



NOVEMBER 2025



FROM OUR PASTORS

Rev. David J. Harriss, Senior Pastor

AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
— *Philippians 4:6*

I was recently wandering around a big store. It was in the middle of October when I noticed the layout for the holiday seasons. A large section of this store was dedicated to Christmas. There were Christmas trees, yard furniture, ornaments and other items to get us into the Christmas spirit. A smaller section of this store had lots of Halloween candy for sale. But, the smallest section of the fall holidays celebrations, was Thanksgiving. In-between the large Christmas trees and big candy sales, was a small section which had Thanksgiving items for sale.

Thanksgiving is often a forgotten fall celebration. This is the one day out of the year in which we give thanks for whatever is near and dear to us. It is a day which is dedicated to giving thanks for what God and humanity have offered us. In *Philippians 4:6*, Paul tells us to *not be anxious over anything*. I must confess, I do not follow Paul's advice very well. I am aware that anxiety can create stress and nervousness. But I become anxious anyway. There are benefits to anxiety. According to *Verywell mind (The Benefits of Anxiety and Nervousness, Katarina Starr, PhD)* a little anxiety can help you be more motivated and ready to face challenges. So, anxiety can be fruitful and effective. But usually, the anxiety that I have is not very helpful.

Both Jesus and Paul tell us not to worry, so why do we still worry? There are many reasons why we worry, including that caring people often worry; compassionate and merciful people often see a world which is unfair. This feeling of inequality, or unequal treatment and respect, can often affect those who have good hearts. Another reason why we worry is because we like to be in control. Truthfully, if we were to *let go and allow God to take over* there would be much less stress and anxiety in our lives. But allowing God to make the choices in our lives means that we are no longer in control of the outcome, and I do not like that!

Paul lets us know that once we let go and allow God to take over, we begin to have an attitude of gratitude. We become grateful when we realize we have been given abundant grace, extravagant love, and tremendous kindness in our lives. We become thankful when we begin to count our blessings rather than wanting to control for certain outcomes.

Thanksgiving is the one day out of the year where we should make sure to count our blessings. On Thursday, November 27th, we celebrate Thanksgiving around the nation. I hope that you are mindful of all the blessings which God has given to you. I hope you return thanks to God on this very special day by allowing others to know how God has blessed you. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

—*Pastor David J. Harriss*

Contact Us

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



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Pastor Katharine Keller

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

THE BIG REVEAL

On **November 9th** in the morning services, members of the congregation who accepted Pastor Fred's challenge of investing \$200 in the community or other cause will reveal their ideas. Maybe you too will be inspired after you hear what they are doing!



COMMUNITY PET BLESSING

Our church will host a Community Pet Blessing Festival on **Sunday, November 23rd** on campus. Look for the flyer in either building and on page 7 of this Roadrunner.



THANKSGIVING DINNER

Darren and Andrea Smith would like to open their house on **Thanksgiving Day (11/27)** to those from the congregation who will not be able to join family or friends for a Thanksgiving meal. No need to bring anything, just show up, and enjoy fellow parishioners and the fellowship of the holiday. A full meal will be shared; however, a count is needed for planning. Contact Pastor Katharine if you are interested.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Please join us on **Saturday, November 29th** as we beautify both buildings in preparation for Christmas! We plan to decorate from 9am to 11am. It is always an enjoyable time & it will certainly get you in the Christmas Spirit.



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Katharine & Robin Menefee will be facilitating a **4-week** Advent video study by Amy-Jill Levine entitled "*A Child is Born: A Beginner's Guide to Nativity Stories.*" Levine offers us something different; she situates the birth story of Jesus within the context of other miraculous births in Scripture, and by doing so brings to light important layers of meaning that would otherwise be lost to us. This study will enrich your experience of Advent and deepen your understanding of how Jesus' birth fits within his tradition. The class will have two time & location options; one will meet on Mondays at **6pm** in Florence beginning on **December 1st** and the other will meet on Tuesdays at 10 am at GCUMC beginning **November 25th**. Please sign up to make your intentions known.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

On **Wed., December 7th, 2025 at 7:00pm** we will be remembering those whom we've lost since last year's Remembrance Service on December 11, 2024. Please register the name of your deceased to churchoffice@goldcanyonumc.org by November 21st. Although email is preferred, if you do not have access to a computer, please call the Church Office (480)982-3776 and ask for our Office Administrator.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

It's time to sign up for Advent Wreath lighting/readings... **11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21 (9:30am, 11am & 4pm)** and Christmas Eve worship services (**4pm & 6pm**). Readings are provided. Contact Pastor Katharine if you wish to participate.



