The Spring Brings Change
by Rev. Nancy Cushman

Last year we were sharing a vision of being Free to Grow through the capital campaign. We didn’t know what would happen; we had some indications of gifts, but the future was still unknown. A year later our debt has been reduced by over $1 million. We have begun expanding our mission and ministry and we began looking at where we want to be in the next 3 - 5 years. It’s amazing the change a year can bring.

As our leadership began strategizing about the future, we realized there was one more area that needed to be addressed – our staffing. The SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) along with the pastors asked ourselves what configuration of staff and what skill sets will we need to do the work that lay ahead of us. I contacted two sister United Methodist churches who have an average attendance of 500 and asked them to share their staffing plans with me. (I think we can grow to this size in the next 3 to 5 years.) It took us a lot of time, prayer, research and discussion as we considered what to do. Over the last couple of years, we had tried making adjustments to accommodate our current staffing, but found that it just didn’t work.

So we asked ourselves, “How we would staff our church if we started anew?” Several areas of the church staff did not need to change – the pastoral, music, nursery and outreach staff stayed the same. Several areas did need to change – the education, office, finance and facilities job descriptions were reconfigured. An Assistant Education Director will be hired along with a small increase in hours for our Christian Education Director.

Our office staff job descriptions have completely changed and finance staff have been added. We will contract with a CPA who specializes in United Methodist church accounting to do our Financial Secretary work and main accounting functions. Two new office positions have been created; an Office/Business Manager who will schedule and oversee all facilities usage and will handle all membership, attendance and reporting functions. This person will be trained in our database program, Fellowship One, and will be responsible for maintaining, reporting and utilizing the database. The second position will be a Receptionist/Communications Coordinator. This position will serve as a host to the church for everyone visiting during the week. This position will also be the communications hub. We are straddling two cultures when it comes to communications. We still have many people who get their information primarily on printed materials, through newsletters, letters, and bulletins. Now, a growing number of people get their communications primarily through digital means like emails or text messages, Facebook, and websites. We have to use all of these communication tools to effectively reach people both within and outside the church.

(Continued on page 3)
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

I can’t thank you enough for all the smiles, waves, kind words, cards, hugs, phone calls and gifts I’ve received in the five and a half years since I began working as the Receptionist and Membership Chairman here at North Scottsdale United Methodist Church. It has been a very great privilege to share God’s love with so many, and to receive God’s love from so many, in so many different ways. And know that I’ll really miss getting to see so many, week after week after week.

Since my constant prayer is to plead with God to help me love Him, and follow His leading, I’m very grateful for the many of you who have shown your gratitude, and the many who have assisted me in so many ways. May the Lord give you millions of blessings!

Attached is just one of the many notes I’ve received. This one is from a woman I handed a gas card to. (We purchase gas cards to give to needy people who sometimes find their way to our doorstep, seeking help and solace.) She needed our help, but even more, she needed to talk.

May the Lord bless you and keep you – forever and ever and always!

Donna Marie Hartley
We also looked at our facility usage and the workload we were asking of volunteers. We determined that we need an on-site Custodian and Facilities Manager. This person will work 30 hours a week and not only clean the facilities, but make sure rooms are set up for use, do minor maintenance and repairs, and arrange for major repairs.

The SPRC is actively seeking applicants for these newly created or newly realigned positions. We know that these are a lot of changes, but they are necessary for us to meet the future.

Whenever you consider changes to staff, it is difficult, for we are dealing with people we care about. We know that the decisions we make will impact their lives. These decisions were made after a great deal of prayer, thought, and discussion.

Depending upon the response to the hiring notices, we anticipate this transition taking one to three months. We ask your prayers for the SPRC as they hire people for these new positions, for the entire staff during the transition, and for all of us as we enter this new phase of our ministry, that in everything God may be glorified.

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact me, Pastor David, or Terri, the SPRC chairperson.

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**Holy Week Services**

Please join us as we remember Jesus’ final week.

- **Palm Sunday** – March 20 both services.
- **Maundy Thursday** – March 24 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Good Friday Cantata and Tenebrae** – March 25 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Easter Sunrise** – March 27 at 6:00 a.m. at the Sport Court.
- **Easter Services** – March 27 at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.
TRINITY OPPORTUNITY ALLIANCE.

