



AUGUST 2025

## FROM OUR PASTORS



*Rev. David J. Harriss, Senior Pastor*

### AUGUST SURPRISES STILL OCCUR

*Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day.' -Exodus 16:4a*

Sometimes, when we are considering the worst possible outcome, something positive happens. These are often what I call, Yay God! moments. When I was a child, my mother always placed chocolate chip cookies on the top shelf of the cabinet in the kitchen. I can remember one day; I really wanted some chocolate chip cookies. So, I stood on the highest chair I could find. Even so, I was a little bit short of reaching the cookie jar. So, I thought to myself, If I can scoot the bottom the cookie jar away from the shelf, I can catch it as it is flying across the room. That's a great idea, David! I reached for this cookie jar and I swept it away from the shelf. It flew across the room and it met the floor with a loud bam, crack. The cookie jar had cracked open in three places. I could hear my mother running down the hall, David, are you okay? I was so embarrassed and I was afraid that my mother would be very angry with me. She came into the kitchen, looked at the broken cookie jar, looked at me, and said, Well, I was thinking about getting a new cookie jar. Now, I have a good reason to buy one.

It is often refreshing when we consider a bad outcome and actually receive a positive one. For as long as I can remember, I have never thought much of the month of August. By the 8th month, I am tired of the summer and the heat and I am ready for fall. In the life of the church, August is often a dismal month for worship attendance and for giving. For many years, I have been telling parishioners this exact statement. Church attendance and giving are always down in August.

In my 3rd year at a previous church appointment, I was pontificating about how awful the month of August would be, and the Lord surprised all of us. In the month of August, post-Covid, 17 members joined the church. I was made aware, God still offers us renewal, refreshment, and transformation when we least expect it.

In Exodus, chapter 16, the tribe of Moses was murmuring about how Moses had brought them out to the desert in order to die. The story of manna raining down from heaven is a story about God's grace. God still offers us abundant grace and extravagant provision, sometimes in our worst moments. God still works miracles and still offers surprises in our most difficult and challenging times of life. And on occasion, we even celebrate Yay God moments during the hottest month of the year. —David J. Harriss

### *Contact Us*

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Gold Canyon, AZ 85118  
www.GoldCanyonUMC.org  
Church Office 480.982.3776

"...FOLLOWING JESUS... SERVING OTHERS"

*Contact Us*



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Pastor Katharine Keller

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

## ADULT TRAIL RIDE

Howdy, Pardners!! Come ride with us! Pastor Katharine is organizing an adult (18 years and above) evening trail ride plus dinner with South Ponderosa Stables, 12510 S. Conral Ave. on **Friday, September 5th**. The ride starts at 6 pm, but everyone needs to be there by **5:30 pm** to check in and sign waivers, etc. Please read the details below. If you are interested, email Pastor Katharine at [ladiebug1214@gmail.com](mailto:ladiebug1214@gmail.com) by August 22nd. She will make the reservations.



Join us for our most popular evening ride filled with spectacular panoramic views of the Valley of the Sun to T-Bone Steakhouse, South Phoenix's most authentic Western restaurant. Cost of the T-Bone Trail Ride is \$80.00/Person plus dinner.

The T-Bone ride is a there-and-back ride. The ride to the restaurant is 75-90 minutes and the ride back is usually 5-10 minutes shorter.

T-Bone Steakhouse is a popular oasis with great food and a reputation for the "Best Beef in the West", attracting cowboys and ranchers since the 1940's.

This ride is great for riders of all experience levels and the restaurant is only a short drive from the stables if some of your guests may not wish or may be unable to ride a horse, but still would like to join you for dinner. (Dinner is NOT included)

The T-Bone restaurant opens at 5pm. South Ponderosa Stables is not directly affiliated with the restaurant. If you have questions or special requests, please call them at 602-276-0945 or visit them on the web at [www.tbonesteakhouseaz.com](http://www.tbonesteakhouseaz.com).

## POLKA & PRETZELS

Coming in October – Polka & Pretzels!!

On **Friday, October 10**, from **6-8 pm** the Congregational Life Team is sponsoring the Varitones, who will entertain us with polka music. In addition, we will serve root beer, Ginger ale and hot pretzels. Thank you for signing up for this (Sign-up sheets will be available in September) so that we know how many pretzels to prepare. Bring a friend and enjoy a great evening! This is a free event, but donations will be accepted to help defray the cost of the band.