CRAFTY CHRISTMAS

Be sure to save the date for Crafty Christmas scheduled for Sunday, **December 7 from 1-3pm** If you would like to help out at a table where the craft is already planned out for you, we would love to have your name. Please email Ashley Singer at ashleycrafts@gmail.com or call

her at 917-783-4778. Please sign up if you or your family members will be joining us, so we can have enough materials on hand.

and Safford High School following their AIA-approved summer football scrimmage.

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 season 3 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 8 people are randomly chosen to share a meal together once a month, January-May (couples will be placed together as well as singles). Each month, your group will decide whether you want to meet for lunch or dinner either in your home or in a restaurant. Everyone will take their turn to be the host for a meal. The 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 drinks, an appetizer, or dessert...their choice.

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 or text Dee Ashe at 480-685-7175 (or email at deenashe7580@gmail.com) or Pastor Katharine for any questions you may have.



POLKA & PRETZELS

On **October 10th**- *The Varitones* entertained us with polka music while we enjoyed root beer, ginger ale and Bavarian pretzels.



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Five staff members attended the Leadership Conference "Rise" near Kansas City. Before the Conference started we attended the musical "David" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Branson, which was truly inspirational. There were plenary sessions, as well as smaller workshops. We all came away with different learnings.



FAITH, FOOD, & FELLOWSHIP

St. Paul's UMC in Globe, with support from Gold Canyon UMC, & the Desert SW Conference, opened its doors and its kitchen to host more than 150 athletes and coaches from Globe High School, Apache Junction High School,



GLOBAL MISSIONS



MOBILITY WORLDWIDE



Our church financially supports the organization Mobility Worldwide. According to the World Health Organization over 80 million people need mobility assistance worldwide, and the unfortunate truth is that many have limited access to tools that could improve their quality of life. This organization is working to change that. Their global affiliate network partners with local communities to design, build and distribute Mobility Carts that can traverse any type of terrain and other aids that open the door to a richer life for people with disabilities that affect mobility.

Many people have received amputations from causes like landmine explosions, cancer, earthquakes, etc. In their **recent thank you note** they said our gift from global missions funded more than 5 carts! We praise God for our ability to help these amputees around the globe!



RICE & BEANS

Our team of 17 persons (including two teens) will be headed to Costa Rica next January. We are excited not only about learning more about this faithful ministry, but also working alongside the staff to help meet the needs of families in San Jose. If you are not able to go, but would like to contribute to the trip, please talk to Pastor Katharine about making a **donation for the purchase of food bags (\$16 a bag)**, which are distributed every day the group visits families.



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

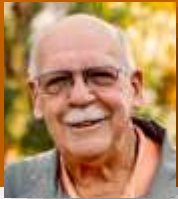
Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor
GCapen@gmail.com / (919) 357-8474

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

Pastor Jeremy Brigham, Associate Pastor
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,



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Rev. Gary Capen, Associate Pastor



Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For this month’s article on pastoral care, I want to address something that is a concern of mine, which I have had for quite a while. It has to do with the vows I took in my Ordination as an Elder in the United Methodist Church. As part of the Ordination, we are examined by the bishop and asked specific questions concerning our lives and our role as ministers of the Gospel.

Much of the examination pertains to specific rights to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Other questions concern our personal lives and how we faithfully pledge to pray, study, grow in our faith, and counsel others in our care to lead lives that exemplify the life of disciples of Christ, both in personal and spiritual aspects. There is also this admonition: “It is your task to proclaim by word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love, serve, and pray for all the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. Remember you are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the Church and no other, to look after the concerns of Christ above all.”

When I took my vows or Ordination, I felt not only the weight of these words but also the strength of those words when the hands of the bishop, other clergy, and friends lay upon my head and shoulders. Then this word was spoken: “Lord, pour upon Gary the Holy Spirit for the office and work of an elder, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” It’s a moment one never forgets, and it’s one I carry to this day as a solemn commitment to our Lord and Savior and to those whom I serve. I do not regard it lightly.