Lots happening with TOA. In January, we submitted three grant proposals to the Conference and local foundations. Keep your fingers crossed that we receive a favorable response. Pastor Nancy and Janice Grandy, the TOA Director, wrote an article for the Desert Connection, the conference electronic newsletter. Read it at www.desertconnection.org/ingite-employ-thrive. The Conference also facilitated a news segment on TOA. Channel 12 News interviewed Pastor Nancy, Janice and one of our youth! It aired February 8 on EVB Live. Finally, and best of all, there are 15 youth employed and 30 in the interview process.

GOLDEN GATE HOME REPAIR.

Mike Hair and his worthy helpers Johnny Ware and Chuck Wright have evaluated several homes in the Golden Gate Community. Lots of residents request painting, and we are trying to figure out the best way to support these needs. There is also a need for electrical and plumbing work. We are looking for volunteers with these skills. Please contact Mike Hair at mkhairpc@yahoo.com.

PRISON MINISTRY,

The Prison Ministry Committee is beginning to develop a plan for the next year. If you would like to be involved in this important work, contact Laura Brownfield at brownfield2@cox.net or cell/text 602-576-5521.

UMOM WATKINS DINNERS.

If you would like to serve a meal or donate food, contact Marilyn Gray at kumama@cox.net

GOD DEEDS.

In February, we delivered Valentine gifts to the Bingo ladies at Wesley Community Center. These senior women play bingo every Tuesday. They received gift bags with personal care products and, of course, some chocolate! In March, we plan to provide Easter dinner for the firemen at the station on Thunderbird and 58th Street. Would you like to help provide food or deliver it? Contact Jane Pearson at janepearson@cox.net.

ICM FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE.

It’s time for spring cleaning! We are hosting a food and clothing drive for the Interfaith Cooperative Ministries’ Food and Clothing Bank during Lent. See page 8 for more information. Collection boxes will be in the Fellowship Hall through March 13.

BOOKS FOR VETS.

We collect books and magazines and deliver them to the Phoenix VA Hospital. They add them to their library for the pleasure of the patients and their families. Clean out your book cases and bring your books to the Mission Table.
Will Your Will Be Known?

Assure that you give final voice to your values and wishes. Learn about the importance and legal aspects of having a will by attending a free presentation by Duet’s Professional Advisory Committee, including attorneys Lynn Anderson, Emily Kile and Nat Nickele.

March 3, 3:30 – 5:00 pm, North Scottsdale United Methodist Church.

Reserve your place by calling Duet at (602) 274-5022.

UNIQUE HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITY

Our United Methodist Western Jurisdictional Conference will be held right here in Scottsdale this coming summer (July 12 – 16, 2016). The Doubletree Resort on North Scottsdale Road will be the host hotel and meeting site. At this conference a new Bishop will be elected and important legislation will be enacted.

Our North Scottsdale Church will be hosting all of the Western Jurisdictional Conference Attendees for dinner, a meeting, and a worship service here at our church on Wednesday evening, July 13, 2016.

We need volunteers to act as Hospitality Hosts at our Church that evening and at the Doubletree in various shifts during each of the 5 days of the Conference. This is a wonderful opportunity to see our United Methodist Church at work and to show Christ’s Love through a welcoming presence, a warm greeting, a sincere smile and being a helpful local resource.

Bob Bergstrom is coordinating both the Hotel Conference and Church Event Hospitality Volunteers. Our Church is filled with loving, caring, friendly United Methodists who would be perfect to work these events. This means YOU!

If interested please see Bob at Church, call his cell (412-496-2261) or e-mail him (bobbleahbergstrom@yahoo.com) and he can give you more information. Bob can direct you to an easy link for “the sign-up genius” to put your name next to the time and place you can best serve.

Go to “Sign-up-genius”: http://www.signupgenius.com/tabs/33775D90EA5C9E4C53-registration
Update on the Ethiopian Mission Trip

Plans are finalized for the 2016 Ethiopian Mission Trip and the team is preparing for the journey to Ethiopia on April 4, 2016.

The team has expanded to nine people. Please pray for Pastor Nancy, Laura and Royce, Elizabeth, DelRae and Ashley along with Pastor George, Shelly and Joel.

The trip will combine working with abandoned and orphaned children through ministry partner, Hope for the Hopeless, with learning about the history and culture of Ethiopia. Team members will visit two sacred cities: Lalibela, where churches were carved out of bedrock, and Axum, where the Ark of the Covenant is said to be stored. Most of the team has added a safari in Tanzania, and will return on April 21. There will be lots of stories upon their return!

You can still sign up for this trip by contacting Pastor Nancy, but please do it soon.