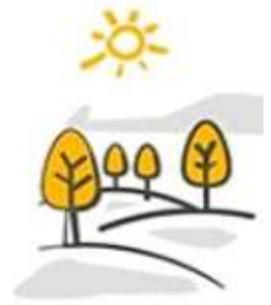


**Ladies' Craft Night was a sparkling success!!**

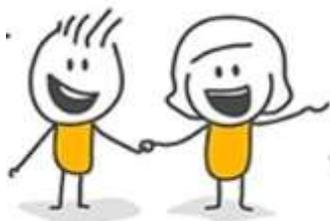
## PASTOR FRED'S RETIREMENT

On Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 230 people gathered at Dolce Vita Clubhouse in Apache Junction to celebrate Fred & Beth's 38 years in ministry and 28 years at GCUMC.











## PASTOR FRED'S LAST SUNDAY

Pictured, clockwise from top right: Rev. Jody Topping participated in Pastor Fred's farewell service, Ava Witucky served as Liturgist, the Church enjoyed cake in Fred's honor, The Youth presented a candy-gram message, Stitches Unlimited presented Beth and Fred with a keepsake quilt, Pastor Fred passed his shepherd's crook on to Pastor David, symbolizing the hand over of the flock.





## GLOBAL MISSIONS

Pastor Katharine Keller



### GIRLS MATTER PERIOD

Our major distribution of 2,000 GMP Period Packs to girls in Year to date, here in the east valley, including workshops at the Mission Center our volunteers have completed components for over 1,000 hygiene kits! That is many hours of cutting, sewing, turning, pressing, ect. 845 of those kits have been distributed through teams going to South Africa. We do hope to bring some kits along on the Beans and Rice Mission Trip in January to introduce them in Costa Rica and potentially provide more to them in the future.

Paula Blessman also has a trip planned to South Africa through Blessman International on September 10, 2026. Contact us at [GirlsMatterPeriod@gmail.com](mailto:GirlsMatterPeriod@gmail.com) if you are interest in going on this trip with her.

Workshops continue at GCUMC throughout the summer. Contact Tammy Plaski at (920)779-0359 or [GirlsMatterPeriod@gmail.com](mailto:GirlsMatterPeriod@gmail.com) or refer to the worship bulletin for more information.

### RICE & BEANS



We still have available spaces to go on the mission trip to Rice and Beans Ministry in San Jose. If you are interested, please contact pastor Katharine.

### FRONTERA DE CRISTO MISSION

A team of women will be venturing to the Douglas/Agua Prieta border to learn from Frontera de Cristo ministries from November 3-7. Two new slots opened up, if there is a woman who is interested in joining us. Cost is \$500. Please contact Pastor Katharine, if interested.

...please send prayer requests to [GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com](mailto:GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com) or call the Church Office



## PASTORAL CARE

Our Pastors are on call to reach out to members and friends of Gold Canyon UMC. If you know someone in our congregation who is hospitalized, ill at home, needs a listening ear and/or prayers of the community, please send an email to [GCUMCPrayers@gmail.com](mailto: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. David J. Harriss, Senior Pastor**  
[DaviJon66@gmail.com](mailto:DaviJon66@gmail.com) / (520) 465-5415

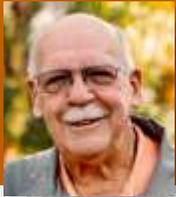
**Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor**  
[GCapen@gmail.com](mailto:GCapen@gmail.com) / (919) 357-8474

**Pastor Katharine Keller, Associate Pastor**  
[LadieBug1214@gmail.com](mailto:LadieBug1214@gmail.com) / (480) 888-5411

**Pastor Jeremy Brigham, Associate Pastor**  
[JeremyBrigham87@gmail.com](mailto:JeremyBrigham87@gmail.com) / (480) 616-3064



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



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor



It's hard to believe that it's already August! This year has gone by very quickly, and so much has transpired in the life of Gold Canyon UMC. We said goodbye to Pastor Fred and Beth, wishing them a happy retirement. Pastor David, along with his family, is firmly rooted in the life of this church and is deeply committed to seeing us grow in many ways. I left for Maine on July 8th and will return in September as we gear up for the fall and beyond. It's an exciting time in the life of the church as we look to the future and the ministry to which we have been called. In Pastor Fred's last sermon, he stressed that the church is not a person or a building. Each one of us has a calling—a calling to use the talents God has given us to serve our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit whom we serve, and in serving, as Christ taught us, we serve those who are the least, the lost, the hungry, the homeless, the immigrants, the widows, the orphans, the sick, and so many more. We care for one another in love, mercy, with grace and kindness. This is our calling.