A few weeks ago, on World Communion Sunday, if you recall, I spoke specifically about Jesus’ answer to being questioned about the Great Commandment. To love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength, mind, and spirit. Followed by the second of his commandments to love our neighbors as ourselves. And I said all, in Jesus’ eyes, are our neighbors, next door and around the world. This is the truth of the Gospel. It is that alone which we are called to proclaim. We don’t bow to any other person or group; we only bow to God. Even Jesus never said, “worship me,” he always said, “Follow Me”, for I am the way to the Father, and the Father is in me.

This is my commitment to you, whom I serve, to always preach, when I do, the Gospel of Jesus Christ and no other. It is what I have committed my life to from the first moment of my Ordination and even before.

Grace and Peace, —*Gary*

In Remembrance

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

Jan Adamski
Steve Lairmore

Bill Ralston
Cynthia Rapp



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



YOUTH MINISTRY

Valerie Hammons, Youth Director

“...Growing disciples of Jesus Christ and living the Word.”



Gold Canyon UMC’s Youth Group is proud to support Apache Junction High School’s *Christian Courage Club*. This is a student run club that is sponsored by teachers, Mr. Rob Walker and Ms. Emily Pickard. The second meeting of this school year saw 157 students in attendance. A big shout out to AJHS and the staff for supporting such a great high school club. We are working on a joint event for the future.

Saddle up with us to celebrate Down syndrome, raise awareness, acceptance, and power critical programs as our youth walk in the ASU homecoming parade on November 15th to support Down Syndrome. We will have a booth available during coffee fellowship on November 2nd and will accept donations for DS (and you will get a free keychain)! Thank you!



A great day for youth and friends at “Feed My Starving Children” in Tempe!



Boxes Packed: 105
Meals: 22,680
Cost: \$6,577.20



Join the Fun!!!

Sunday, November 23rd

@ Gold Canyon

United Methodist Church

BLESSING OF THE PETS



FESTIVAL includes:

- **Pet Blessing †**
 - **Inflatable bounce house**
 - **Fire truck 🚒**
 - **Petting zoo**
 - **Pet treats 🍖👉**
 - **Blessing tags**
 - **Children's craft**
 - **Balloon artist 🎈**
- ...and more!***

2-4pm

**6640 S KINGS RANCH RD.
GOLD CANYON AZ**



MUSIC NOTES

Dr. Ian Classe, Director of Music Ministries



2025-2026 PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

11/21/25	Fri	7:00pm	*	GCAC Concert: Quartetto Gelato <i>exotic multi-instrument mastery!!</i>
12/13/25	Sat	3:00pm		24rd Annual GCUMC Christmas Concert ... <i>features our music ministries & more!</i>
12/24/25	Wed	4:00pm		Christmas Eve Worship ... <i>Join us for worship w/ candlelight!</i>
12/24/25	Wed	6:00pm		Christmas Eve Worship ... <i>Join us for worship w/ candlelight!</i>
01/09/26	Fri	7:00pm	*	GCAC Concert: Franc D'Ambrosio & Glory Crampton ... <i>Broadway hits!</i>
01/25/26	Sun	2:00pm		Nicole Pesce, Jazz Pianist ... <i>local talent playing blues, classical, jazz and more!</i>
02/01/26	Sun	2:00pm		Syvati Duo <i>one of the world's leading organ-plus ensembles!!!</i>
02/20/26	Fri	7:00pm	*	GCAC Concert: Face Vocal Band <i>an a cappella all vocal rock band!</i>
02/15/26	Sun	2:00pm		Stefanski Brothers <i>inspiring blend of contemporary Christian & classics!!!</i>
02/18/26	Wed	7:00pm		Ash Wednesday Worship ... <i>join us as we begin the journey through Lent</i>
03/06/26	Fri	7:00pm	*	GCAC Concert: The Encore Saxophone Quartet ... <i>Masters of the saxophone!!!</i>
03/20/26	Fri	7:00pm	*	GCAC Concert: The Brothers Four <i>harmonic pioneers in the "folk revival"!!!</i>
03/15/26	Sun	2:00pm		Rice Brothers <i>both are virtuoso pianists and cellists</i>
03/29/26	Sun	9:30am		Palm Sunday Worship ... <i>join us as we begin the journey through Lent</i>
03/29/26	Sun	11:00am		Palm Sunday Praise Worship ... <i>join us as we begin the journey through Lent</i>
03/29/26	Sun	4:00pm		Palm Sunday Gospel Worship ... <i>join us as we begin the journey through Lent</i>
04/02/26	Thu	7:00pm		Maundy Thursday Worship ... <i>special service with communion and ashes</i>
04/03/26	Fri	7:00pm		Good Friday Worship
04/05/26	Sun	6:00am		Easter Sunrise Worship ... <i>in north Parking Lot facing the Superstitions</i>
04/05/26	Sun	8 & 9:30		Easter Celebration Worship ... <i>Christ is Risen! with Brass, Bells and Choir</i>
04/05/26	Sun	11am		Easter Praise Worship ... <i>Uncommon Grace leads our Praise of the Risen Lord</i>
04/05/26	Sun	4pm		Easter Sunset Worship ... <i>our Gospel celebration of Christ Alive</i>

