

PASTOR'S PAGE

I recently saw a Whitman's chocolate bar for Easter with Jesus on the wrapper. Kind of cool. They've done them at Christmas time as well. I don't know if it's just a marketing ploy, but it got me to thinking about one of my favorite things: chocolate.

Now, this was a milk chocolate bar as opposed to dark chocolate. Until a few years ago, I exclusively enjoyed milk chocolate. Milk chocolate is sweeter than dark chocolate, which seems to appeal to the child within all of us. However, I have come to appreciate dark chocolate as well. Dark chocolate is sometimes called semi-sweet, because without milk it is still sweet, yet it holds a slight bitterness.

I feel like the season of Easter can be like dark chocolate with a bitter-sweetness to it. Yes, on Easter Sunday the stone is rolled away and Jesus is Alive! Yes, resurrection and eternal life are both sweet things to be joyous about. AND yet, Easter Sunday doesn't happen without Good Friday. New life can't happen until the previous one ends.

Bitterness helps us appreciate sweetness just as the cold helps us appreciate warmth and darkness helps us appreciate the light. It is my prayer that we will remember these days in years to come and never take for granted all that we have to be thankful for. As we continue to live in the season of Easter, may we stay focused on the horizon. May we look ahead to what we are called to do next as we approach a new dawn. And, may we keep Jesus Christ at the center of our lives.

Glen

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Fred & Louise
Curran
Pat Sweezey
Berdina
Anderson

Mike Delaney
John Williams
Aiko Ryan

Leanne
Postema
Jim Swain
Joyce Gibson

Please include in your prayers those with special needs, those receiving medical care, the home-bound, caregivers, service men and women, our CA/NV Conference, and the churches of the Great Northern District.

(If you would like your name added for special prayers, please let us know at the office or contact the pastor.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANK YOU'S

Sanctuary Clean Up Day

On Monday, April 11th at 10am let's meet to spruce up the Sanctuary with some cleaning and dusting of window sills, railings etc. With a little effort and working together we can bring the wood on the pews to a golden shine before Easter. We have several cloth towels and rags but if you have more please bring them; the cleaning products are provided.

Any questions see Cindy Raley or Myra Wade.

Miriam Circle

Dear Ladies,

Thank you to all the ladies that attended our March Miriam Circle. (Pam Fuhrman and Lenna Mullins changed months, so Lenna Mullins will be our presenter in May.)

Information was shared about the United Methodist Women's new name, The United Women in Faith--probably shortened to UWF in the future. Also shared was a possible mission for our group which helps those ladies caught up in human trafficking, called For the Girls. This was a presentation by Pam Fuhrman. As refreshment person, Pam served us with a delightful cherry-topped cake. Thanks, Pam!

Marsha Sylvester-Jose gave an informative presentation on our reading materials for this year, along with many of the books from our library that satisfy the required reading. (This month's response can be found free and digitally through the UWF enews.)

Bonnie Shelton gave a reading from the book, Easter Stories. It is still in our library.

Next month our presenter will be Carol Aldrich—who will also be our refreshment person. It promises to be interesting. We hope to see you there.

Yours in Christ, Bonnie Shelton

Library News

Six poetry books of the Old Testament—Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon are also known as “wisdom and praise literature.” Poetry has been called the language of the heart.

Check out our beautiful poetry books, located on the library coffee table!

There's more!

The second week of April is National Library Week.

April 10th is Encourage a Young Writer Day.

April 28th is National Great Poetry Reading Day.

~Marsha Sylvester-Jose, Church Librarian

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. –Psalm 8: 1 (NIV)

Writing Group

“Simple Acts of Kindness.” What does that mean to you? How do you feel after either giving or receiving a small act of kindness? Let's write our thoughts on this subject and share them as we meet April, 25th, 1pm in the parlor. Happy writing!

Myra

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S **SECTION**

We have been celebrating Lent! We are seeing a lot of purple in the sanctuary! Each child received a Lenten Chain to help them count the days until Easter. As they remove a link, they will thank God for something He has given them or they will be kind to someone! We have learned a song to help them to remember what this season is about. It is sung to Are You Sleeping: Prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are meant to repent. 40 days of sacrifice. Being super extra nice. This is Lent. This is Lent.

We continue to learn about Jesus' life and teachings. The memory verse is John 3:16. Please encourage our children to tell you about what they are learning in Sunday School.

Mark your calendars!

Vacation Bible School is back this summer "To Mars and Beyond". June... More information to follow



DATES AND EVENTS

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Friday, April 1 | 8:00-2:00— Rummage Sale |
| Saturday, April 2 | 8:00-12:00— Rummage sale |
| Sunday, April 3 | 10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service |
| Wednesday, April 6 | 10:00—Lent Bible Study |
| Saturday, April 9 | 7:45—Men's Breakfast |
| Sunday, April 10 | 10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service |
| Wednesday, April 13 | 2:00— Miriam Circle |
| Thursday, April 14 | 9:00—Bazaar Buddies |
| Friday, April 15 | 12:00— Good Friday |
| Sunday, April 17 | 10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00--Hmong service Easter |
| Tuesday, April 19 | 6:30- 8:30 YSARC Mtg. |
| Sunday, April 24 | 10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service |
| Monday, April 25 | 1:00—Writing Group |



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Did you notice our new name? The UMW name has been changed to United Women in Faith. Why the rebranding? Rebranding United Methodist Women means we are refreshing the way we tell our story and updating our programs, resources and outreach efforts so that we better nurture current members and are more attractive to and welcoming of women of diverse back grounds and life stages by meeting them where they are.