*We make a living  
by what we get, but  
we make a life by  
what we give.*  
-WINSTON CHURCHILL

It is out of this calling that the church continues to be a mainstay of life. There are so many today who have lost faith and hope in a world that is tearing itself apart with hatred, violence, and much more. How did we reach this point? I know it's more than politics, for politics has always been a part of our lives. We are divided in ways far more profound than politics. We are in a "faith crisis," a society that is consumed by materialism rather than faith. We place our trust in things rather than in Jesus Christ. Pastor Fred said we are always looking to upgrade to the latest of everything. Pastor David has said that this is but one of the demons we face, and there are many more that cry for our attention.

In a recent article titled: "When is Enough, Enough?" the author says, "When is enough, enough? When the soul of our homeland lies in ruins. When you've watched your values crumble, your dreams wither, your beloved disappears into silence, and your faith turns to dust beneath your feet. You would have roared for less. You would have drawn the line for far smaller trespasses. But now? Now you whisper, when you should rise. Now you look away. - And despair begins with apathy."

We are Christ followers, and so we rise from despair to meet the needs of our society, our neighbors, our friends, and our families. That is what we do, that is who we are! We chose life lived in Christ, just as we live. We unite as a family of faith and do the work, not to gain points for the sake of our souls, and the promise of more and more money, more and better material things. No, we do it out of faith, our faith in the living Christ who dwells in every human being we meet. In others, we see Christ, and "whatever we do to the least of these we have done to Christ." May we live out our faith in the One who gives us life. Amen

—Gary

When I am alone, God is my comforter. When I am nothing, God is my everything. When I am sad and lonely, God is my song and joy. When I am weak and helpless, God is my strength. Amen

## In Remembrance

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

Dave Hahn  
Tami Herrera  
Skip Hill  
July Hookano  
Joseph Huegel

Lainie Landry  
Lorne Meldrum  
James Mooney  
Wally Quanstrom  
Joann Widness



# YOUTH MINISTRY

Valerie Hammons, Youth Director

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

## YOUTH GROUP SUMMER FUN

Youth group Summer Fun is about much more than games and laughter, though there is plenty of both. It is a foundation for lifelong learning, leadership, and connection.





By weaving together Jesus, adventure, creativity, and service, these programs help young people flourish—equipping them with memories, skills, and friendships that will endure long after the last days of summer have faded into autumn.



**Thank you for your support!**





# MUSIC NOTES

Dr. Ian Classe, Director of Music Ministries



August is here and the heat is still here to stay. Maybe it will start cooling off next month. I will be taking some time off near the end of August to escape the heat and I will try to bring back some cooling vibes. Choir is also on hiatus until September, though there will be steadfast volunteers helping to lead congregational singing on Sunday mornings. Our planning continues for the fall season as we hope to have new choral scholars, a great season of concerts and events, as well as more information regarding the organ project—so stay tuned for that.

The organ committee is currently working to make their final decision regarding a builder recommendation for the administrative council following our trip to the Kansas City area. We saw (and heard) some very fine instruments that we hope will be comparable to our project. You can see photos below.

As always, if you have questions or comments, reach out to me via email or phone.

Best regards, *Ian*





## CARING CORNER

Kim Shroyer

### A DOG'S LIFE



I recently read a little sentiment regarding the loss of a pet. A young boy and his father were at the Vet with their dog. The Vet told them the sad news that their dog was old and tired and would

not live much longer. The father pondered out loud, "Why is it we have such long lives, but our dogs do not? Wouldn't it be great if they could live our entire lives with us?" The boy, who had been quietly listening, suddenly spoke up and said "I know why." They all turned to him in surprise. What he said next stunned them - "People are born to learn how to live a good life-like loving and being kind, right? Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't need to stay as long as we do."