* 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 a free-will 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
Updated 10/30/2025



CARING CORNER

Kim Shroyer

Abraham Lincoln officially declared Thanksgiving an annual national holiday in 1863. But celebration of a day of thanksgiving in North America, as we know, goes back to the 1600's. And many people, cultures, and states celebrated it in the centuries following. We most certainly will enjoy this special day to truly focus on what we are thankful for, but does it just have to be one day a year? We've talked about joy and gratitude over the past couple of months, so now that we have arrived in November and Thanksgiving, what's left to discuss? Well, plenty!

I've been wondering if there is a real difference between gratitude and thankfulness. These words are often used synonymously. Guideposts.org defines the difference between the two words as this - "Gratitude is a general appreciation of life, while thankfulness is a response to a particular event or experience." So yes, they are similar, but the takeaway for me is that if I have an attitude or mindset of gratitude then I am more positive and able to see the reasons to be thankful in given situations. How do we develop that attitude though? Life can certainly be difficult, and the daily battles we face can get us down, making it increasingly challenging to respond to life with thankfulness. How do we combat negativity and enhance our ability to be thankful?

I recently read something telling us one way we can tackle this - In Japan, many parents apparently ask their children a question each night at bedtime, "What are you grateful for tonight?" It sounds small, but research in Neuroscience confirms that repetition can rewire the brain. When a child expects the same question every night, their mind spends the whole day collecting good moments to share, the brain trains itself to search for light. And the best part? It works for adults too! Try it for a week and see what you think.

This week I heard a great example of choosing thankfulness. I have a dear friend living with an extreme cancer diagnosis. As any of you who have experienced something similar knows, that doesn't just take its toll on the person with the actual diagnosis but on the spouse and loved ones as well. It is an equal opportunity, non-discriminatory, stress-producing life.

One of their recent days looked like this: Get up early (after a typical night of not enough sleep), get ready, get out the door, get in the van (none of this easy when the ill spouse can't walk), drive into the city in heavy traffic for radiation treatment (in a big wheelchair accessible van that she doesn't particularly love to drive). Suddenly the

van just stops in a lane on the freeway. With motorist assist "on the way", they sat amidst traffic whizzing by, windows down, waiting for far too long. They were hot, and anxious when suddenly a couple appeared, parked and walked across lanes of traffic and pushed them safely off the road. They called the van dealer who'd recently sold them the used

van, for advice, and he sent them out another van. The motorist assist and tow truck finally arrived to get them on their way. The tow truck driver was a red-headed sweetheart of a young man reminding them of their son. Ultimately the van dealer gave them a loaner van for a week and didn't charge them to fix theirs.

As my friend told me this story, what struck me was the fact that her expression was pure thankfulness. She didn't dwell on the negatives but described all the wonderful characteristics of the individuals who helped them, calling them angels, and she meant it! My friends are strong Christians, but they didn't just automatically gain that ability to see the positive and to easily express thankfulness. They chose life habits that gave them that general appreciation for life, and ability to express thankfulness in all circumstances.

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

The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving.