New Member Sunday on March 13, 2016
Won’t You Join Us in Becoming a Member of NSUMC?

We would love to have you join us as we seek to grow as disciples of Christ. The next member orientation will be offered on Wednesday, March 2, from 6 - 7 p.m. It is a time to get to know you, to acquaint you with NSUMC, and to answer any questions you have and to tour the church. Please contact one of the pastors, PastorNancy@nsumc.com, PastorDavid@nsumc.com or Laura Brownfield at lbrownfield2@cox.net if you are interested in committing to NSUMC and becoming a member. We’d love to welcome you.

Other 2016 New Member Sundays will be July 31, and October 23, at both services.
NORTH SCOTTSDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Easter Food & Clothing Drive

Benefitting families in need at Interfaith Cooperative Ministries’ Food & Clothing Bank.

The need for donations is growing.

ICM Food & Clothing Bank serves 120+ families a day, 6 days a week.

Most of our clients are working poor with low-paying jobs and not enough money for life’s emergencies.

Others are the disabled and elderly, many raising their grandchildren.

Children in families make up over 50% of all ICM clients.

The gently used and new items collected will be used to help these families.

Suggested donations:

NonPerishable Food Items:
- Canned Meats, Vegetables and Fruits
- Pasta, Rice and Beans
- Peanut Butter, Jelly and Oatmeal
- Soups and Tomato Sauce
- Baby Food and Baby Formula
- Clothing – Men’s, Women’s & Children’s

Shoes (all sizes and types)

Undergarments and Socks

Bedding and Linens

Toiletries: soap, shampoo, toothbrushes/toothpaste, razors, deodorant, laundry detergent.

Please bring your items to church, now through Sunday, March 13.

Your donations will help many families and children in need.

Thank you!

WWW.ICMAZ.ORG
East Valley Family Caregiver Retreat

CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER

Friday, March 18, 2016. 9AM - 2:30PM
Red Mountain United Methodist Church.
2936 N Power Road, Mesa 85215
No charge. Lunch is included.

The responsibilities of serving as caregiver for a loved one can take a physical, mental and emotional toll. You can take better care of your loved one if you take care of yourself. Duet’s Spring Caregiver Retreat will offer a day of learning and renewal.

RSVP: Registration required by March 14.
Contact Duet, (602) 274-5022, ext. 32
United Methodists is a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. 

Membership is open to any woman with the desire to belong, to support our PURPOSE and to participate in the global mission of the church through United Methodist Women. For information on how you can join North Scottsdale UMW, contact Cindy Bryant, 480-922-1145, cindybryant@cox.net.

**Easy ways to support North Scottsdale UMW that don’t cost extra money!**

- Mission Basket: Donate travel size toiletries and other small personal care items for Watkins Shelter and Wesley Community Center.
- Campbell’s Labels for Wesley Community Center: Put labels in the envelope on the UMW Cart in the Fellowship Hall. They help purchase educational equipment and other items for Wesley Community Center.
- Watkins Women’s Shelter: Place recently read magazines, *address labels removed*, in the green basket on the wire shelves in the kitchen.
- Help serve and provide food for Watkins. We serve there once a month. (See schedule.)

**Opportunities for Service and Fellowship**

**Sat. Mar 5** – Tour of Canaan in the Desert

**Wed. Mar 9** – Serve dinner at Watkins Women’s Shelter. Contact Cheryl Vieth at 602-867-7079 for details and to volunteer.

**Thu. Mar. 10** Join the New Day Circle, 12:30 at NSUMC. Bring your lunch

**Mon. Mar. 14**, Dinner Out at Macayo’s, 5:30 p.m. 11107 N. Scottsdale Rd.


**Fri. Mar. 18** — Soup Day -

**Sat. Mar. 19** — Set Up for Bake Sale

**Sun. Mar. 20** — Bake Sale

**Fri., March 25** Card Ministry meets at Janet Flournoy’s home. Contact Janet at 480 650-6436 for more information.
March 6  8:30AM  10:00AM