What a comforting explanation! It really is true isn't it? Dogs, and many other of God's small creatures, give us such unconditional love. They don't judge us, and cast no special criterion on us, they just love. A few things we might learn from a dog are:

- Run to greet loved ones when they come home.
- Take naps... Stretch before rising.
- Run, play, and have fun daily.
- When it's enough to growl, don't bite.
- On warm days, lie on your back in the grass.
- Drink lots of water and relax in the shade.
- When happy, dance and wag your whole body.
- Enjoy the simple joy of a long walk.
- Be loyal.
- Never pretend to be someone you're not.

Our mission here is to learn to live a good life, be loving and kind. We are called to be more like Jesus, every day. But in today's world, we are often sabotaged from the start of each day. We read an article first thing in the morning that frustrates or angers us, someone cuts us off in traffic then displays a rude gesture toward us, we get horrible news about our job, health or relationship. We can be "in a mood" and carry it for days, weeks, months or years. I recently saw Christian singer Zack Williams in concert. Lyrics to his song *Less Like Me*, jumped out at me (partial):

*...Oh, I have days I lose the fight, Try my best but just don't get it right. Where I talk a talk that I don't walk, **And miss the moments right before my eyes***

*Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped, Somebody with a hand that I could have held, When I just can't see past myself, **Lord, help me be***

*A little more like mercy, a little more like grace, A little more like kindness, goodness, love, and faith, A little more like patience, a little more like peace, **A little more like Jesus, a little less like me...***

**A little more like Jesus, a little less like me**, that pretty much sums it up, doesn't it?! I'm pretty good at being me, and I must confess that lots of times being me isn't very pretty. I can be petty, selfish, controlling, unloving, and just downright NOT like Jesus. But you know, it's okay. God expects us to do these things. (unfortunately, we are human and will never be perfect) However, he does call us to focus on Jesus, strive to be more like Him, and put others first.

Pastor Rick Warren recently cited Hebrews 12:3 [NLT], <sup>3</sup>*Think of all the hostility he (Jesus) endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. He encouraged us to focus on truths such as that; reminded us that our minds are our greatest asset and our fiercest battleground; and encouraged us to ask God to help us to feed on his Word, free our minds of destructive thoughts, and fill our minds with Jesus, others, and eternity. Then we'll be well-equipped to fight the battles in our minds.*

If being "less like you", or maximizing the meaning of your time on earth, is an insurmountable struggle, please reach out to one of GCUMC's 4 Pastors, who are adept at listening! They minister to members and friends of Gold Canyon UMC. Please simply call the church office at 480-982-3776 and one of them will respond to your request. After hours, you may call or email one of the pastors directly. You will find their contact information in the bulletin on Sunday morning, (or emailed to you prior to Sunday worship), in the church office or the Pastoral and Congregational Care page of this newsletter.

<sup>4</sup>*Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ~ Philippians 2:4 [NLT]*



# LOCAL MISSIONS & MINISTRIES

## SCRIP BUS & VAN FUND

Your continued participation in the SCRIP programs at Bashas and Fry's grocery stores who support GCUMC's bus and van programs is so appreciated! It's

easy to do... just stop by (or call) the Church Office or visit the Welcome Desk on Sunday if you need help!

**Bashas'** 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'.

**fry's** 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!

## STITCHES UNLIMITED QUILTERS

In August some quilters are finishing up summer projects and looking forward to fall sewing, while others use this time to get back into the groove of sewing after a busy summer with other activities. The Stitches Unlimited group is finishing up a fun activity where many of us created panel quilts - a



panel in the middle and blocks all around. Our youngest member, Nora (8 years old), shows off her talent making a panel quilt (pictured). Our members range from 8 to 90 years young. It's wonderful to have such a diverse group. The panel quilts we made this summer will be part of the donations we do this fall to nursing home

residents that are in need; who are frail and get cold easily. It's hard to imagine when it's 110 outside, but these lap quilts are very much appreciated. This year we've donated over 140 quilts so far; touching so many

souls. If you'd like to join this group, we meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 9am to 2pm, in the Missions Center - Barnabas room. If you can't make it, let us know and we'll bring a confident-beginner quilt kit to you! For more information contact nancimahar@gmail.com .

