capen	GCapen3GCUMC@gmail.com
Church Administrator	Riechia Ralston	ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org
Administrative Associate	Jennifer Rhine-Walker	AdmAssociate.GCUMC@gmail.com
Director, Music Ministries	Dr. Ian Classe	IClasse@GoldCanyonUMC.org
Associate Director, Music	David Ballard	DCBallardsAZ@gmail.com
Assistant Director, Music	Cynthia Hoff	CynthiaLeeHoff@gmail.com
Director, Youth Ministries	Valerie Hammons	YouthDirector.GCUMC@gmail.com
Nursery Care Giver	Nina Hernandez	HernandezNina@ymail.com
Facility Care Taker	Rick Ceynar	Rick.Ceynar@gmail.com
Director, Audio/Visual	Chris Benjamin	BenjiDoesTheArt@gmail.com
Prayer Chain		GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/goldcanyonumc @goldcanyonUMC

Gold Canyon United Methodist Church

6640 S Kings Ranch Road, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118
Phone: 480.982.3776
Fax: 480.671.0028
Email: ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org
Web: www.GoldCanyonUMC.org

Worship Services (Summer Schedule)

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

(Childcare available at morning worship services)

Sunday School & Youth Fellowship

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

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

Addressee or Current Resident