—Psalm 28:7 [NLT]





LOCAL MISSIONS & MINISTRIES



ANGEL TREE 2025



This year the Gold Canyon UMC Angel Tree Ministry will be coordinated by the GCUMC United Women in Faith. We understood that this ministry was in need of leadership and so we stepped up. We have been busy planning and have had help from those who have led this project in the past. This is a very important ministry that provides joy to children in our community who would not otherwise have Christmas. We have identified 2 child-centered agencies that will be the recipients of your generosity.

HOUSE OF REFUGE: *House of Refuge provides transitional housing in a neighborhood setting for homeless families.*

PROJECT HELP: *A community-based program committed to providing short-term assistance for families and students enrolled in the Apache Junction Unified Schools.*

Many hands make light work and this is an important project. We need helpers to decorate Angel Trees, assist donors with tree tags, distribute gifts to agencies; and shoppers to make sure all the children have a gift they really wanted.

The Angel Trees will be decorated on November 13th from 9am to 12pm in the Education Bldg. and the Narthex. Angels will also be needed on **November 16th, 23rd, 30th & December 7th** to assist with tree gift tags, monetary contributions, & distribution of donations to our recipients. If you have questions or want to volunteer please contact Rebecca Russel or Donna Graves at GCUMCAngelTree2025@outlook.com or call (360) 352-4956.

STITCHES UNLIMITED

Quilts bring comfort to flood victims of Globe— In September Globe was hit by a catastrophic & fatal flood that took everyone by surprise. The Holy Spirit moved most people to higher ground and safety, but a few didn't make it. Afterward, God's presence brought the community together to help clean up and regroup after this life changing



event. Events like this affect people far beyond the city limits and stir the hearts of those wanting to help. The Stitches Unlimited quilters are "sew" happy to do their part by providing quilts. Pastor Jeremy delivered the quilts to those in need— thanks Jeremy! We hope that God touched many people through the helping hands of others and that they feel restored. If you'd like to join this quilting group, we meet the **2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month** from 9am to 2pm, in the Missions Center. If you can't make it, let us know and we'll bring a beginner-confident quilt kit to you! For more information contact nanci.mahar@gmail.com or cjenevold@gmail.com.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

After a summer hiatus, The Cancer Support Group is again meeting on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** at 10:30am in the Emmaus Room. Now in our 17th year, the CSG ministry strives to bring hope and encouragement to those afflicted with cancer and their caregivers. We are a group that encourages and cultivates new friendships through our meetings, prayer and caring for each other as needs arise.



Whether you are currently a cancer patient, in remission, survivor or caregiver, we welcome you to our group, not only for your benefit but what you can bring to the group that will help others. If you have questions, contact Dee Ashe at 480-685-7175 or deenashe7580@gmail.com.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

Save the date! Another UWF Fall "Priceless" Bake Sale will be held outside the Education Bldg. on **November 23rd**, before and after the 9:30 and 11am services. There will be pies, breads, and Carol Johnson's Homemade Vanilla Extract. This year will also feature a cookie walk! (Just in time to help you with your holiday entertaining!) Proceeds will go to a local mission TBD and to the UWF Worldwide Missions. Come join us for the fun. Like to bake? We would love to have your cookies!



baked goods/canned goods for our sale! Question? Contact caroljohnsonaz@yahoo.com.

November 9th— Blood Drive in the Missions Center from 9am to 2pm. Register online at RedCross.org

November 19th— GCUMC Culinary Circle We are excited to again provide the Thanksgiving meal at Hope Women's Center in A.J. If you would be interested in providing a food item or serving that day, please contact Carol Johnson at caroljohnsonaz@yahoo.com or 602-750-2008. This is a fun event as some of the women have never enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving meal before! Our regular Culinary Circle get-together will be a combined Nov/Dec event in early December. Stay tuned! If you would like to join with like-minded women, please let Carol Johnson know. We would love to have you join our group!



November 24th— Our regular meeting in the Missions Center (note this is the 4th Saturday rather than the 3rd due to the Women's Retreat). Our Program will be about thankfulness, and we will have our *World Thank Offering*. Fellowship at 10am; Program at 10:30am. Questions? Contact Rebecca Russel (360) 352-4956.

The East District UWF had their Annual Celebration on Saturday, October 4th in Payson. Three of our Gold Canyon members attended this enjoyable event, in which new officers were elected, worship services were held, and Clair Hart (Mission U Associate Dean), was guest speaker. Our very own Dian Capen was elected to join the East District Nominating Committee!