## GRIEFSHARE

Are you grieving a loved one? If so, please join us for our next GriefShare program (13 weeks) starting in **September** of 2025. Sessions will start at **1:00 pm on Tuesday, 9/2** in the Emmaus Room with Shirley Feather facilitating. The cost of the workbook is \$25, and you can register by calling the church office or Shirley at (602) 214-3964. You don't need to sign up ahead of time, but we encourage you to let Shirley know if you plan on attending so we can have enough books. Hope to see you there.



## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

\*Note- No regular meetings in August



**Wednesday August 6, 2025 The UWF Reading Program** will meet in the Mission Center at 10:00. All women are welcome. Here is a Jane's report from the book she read for the last meeting.

*After The Last Border: Two Families And The Story of Refuge In America* -written by Jessica Goudeau

Writer and activist Jessica Goudeau offers an intimate look at the lives of two women as they struggle for the 21st-century American dream as refugees in Austin, Texas. *Mu Naw, a Christian from Myanmar struggling to put down roots with her family, was accepted after decades in a refugee camp at a time when America was at its most open to displaced families. Hasna, a Muslim from Syria, agrees to relocate as a last resort for the safety of her family, only to be separated from her children by a sudden ban on refugees from Muslim*



countries. The book is hailed as a dramatic, character driven story within a larger history.

*I really loved this book for the intimate stories of the life these refugees led and the eye-opening daily struggles these families had to live through. The book includes the American Refugees Programs through the years after WWII.*

Contact Jane Hansgaard for further information about the UWF Reading Program at [Hansgaard@msn.com](mailto:Hansgaard@msn.com)

**September 20th-** Meeting: “What is faithfulness to You?” We will focus on how to live out your faith in a changing world. Fellowship at **10:00 am** followed by meeting **10:30 am** (MC-B). For more info. contact Rebecca Russel (360) 352 4956

## FOOD BANK

The Food Bank was open on July 4, and we had only a handful of clients, but the crew that showed up got a lot done - cleaning, organizing and some future planning.

In terms of planning, with the current Big, Beautiful Bill being passed, we now go into full forward-looking concern. We are aware that the actual cuts to SNAP (formerly the food stamp program) will come after the 2026 midterm elections. This gives us a little time to go into a more proactive mode as we do



anticipate more neighbors needing the Food Bank's support once the cuts to that program take effect. You will likely see more requests from the Food Bank going forward. We already get a lion's share of support from the congregation and the church, but we will need to do more fundraising and get creative to augment that. With that said, we would highly welcome any assistance and ideas for fundraising going forward above and beyond what is traditionally done (the golf tourney, soup bowl, etc.).

We thank you for your past steadfast support of the Food Bank, and we appreciate that we will be able to count on you during the tough times we anticipate for our neighbors ahead. Please contact the Food Bank managers Larry Caywood and Margaret DeMar should you have ideas, or can organize a future fundraising event or food drive. You can email us anytime: [foodbank.gcumc@gmail.com](mailto:foodbank.gcumc@gmail.com). The church directory includes individual emails as well.

## Volunteer Spotlight — Debbie Cleary-Beatty

Debbie Cleary-Beatty is originally from Waterloo IA. After living in Dallas, Des Moines, and Chicago, Deb and her family moved to Gilbert in July 1996. Debbie's two sons and her two grandchildren live in Texas (Houston and Austin). Deb has lived in Gold Canyon since summer of 2011, where she greatly enjoys her outdoor hobbies - paddleboarding, pickleball, hiking, biking, walking, and swimming. She loves the state of Arizona and Gold Canyon; she loves the people here, likes the ability to drive to the snow and pine trees up north, but not live with the difficulty of winter weather. She loves the dramatic views present right here in the far East Valley. She also loves to read and to volunteer her time to help others.

As a way to introduce her children to volunteerism and to help those who are less fortunate, Deb and her boys began volunteering at Paz de Cristo in Mesa. There, they helped prepare and serve meals to members of the community in need. The experience has not only made Deb feel grateful for all that they have, but it has also served as a meaningful lesson for her children—

teaching them the importance of compassion, service, and gratitude. Deb has been with the Food Bank for about three years, having joined after the passing of her husband. Volunteering helped fill a void in her life during a difficult time. It became a way for her to reinvent herself—giving her a renewed sense of purpose, connection, and the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of



others. Debbie has taken on just about every role at the food bank, and while she doesn't have a favorite, she appreciates the value each task brings. What she cherishes most are what she calls the “God-wink” moments—those small but powerful instances when it feels like something greater is at work. One example she recalls fondly is when a client arrived mentioning a family birthday, and by chance, the food bank happened to have a birthday cake available. Moments like these remind her that she's exactly where she's meant to be.