**Greeters**
- John Dahlin
- Jane Dahlin

**Ushers**
- Chris Moore,
- Don New

**Liturgist**
- Marilyn Gray

*Coffee Fellowship: Fellowship Committee*

March 13

**Greeters**
- Marilyn Gray
- Betty Hosmer

**Ushers**
- Evelyn Nightingale
- Jane Pearson

**Liturgist**
- Jo Steig

*Coffee Fellowship: Finance Committee*

March 20

**Greeters**
- Betty Hosmer
- John & Jean Doede

**Ushers**
- Evelyn Nightingale
- Millie Hay

**Liturgist**
- Carol Wilson

*Coffee Fellowship: Membership Committee*

March 27

**Greeters**
- Gil Christopher
- Debbie Christopher

**Ushers**
- Barb Cogan
- Art & Janet Endres

**Liturgist**
- Joanne Battershall

*Coffee Fellowship: Missions Committee*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>9:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td><strong>New Members Sunday</strong>  WORSHIP 8:30/10:00  8:30 Creativity Studio 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Youth S School 11:00 AngelIX 11:30 Endowment Committee Seminar 11:30 Confirmation Class 1:30 Huddle</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td><strong>Palm Sunday Bake Sale</strong>  WORSHIP 8:30/10:00  8:30 Creativity Studio 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Youth S School 1:00 AngelIX 11:30 Confirmation Class 1:00 Needle Arts 1:30 Huddle</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td><strong>EASTER</strong>  Sunrise service 6am  WORSHIP 8:30/10:00  8:30 Creativity Studio 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Youth S School 10:45 Cherub Choir</td>
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**March 2016**
NSUMC’s 2016 summer day camp is entitled Surf Shack, “Catch the Wave of God’s Amazing Love.” At Surf Shack children will discover how to surf through life with God and others. The adventure includes curriculum from Steve Spangler Science:

Campers will experience scripture stories through: energizing music, interactive Bible puppetry, super science experiments, creative crafts, hands-on mission work, delicious snacks, and active games. There will also be a 12’ waterslide for the campers to enjoy on Friday.

**Decoration donations** - Please collect and send in: luau decorations, surf boards, empty one-liter plastic pop bottles, pool noodles, beach balls, life preservers, … OR buy similar decorations or gift cards from Walmart, Oriental Trading or Hobby Lobby

**Snack donations** - We would love grocery store gift cards.

**Volunteers** - We need volunteers to help specific stations such as snacks, crafts, songs, games, science, Bible discovery, Pre-K leaders, childcare, puppetry and drama. We also need volunteers to shuttle children from station to station. All of these positions are available for the week or daily.

**Bakers** - We need a few bakers to supply our volunteer leaders with daily snacks (fruits and veggies are also welcome). The volunteer youth leaders so appreciate the daily treats for “Leader Lounge.” It would be awesome if we could have four dozen items daily.

Questions? Please contact Terry Wright, 480-860-9573 or terry@nsumc.com.

**Communion Milestone Thank You.**

Thank you to our first and second grade Sunday School classroom for sharing their Communion milestone with us on Sunday, February 21. The lessons on Communion introduced children to the Bible story in terms of the meal, the love of friends, and the memories that were made.

Men’s Friday Morning Breakfast
The Men’s Bible Study group meets every Friday morning at 6:15 am in the church kitchen, sharing breakfast at every meeting.

They use the Serendipity Bible and study verses selected by that week’s leader.

Monday Night Women’s Bible Study
7pm in the Church Library

Rev. Leah Berstrom now facilitates this group, adding her knowledge to the discussions. Through March 14, the study is A Walk through the Book of Ephesians (Baker Books). This group always welcomes newcomers and since Ephesians is a very small book anyway, catch-up is a cinch.

The next book on the schedule is March 21-April 25: Adam Hamilton’s When Christians Get it Wrong -- “a different way of understanding the issues that keep people away from Christianity and keep Christians from living a more compelling faith. Because, honestly, if we don’t start getting it right, we may lose an entire generation.” It’s available from Amazon Used, under $4.00 paperback.

Piece Makers
If you are interested in quilting, please check out this group. They have awesome mentors who can teach you the tricks of the trade. Throughout the year, they also have special guest presentations.

The group meets twice a month (the first and third Saturdays of the month) from 9 AM to 1 PM in room #11. All ages and skill levels are invited.

Future 2016 Milestone Events

April 3.
Pre-K and Kindergarten: “The Lord’s Prayer.”

April 17.
High School: “Spiritual Gifts”

May 22.
Grade 2 & Grade 6: “Bible Sunday” & “Confirmation”

Lord’s Prayer Milestone

On Sunday, April 3, our preschool and kindergarten class will celebrate their Lord’s Prayer Milestone during our 10 am service.

The Sunday School teachers have been working with the children to help them learn this very important prayer. It is a prayer that expresses God’s desire to have an ongoing relationship with us.