FOOD BANK



As we begin to welcome our Northern neighbors back to our region, we hope that they will bring the cooler weather with them! We look forward to both seeing our returning volunteers as well as more livable weather in which to recreate and spend time outdoors.

It's that time of year to begin planning our Thanksgiving meal distribution! Currently we have procured full quantities of several of the menu items, such as green beans, corn, cream of mushroom soup, and turkey dressing. We will be purchasing 150 turkeys with an earmarked donation. **We are seeking canned cranberry sauce, canned yams or sweet potatoes, crispy onions**

(for the green bean casserole), and **canned or packages of turkey gravy**. Please remember that food items in glass jars tend to break when bagged. We also distribute Thanksgiving-related items we receive from grocery rescue, like pies and sweets, produce, etc.

Typically, our food donations significantly decrease in the summer, and this year was no exception, in fact we have had to purchase more food than ever before. As we still have a steady & increasing need for food, we have been filling in the blanks by purchasing food from Walmart, Amazon, Sysco, as well as a new bulk provider. We are trying to be practical by shopping for the best prices, yet still providing a great variety of nutritious and enjoyable items for our neighbors.

Did you know that the United Food Bank's SNAP representative is on site every other month to assist those in need to sign up for benefits? In 2024, almost 950,000 Arizonans participated in SNAP each month, and 70% of participants are children, older adults and those living with disabilities.

We attended United Food Bank's Annual Conference in Mesa in September. The news was overall positive in our area as the state has a very good network for distributing food. However, we will certainly see backlash stemming from the new HR1 Bill passed in congress this summer. There will be harsher SNAP paperwork requirements that are set to go into effect for families with children ages 14 and above, older Americans, former foster youth, veterans, and homeless people. As a result, we expect an increase in new visits.

No doubt you have heard of the horrible flooding that the Globe/Miami area suffered in late September. The food bank worked with Rev Jeremy Brigham to find out what was needed most. We bought 20 cases for Jeremy to distribute at his church in Globe.

Finally, meet Jean Paulston, our Volunteer Spotlight! Jean hails from the beautiful, rugged landscape of British Columbia. At just 19, Jean left her small hometown to pursue nursing training. Over the years, she served as a nurse and later a flight attendant. She & her husband, a pilot, settled in the Olympic Peninsula in WA, raising their 3 children. They became Gold Canyon Snowbirds in 1998.



Thank you, Jean, for bringing your kindness, enthusiasm, and caregiving spirit to the food bank. Mondays are brighter because of you!



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

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

Sat Nov 1	All day	All Saints Day
	11am	MEMORIAL: Wally Quanstrom
	12pm	MEMORIAL RECEPTION
Sun Nov 2	All day	All Souls Day
	—	Daylight Savings Time Ends
	9am	Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School (EB)
	9:30am	Middle School Sunday School (YR)
	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 Nov 3	10am	Angel Tree Work Party (ER)
Tue Nov 4	9am	MTG: Gold Canyon Garden Club (MC-B)
	9am	MTG: Food Bank Staff (MC-M)
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
	1pm	Girls Matter Period (offsite)
Wed Nov 5	10am	MTG: Superstition Astronomical Leag. (MC-M)
	10am	UWF Reading Program (MC-B/Patio)
	1pm	DISCIPLE 3 (MC-B)
	2pm	MTG: Finance sub-committee (MC-B)
	1pm	DISCIPLE 2 (ER)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Nov 6	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
Fri Nov 7	9am	PEO Pecan Sorting (MC-M)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	4pm	Tempe UMC Ministry Workshop (EB)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Nov 8	8am	Tempe UMC Ministry Workshop (EB)
	8am	MTG: PEO (MC-B)
Sun Nov 9	8am	GCUMC Blood Drive (MC-B&E)
	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)
	1:30pm	MEMORIAL: Wyladene Nelson (KR)
	2:15pm	MEMORIAL RECEPTION
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)

MAIN CAMPUS	YR = Youth Rm
EB = Education Bldg.	
ER = Emmaus Rm	MISSIONS CENTER
K = Kitchen	MC-B = Barnabas
KR = Koinonia Rm	MC-E = Esther
MR = Music Rm	MC-M = Martha
NAR = Noah's Ark Rm	MC-S = Stephen
P = Patio	
S = Sanctuary	
SoGR = Sea of Galilee Rm	
WR = Wesley Rm	