# AUGUST CALENDAR

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

Fri Aug 1	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Aug 2	—	—
Sun Aug 3	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Aug 4	—	—
Tue Aug 5	9am	MTG: Food Bank Staff (MC-M)
	6pm	MTG: Trustees (MC-B)
Wed Aug 6	10am	CLASS: Live Free (MC-E)
	10am	UWF Reading Program (MC-B)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Aug 7	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri Aug 8	8am	Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Aug 9	—	—
Sun Aug 10	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Aug 11	—	—
Tue Aug 12	9am	Stitches Unlimited Quilters (MC-B)
	10am	MTG: UWFaith Leadership Team (MC-S)
Wed Aug 13	10am	MTG: Superstition Astronomical Leag. (MC-B)
	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)

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

Thu Aug 14	4:30pm	Youth Event (offsite)
	6:30pm	MTG: SPRC (MC-B)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri Aug 15	All Day	Assumption of Mary
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Aug 16	—	—
Sun Aug 17	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)
	11am	Youth Sunday School (YR)
	12pm	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Aug 18	—	—
Tue Aug 19	—	—
Wed Aug 20	4pm	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Aug 21	7pm	AA (MC-E)
Fri Aug 22	8am	Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Aug 23	—	—
Sun Aug 24	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Traditional Worship (S)
	10:30am	Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
	11am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	11am	Praise Worship (KR)

11am Youth Sunday School (YR)  
 12pm Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)  
 12pm UMYF (YR)  
 3pm Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)  
 4pm Gospel Worship (KR)  
 Mon Aug 25 — —  
 Tue Aug 26 9am Stitches Unlimited (MC-B)  
 Wed Aug 27 10am MTG: Superstition Astronomical Leag. (MC-B)  
 4pm Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)  
 5pm Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)  
 Thu Aug 28 9am Girls Matter Period (MC-B)  
 7pm AA (MC-E)  
 Fri Aug 29 11am CareGivers Support Group (ER)  
 5:30pm AA (MC-E)  
 Sat Aug 30 — —  
 Sun Aug 31 9am Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)  
 9:30am Children's Sunday School (EB)  
 9:30am Traditional Worship (S)

10:30am Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)  
 11am Children's Sunday School (EB)  
 11am Praise Worship (KR)  
 11am Youth Sunday School (YR)  
 12pm Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)  
 12pm UMYF (YR)  
 3pm Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)  
 4pm Gospel Worship (KR)

\*DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER CONTENT IS THE 10<sup>th</sup> OF THE MONTH.

\*BULLETIN BLURBS & FLOWER ORDERS ARE DUE BY WEDNESDAY AT 12 NOON

**JULY NEW MEMBERS--**



**Pictured, clockwise from large photo: Brian & Sue Carlson, Janell Strachota, Linda Bellegante, Margaret DeMar, Kari Eckheart, & Shelia Lyons.**



## AUGUST 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!*

Barber, Larry 08/01  
 Arquisch, Rosemary 08/01  
 Nuss, Kathy 08/01  
 Griffith, Janet 08/01  
 Corey, Bernie 08/01  
 Ballard, David 08/01  
 Klaers, Mary 08/02  
 Luhrs, Otto (Otto) 08/03  
 Snyder, Toby 08/03  
 Ofstedahl, Sherrie 08/04  
 Walker, Linda 08/04  
 Pullen, Ed 08/05  
 Fuerherm, Roy 08/05  
 Nelimark, MD, Bob 08/05  
 Nelimark, Sue 08/05  
 Nelson, Jack 08/06  
 Storley, LeRoy 08/06/1940  
 Klaers, Nicholas (Nick) 08/07  
 Mintert, Frank 08/07  
 Fitzgerald, Ashton 08/07  
 Laich, Evelyn (Flossie) 08/09  
 Wasserfort, Joan 08/12  
 Rewerts, Jerry 08/12  
 Seebaum, Sally 08/12  
 Mintert, Zenith 08/12  
 Hayes, Jane 08/12  
 O'Donnell, Cheryl (Cherry) 08/12  
 Kies, David (Dave) 08/12  
 Wiff, Thomas (Tom) 08/13  
 Sandness, Patty 08/13  
 French, Jerri 08/14  
 Adams, Markee 08/14  
 Miller, Roger 08/15  
 Staebell, Carolyn Jean 08/15  
 Turner, Joyce 08/16