Parent’s please mark your calendar for this celebration! All participants will receive a gift.
North Scottsdale United Methodist Church’s 2016 summer day camp is entitled “SURF SHACK.” This camp adventure runs Monday, June 7th through Friday, July 1, 9AM until 12 noon at NSUMC. It is open to children ages 3 through 12. The requested donation is $45 per child for the entire week program. Kids will put their energy into action through science, drama, art, cooking, games, and puppetry. There will also be a 12’ waterslide on Friday!

NAME_________________________________________________________________________
STREET_______________________________________________________________________
CITY___________________________________________STATE__________ZIP_____________
HOME PHONE_____________________ EMAIL ADDRESS______________________________
D.O.B._________ AGE:_____ School grade completed______ Allergies_______________________
Mom’s CELL______________________ Mom’s NAME_______________________________
Dad’s CELL_______________________ Dad’s NAME_______________________________
EMERGENCY CONTACT________________________________PHONE___________________
HOME CHURCH_______________________________________________________________

PARENTS/ADULTS- Volunteers working at VBS ALL WEEK may pay $20/child:
Yes! I am available to offer my talents in Crafts___ Games___ Music___ Drama___ Childcare___ Travelers___ Science___ Pre-K___ Puppetry ___. This will include a t-shirt for you & your child plus FREE childcare for 1 and 2 year olds. Since I am an adult volunteering to work all week, I will need childcare for: NAME______________________________________ AGE_______.

Full Week(5 day) Volunteer T-shirt size: ADULT sm___ med___ lg___ xlg___ xxlg___
Deadline to receive a t-shirt for VBS is 6/5/16. All registrations after that date may not receive a VBS t-shirt. Please mail your registration and payment to the church office @ 11735 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85254. “By completing this form, you allow NSUMC to use photos taken of you and your children at this day camp in future promotional and publicity materials that will only be posted on the NSUMC brochures, websites and social media. Thank you in advance for your participation.”

CHILD ATTENDING VBS:

T-SHIRT SIZE: Children’s Sm____ Med____ Lg____ Adult Sm____

$20/child for FULL WEEK ADULT volunteers_______

Or $45/ child (normal fee) ________

DATE______________ CHECK # ________ CASH __________
Good Friday Cantata
Friday, March 25, 2016
7:00 p.m.

The Chancel Choir will present “Light in the Darkness” by Patrick Liebergen on Good Friday in the sanctuary.

This unique Tenebrae service offers a blend of classical music, passion hymns and new songs. A moving service of worship and remembrance, this work captures the poignancy and drama of Holy Week through music and narrative.

The choir will be accompanied by organ and orchestra complete with harp, strings, winds and percussion.
The United Methodist Women and Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who donated items for the Standdown, and helped fill cosmetic bags and boxes of sweatshirts/sweatpants. We are so blessed to have such a generous congregation!!!! We collected enough shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, make-up, sanitizer, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. and cosmetic bags to fill 167 bags for the women veterans. We collected over 130 sweatshirts/sweatpants and 50 pairs of jeans as well. These were taken down to the Standdown and they were very much appreciated. A special thanks to Sally Bradford’s garden group; Cherie Escobar for the large bag of make-up/lipstick; Evelyn Nightingale’s DAR group; Susan Smith for all the blue jeans; Bill and Carol Adams for taking everything down there; Joyce Nolan for sending emails, collecting items, donating items, and hours of sorting; and a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped separate and box sweatpants/sweatshirts, and fill cosmetic bags. God Bless You All!

The United Methodist Women would like to thank all of the ladies from our Church who came to our first English Tea. It was a fantastic turnout; and we had ladies bringing their daughters, granddaughters, and even some of their friends. It was set up with many card tables and decorated for each group of 4. Decorations were done by Janet Flournoy. We had a Handbell Ensemble led by Donna Marie Hartley and the Creative Christian Bell Choir under the direction of Janet. Jean Doede was our Tea Lady who gave us an interesting talk about Tea. Thank you to the UMW Board for all of their hard work along with Joanne Battershall and Carol Wilson. A special thank you to Donna Mariner who made our first course of scones, lemon curd, and clotted cream. Please check out some of our pictures on Facebook.

We are having an additional Unit Meeting on Sunday, April 3, after second service. Please put it on your calendar as it is not scheduled in our brochure. If any of our members have not received one of our brochures that were handed out in the Fall, please stop by our UMW Cart located next to the Mission Table in the Fellowship Hall.