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

	12pm	UMYF (YR)
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
	4pm	Gospel Worship (KR)
Mon Nov 10	6:30pm	MTG: Administrative Council
Tue Nov 11	9am	Stitches Unlimited Quilters (MC-B/Patio)
	10apm	MTG: UWFaith Leadership Team (MC-S)
	1pm	GriefShare (ER)
Wed Nov 12	10:30am	Cancer Support Group (ER)
	1pm	DISCIPLE 3 (MC-B)
	3:30pm	DISCIPLE 2 (ER)
	5pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
Thu Nov 13	10am	Angel Tree Decorating (MC-M)
	3pm	GCAC Board Meeting (MC-S)
	6pm	Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
	7pm	AA (MC-E)
	7:30pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
Fri Nov 14	8am	Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
	11am	CareGivers Support Group (ER)
	5:30pm	AA (MC-E)
Sat Nov 15	7am	Community Market (S Parking Lot)
	—	Youth Mission Project (offsite)
	2pm	Missions Center Parking Lot in use
Sun Nov 16	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)
	1:30pm	MEMORIAL: Wyladene Nelson (KR)
	2:15pm	MEMORIAL RECEPTION
	3pm	Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)

Mon Nov 17 4pm Gospel Worship (KR)
 10:30am INTERMENT: Dave Hahn
 Tue Nov 18 1pm GriefShare (ER)
 6pm MTG: SPRC (ER)
 7pm CHURCH CONFERENCE (KR)
 Wed Nov 19 10am MTG: Superstition Astronomical Leag. (MC-B)
 5pm Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
 6:30pm Pastry with the Pastor (MR)
 Thu Nov 20 9am Girls Matter Period (MC-B)
 10am Lions Club Mtg. (MC-M)
 6pm Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
 7pm AA (MC-E)
 7:30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal (MR/S)
 Fri Nov 21 11am CareGivers Support Group (ER)
 5:30pm AA (MC-E)
 7pm GCAC Concert: Quartetto Gelato (S)
 Sat Nov 22 8am MTG: PEO (MC-B)
 Sun Nov 23 9am UWF Bake Sale (EB patio)
 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)

*The DEADLINE for next month's NEWSLETTER CONTENT is the 10th OF THE MONTH.

2pm Blessing of the Pets Festival (campus)
 3pm Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
 4pm Gospel Worship (KR)
 Mon Nov 24 — —
 Tue Nov 25 10am CLASS: Advent Study (TBD)
 1pm GriefShare (ER)
 Wed Nov 26 10:30am Cancer Support Group (ER/K)
 1pm DISCIPLE 3 (MC-B)
 Thu Nov 27 All day Thanksgiving Day
 7pm AA (MC-E)
 Fri Nov 28 All day Black Friday
 8am GC Produce Co-op (S Parking Lot)
 11am CareGivers Support Group (ER)
 5:30pm AA (MC-E)
 Sat Nov 29 9am Greening of the Church (campus)
 Sun Nov 30 9am Praise Band Rehearsal (KR)
 9:30am Traditional Worship (S)
 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
 11am Praise Worship (KR)
 12pm Coffee & Fellowship (EB Patio)
 12pm UMYF (YR)
 3pm Gospel Band Rehearsal (KR)
 4pm Gospel Worship (KR)


You decide where your money goes!

GENESIS PROJECT
Serving the Hungry and Homeless


Thanks to the Arizona State Charitable Giving Tax Credit you can donate up to \$495 for individuals and \$987 for joint filers and receive a dollar for dollar credit on your Arizona State Taxes!

Genesis Project is a community focused, volunteer ran, faith based 501(c)3 non-profit and Qualified Charitable Organization with a mission to feed, clothe, and hydrate the hungry and homeless, as well as connect individuals to social services to assist in overcoming the root causes of food insecurity.

Mail to: Genesis Project
 P.O. Box 5156
 Apache Junction, AZ 85178

Donate in Person: 1050 W. Superstition Blvd.
 Apache Junction, AZ 85120
 10am - 2pm

Donate Online: www.GenesisProjectAZ.org



**Claim
Your Credit
Today!**



NOVEMBER 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!