Atkinson, Judy 08/17  
 Butterbrodt, Sandra (Sandy) 08/17  
 Luther, Jeff 08/17  
 Hick, Adrian 08/18  
 McClure, Robert (Bob) 08/19  
 Nuss, John 08/19/1946 Active  
 Hall, Richard (Rick) 08/19  
 Giddings, Patricia (Pat) 08/20  
 Fitzgerald, Chris 08/20  
 Jones, Tara 08/20  
 Lunder, Wayne 08/21  
 Welker, June 08/22  
 Linton, John 08/22  
 DeVries, Deanna 08/22  
 Witucky, Micah 08/22  
 Hahn, Jan 08/23  
 Braathen, Florence (Flo) 08/23  
 Sunderland, Lois 08/24  
 Adamski, Carol 08/24  
 Toole, Donna 08/24  
 Rasmussen, Diane 08/24  
 Brogren, Ann 08/24  
 Brigham, Christian 08/24  
 Johnson, Mark 08/25  
 Fuerherm, Donna 08/25  
 LeRoy, Debbie 08/25  
 Wiff, Bette 08/26  
 Svoboda, Ronald (Ron) 08/27  
 Winkler, Donald (Don) 08/27  
 Robinson, Linda (Susie) 08/27  
 Blank, Julie 08/27  
 Creel, Cherie 08/29  
 Rowley, Roger 08/30  
 Fendley, Penny 08/30  
 Tambke, Norma 08/31  
 Miller, Louise 08/31

### *Happy Anniversary!*

Luse, Bob & Carol 08/01  
 Edney, Lynn & Doug 08/02  
 Larson, Craig & Sharon 08/03  
 Petticrew, Keith & Nancy 08/04  
 Tabor, Lynn & Ilene 08/05  
 Walker, Jen & Rob 08/06  
 Graham, Claudia & Rich 08/09  
 Kies, Dave & Sherry 08/10  
 Nelimark, MD, Bob & Sue 08/10  
 Ralston, Riechia & Tim 08/11  
 Sandness, Paul & Patty 08/12  
 Digerness, Bruce & Nancy 08/12  
 Togstad, Keith & Pamela 08/14  
 Picek, Tom & Char 08/16  
 Hollingsworth, Glen & Carol 08/18  
 Brendel, Don & Cathy 08/21  
 Miller, Nancy & David 08/21  
 Wilson, Don & Margaret (Peg) 08/21  
 Hall, Rick & Cheryl 08/23  
 Robison, Tom & Marty 08/25  
 Seebaum, Bernie & Sally 08/25  
 Confer, Terry & Lynne 08/26  
 Ancell, Bob & Alyce 08/27  
 Corey, Fred & Bernie 08/27  
 Hick, Adrian & Pam 08/27  
 Behan, Jack & Connie 08/28  
 Sims, Gail & Kay 08/28  
 Moorberg, Mike & Deb 08/29  
 Storbakken, Terry & Linda 08/29  
 Hays, Louise & Doran 08/30  
 Fisher, Steve & Judy 08/31  
 Jameson, Jim & Suzanne 08/31





# CONTRIBUTIONS & ATTENDANCE

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

- Romans 13:8 (NIV)

June	2022			2023			2024			2025		
	General Fund	Building Fund	Worship All	General Fund	FH Bldg. Fund	Worship All	General Fund	FH Bldg. Fund	Worship All	General Fund	FH Bldg. Fund	Worship All
	89,644	28,025	5,045	96,103	15,395	4,717	59,296	13,585	4,662	64,117	9,901	5,509

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.



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

- **Fellowship Hall** - \$4.9 Milli. needed (\$2.2 Mill. raised)
- **Organ Fund** (\$285,196 raised)
- **Mission Center Parking Lot** (\$200K needed; \$80k raised)
- **Playground Shade** (\$55,243 needed; \$0 raised)



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](http://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

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@goldcanyonUMC



## GOLD CANYON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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### WORSHIP SERVICES

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

*(Childcare available at morning worship services)*

### SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

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

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

**Addressee or Current Resident**