Our new Mission Statement: United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Lelah and Lesa Holmes and Pam Fuhrman are going to the Assembly in May in Orlando and will be bringing back more information to share.

Rummage Sale is Fri., April 1 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and Sat., April 2, from 8:00 am to noon. Please share information with friends and family so we have less items to put out for DAV at the end. Our next UWF planning meeting is Wed., April 20 at 10:00 am and our next social event will be a restaurant lunch on Sat, May 7 at 11:00 am at a place to be determined.

Things change. People change. But God remains, and that continues to be the purpose behind everything that we do in this organization.

Pam Fuhrman.....President
Myra Wade.....Vice-President
Bonnie Shelton.....Secretary
Debbie Hopking.....Treasurer



| | | | |
|------|----------------|------|------------------|
| 4/1 | Jerry Fish | 4/14 | Mike Doherty |
| 4/1 | Vivian Riley | 4/16 | Matthew Fish |
| 4/2 | Carolyn Thao | 4/17 | Patrick Smith |
| 4/4 | Scotia Holms | 4/18 | Morgan Romness |
| 4/6 | Chris Strauss | 4/18 | Anita Eiben |
| 4/7 | Darlene Hudson | 4/23 | Louise Curran |
| 4/7 | Matt Dillon | 4/25 | Syvaniah Pharris |
| 4/10 | Kat Motte | | |

The 12-month birthday list is posted on the bulletin board in the church office. For additions/corrections, please call (530)743-3007.

View from The Pew

The yearly fundraiser in March was a huge success! A big thank you to the Holmes family for blessing us again with their hard work in providing the spaghetti dinner, and to the Finance Committee for organizing the event, including the crew of helpers and all those who made desserts. Thanks for a wonderful evening. Speaking of desserts, oh my, what a delight to try to decide what to bid on when there are 45 choices of pies, cakes and more. Yes, that's right, 45 desserts! Quite a job for our auctioneer Sid Riley.

There have also been several behind the scenes 'straighten up/clean up' projects that aren't all that visible, such as the kitchen pantry, the UMW shed and the Outreach clothes closet. All of these things and more are done by those who see a need and fill it. Our church family is indeed extraordinary.

We remembered Ivadel Schmaus, a church member since 1992, with a celebration of her life and thankfulness for her years of service, ready wit and easy smile.

I'm sure we all look forward to Easter Sunday, the cross decorated with flowers, the children excitedly hunting colored eggs but most importantly the joy in our hearts as we realize the reason that we celebrate and what Christ did for us. The resurrection is a symbol of hope, renewal and a new life. A favorite saying is "Jesus did not come to make God's love possible but to make God's love visible." May the miracle of Easter inspire your year ahead. He has risen! Hallelujah!

Myra Wade—Lay leader

Helping Our Church

***Our gratitude to all those helping our church
last month and all who volunteer throughout the
year:***

Bell Ringer: Di McCumber

Ushers: Lorna Stutz

Greeters: Myra Wade

Liturgists: Carol Schellenger

Music Leaders: Lisa Weir, Taber Dullea

Praise Team – Lisa Weir

Chancel Choir Director: Taber Dullea

Musicians: Rob Hilton, Taber Dullea,

Terry Raley and Lisa Weir

Sound Board Techs: Jerry Fish,

Tony Pollizzi, Curtis Sylvester-José, Rob Hilton

PowerPoint Techs: Marcia Davis, Terry Raley

Sunday School Sup'ts: Robin Pask and Charlene Bole

Youth Group Leader: Robin Pask

Altar Stewards: Robin Pask, Trina Smith & Liz Ralph

Sanctuary Steward: Cindy Raley, Myra Wade

Communion Stewards: Marcia Davis, Trina Smith,

Lenna Mullins

Church Treasurers: Beth Knight and Debbie Hopking

Counters: Bonnie Archuleta, Cheryl Bottum,

Lenna Mullins, Marilyn Center, Lorna Stutz

Financial Secretary: Beth Knight

Librarian: Marsha Sylvester-José

**Volunteers: Bonnie Archuleta, Cathy Deaton,
Carol Aldrich, Bonnie Shelton, Lorna Stutz, Myra Wade,
& Lenna Mullins**

**A special "Thank You" to the hosts of our
Potluck and Coffee Fellowship.**

WE THANK THESE BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SUPPORT

This space is available for businesses to advertise in the Circuit Rider newsletter and on our website. A donation of \$125 is asked to defray printing and mailing costs. Please contact the church office.



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April 2022

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MARYSVILLE

Pastor: Rev. Glen Raley,

Hmong Language Pastor: Cheng Yang

730 D Street, Marysville, CA 95901; E-mail: mvfumc@att.net

Church Office: 743-3007; Fax: 777-9230

Web - www.marysville-firstumc.org/

Facebook – fb.me/MarysvilleFirstUMC



SUNDAY SERVICES

★ **FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH** – 10:00 a.m. *Worship and Communion Service*

★ **ALL OTHER SUNDAYS:**
10 a.m. - *Worship Service*

EVERY SUNDAY - 1:30 p.m. - Hmong Language Worship