Lukas, Teri 11/01
 Bell, Merry 11/02
 Deitch, Kate 11/02
 Moore, Dick 11/02
 Benton, Doug 11/03
 Schneider, Bob 11/04
 Hoffert, Jane 11/05
 Rolley, Betty 11/05
 Svoboda, Camilla 11/05
 Thomas, Marilyn 11/05
 Turner, Lisa 11/05
 Zabel, Jan 11/05
 Picek, Tom 11/06
 Daniels, Brad 11/08
 Graham, Rich 11/08
 Hall, Cheryl 11/09
 Haraldson, Rich 11/09
 Johnson, Susan 11/09
 Nelson, Patty 11/09
 Nelson, Marcia 11/10
 Osborne, Zara 11/10
 Pearson, Lori 11/10
 Penninger, Ken 11/11
 Beebe, Kathy 11/12
 Brooks, Mark 11/12
 McCleary, Ward 11/12
 Noe, Jim 11/13
 Adams, Michael 11/14
 Ansell, Alyce 11/14
 Bowman, Hank 11/14
 Crandall, Don 11/14
 Eddy, Barry 11/14
 Gray, Jennifer 11/15
 Hicks, Linda 11/15
 Korell, Gloria Jean 11/15
 Martin, Janice 11/15

Campbell, H Kim 11/16
 Johnson, Judy 11/16
 Bjorklund, Jim 11/17
 Hahn, Dave 11/17
 Hoerter, Daniel 11/17
 Vorseth, Sue 11/17
 Culver, Ann 11/18
 Edwards, Marlene 11/18
 Fransen, Jim 11/18
 Johnson, Dick 11/18
 Roller, Jan 11/18
 Heppner, Glorianna 11/19
 Glass, Carol 11/20
 Witucky, TJ 11/20
 Holmes, Dean 11/21
 Mueller, Sandy 11/21
 Blankenship, Betty 11/22
 Dulaney, Steve 11/23
 Carlozzi, Noreen 11/24
 Urbach, Jayne 11/24
 Hoefs, Wendy 11/25
 Crawford, Gene 11/26
 Oxley, Vicki 11/26
 Mahar, Nanci 11/27
 Walworth, Wayne 11/27
 Confer, Lynne 11/29
 Webster, Sharon 11/29
 Clem, Sue 11/30
 Sich, Jonna 11/30
 Thomas, Carol 11/30



Happy Anniversary!

Cartney, Kay & Bob 11/02
 Zabel, Cam & Jan 11/09
 Hayes, Jane & Jeff 11/12
 Lunn, Ed & Mary 11/15
 Hicks, Steve & Linda 11/17
 Little, & Margie 11/17
 Shroyer, Pat & Kim 11/17
 Chamley, Gail & Jim 11/19
 Adams, Herbert & Jennifer 11/20
 Burris, Joanne & Rodger 11/24
 Johnson, Carol & Pete 11/25
 McLeod, Dennis & Suzanne 11/26
 Martindale, Ginger & Warren 11/28
 Svoboda, Camilla & Ron 11/28
 Bjorklund, Alice & Jim 11/29
 Johnson, Judy & Neil 11/29
 Larson, George & Marilyn 11/29
 Mogharbel, Abed & Karen 11/29
 Streit, Deanna & Robert 11/29





CONTRIBUTIONS & ATTENDANCE

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

- Romans 13:8 (NIV)

Sept	2022			2023			2024			2025		
	General Fund \$	Building Fund \$	Attendance	General Fund \$	FH Bldg. Fund \$	Attendance	General Fund \$	FH Bldg. Fund \$	Attendance	General Fund \$	FH Bldg. Fund \$	Attendance
	76,204	16,033	5,444	63,077	14,273	5,616	85,014	18,328	2,298	68,255	10,197	2,387

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 Mill. needed (\$2.2 Mill. raised)
- **Organ Fund** \$2.5 Mill. needed (\$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 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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GOLD CANYON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Fax: 480.671.0028

Email: ChurchOffice@GoldCanyonUMC.org

Web: www.GoldCanyonUMC.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

(Childcare available at morning worship services)

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

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

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

Addressee or Current Resident