



*A Monthly Newsletter of the United Methodist Church of Vista*

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We are called to be an authentic, accessible and inclusive community  
in Christ, celebrating and extending God's love into the world.

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### **Pastor's Ponderings**

We are mid-way through the year and what have we accomplished? We've given grant funding to 22 community organizations, we've worked on our ministry action plan (MAP), we've fed people, taught children, shepherded three confirmands, offered seven different discipleship classes or support groups, shared in 43 worship services, offered three musical concert events... All since January 1, 2018. That's a lot... and there is much more! The list could go on and on describing how this church family is offering Christ's love to one another, our neighbors and our world every day!!

Pastor Frank and I will be attending Annual Conference this June at the University of the Redlands. This may be the last year we go to Redlands for this event. There is a plan to move the California Pacific Annual Conference to San Diego in 2019! (I'm really excited and think this is a great idea!) Our Bishop, Rev. Grant Hagiya, is working with a conference leadership group to reduce our conference budget and expand the conference support of local churches. He has also been a part of the conversation our denomination is having about how to move forward as people who have regionally divided beliefs about human sexuality. The conversation will continue during a Special General Conference in 2019 as we seek to be people who are faithful to Jesus Christ and transform the world in love. In addition, there were some recent changes to our denomination's constitution and at least one amendment change will likely bounce-back to all the Annual Conferences for discussion and maybe a new vote.

As I look into the rest of the year, I'm so excited to continue working on ministry with you! We will hold a special All Church Charge Conference on June 27th at 7 p.m. to review and vote on the Ministry Action Plan as an entire congregation. Everyone is welcome to come! The District Superintendent, Rev. John Farley, will join us for this special time of honoring our past by looking into our future, as we name and affirm the work that God has called us to! I don't know yet how you want to reorganize and use the building and land that we occupy. I don't yet know how the budget will shape up or how the numbers will work out. But I do know you are passionate and driven to care for one another and this community and the world! I KNOW God is calling you forward and despite the suspicion some have for Christianity and Church, we are reaching new people every week.

I continue to be honored to be the senior pastor in charge at UMC Vista and have great joy about the ministry we are doing! Thank you for your faithful work and kindness as we grow together!

Pastor Leigh Ann

**It's coming!**

***IMPACT August...set August aside and be sure to watch for further announcements.***

## Finance/Stewardship Update

As we head into the summer months we want to celebrate and thank you for your generous support to the many important ministries and outreach programs of our church. Your support of our general fund budget is essential to keep our church and ministry programs up and running. To date we are meeting our essential ministry budget items, although total estimated pledges and givers of record support leaves us about \$18,000 short of our 2018 budget needs. You are a giving and caring congregation. As of the second week of Sunday in May you have given in excess of \$125,000 to supporting our ministry needs. We are planning two events during the summer and fall to help us close the budget gap.

Regular giving is easy and helps us do more intentional ministry. You may put cash or a check in the envelope located in the pews and place it in the collection plate in the worship service. On-line giving is also available on our Website at [www.umcvista.org](http://www.umcvista.org). Open the website and click on "Giving" (under Menu) to register or log in. Again, thank you for your generous financial support of the ministries of our Church.

-Rollin Grider, Finance/Stewardship Chair

## Communion Sunday, June 3

Communion Offering for June 3 will be for International Relief Teams. This year, Vic Johnston and the Hansens participated in the International Relief Team project to build a home in Mexico. IRT builds permanent homes for low-income families. IRT also provides medicines, food as well as housing after disasters. Over the years we have had several of our church family participate in building homes to help others through the International Relief Team.

-World Missions Committee

## X-tra Mile Ministry Giving for June

Our X-tra Mile Ministry Giving for June will be the Women's Resource Center (WRC) which is dedicated to providing the highest quality support services, counseling, shelter and education to North San Diego County women, children and men involved in or threatened by domestic violence or sexual assault. WRC assists its clients in healing so that they can do the following.

BUILD: their dignity, self esteem and confidence.

LEARN: that what has happened is not their fault.

KNOW: that they and their children have a safe haven.

FEEL RELIEF: from the fear of physical, verbal and emotional abuse.

FIND OUT: that someone understands their problems and that there are solutions.

HOPE: by learning that they can make different, better choices in the future.

There are a variety of needs on their wish list which will be available for you in the Narthex throughout June. Thank you for your continued caring and support for the people of North County.

## Congregational Care Committee

The mission of our UMC Congregational Care Committee is to bring care, contact, love and support to those who are homebound, recovering from illness, or in need of other such pastoral care. The Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month to develop a visitation plan in order to serve all those before us. The committee receives names brought forward from Pastor Leigh Ann, Pastor Frank, the church office, referrals, prayer requests and family members. We thank each of you for being the eyes and ears of our church family by keeping us updated on the needs of our congregation.

As a committee, we develop a communication plan to ensure we maintain a close connection with each person. Pastor Leigh Ann, Pastor Frank and Karen Felien lead our visitation discussions as we work to provide consistency in our spiritual care. A lead contact person is designated to make certain we serve each member on our list. In addition, we call, send cards, offer communion and grief counseling. Stephen Ministers are also available upon request by contacting Mike Walker.

LIFT Transportation tickets provide rides to and from church for those qualified. If you are interested in more information on how to qualify for this program, or other available transportation options, please contact a committee member.

Congregational Care Committee is honored to serve our church in this capacity. Staying in touch with our members and friends is a very important part to healing, recovery and continued spiritual growth. We invite anyone—even if you yourself are homebound—who feels they have this spiritual gift to join us. Your call, card or visit means so much to your church family.

Members include: Pastor Leigh Ann, Pastor Frank, Chairperson Karen Felien, Heidi Kendall, Sara Baldwin, Barbara Mitchell, Kathy Johnson, Michael Walker, Nadine Kaina, Ja Dene Dugas and Dakota Koenig

-Dakota Koenig

**MANY THANKS** to our dear friend, Lenore Averell, for her many years of service to our church and all the hats she's worn over the years. Lenore is now retiring from being a Flame editor. Hopefully we'll continue to hook her into writing the occasional article under her byline! Thank you, Lenore!

Flame Editor  
Barbara Mitchell  
Flame Production  
Paula Amaro  
WEB Master  
Jim McGlocklin

Next deadline is Wednesday, June 20, 2018  
Comments or suggestions, please let us know.

**The Flame (monthly newsletter)**  
**United Methodist Church of Vista**  
**490 S. Melrose Drive**  
**Vista, CA 92081**

## Meet a member of the staff

Karen Felien is our very capable Nursery Caregiver. She shares her talents with our younger members (from newborn up to 7 year-olds) every Sunday in our nursery (behind the Sanctuary). Her loving care gives our parents the opportunity to focus on worship or Bible Study.

Karen, her husband Gary and adult children Justin, David and Sarah, have been members of UMC Vista for many years. She is currently the Chairperson for the Congregational Care Committee and visits and calls upon many of our shut-ins or those with temporary illnesses or surgeries. Her graciousness is truly over-flowing!

Without a doubt, Karen's inspiration has come from the relationship she has with her 99 year-old mother. Karen "glows" when she talks with pride and joy about her. Saturdays are their special day together. As a single parent, she put Karen and her brother through college; and with her great attitude and relationship with God, has inspired Karen to do her best.

If Karen were to share her secret passions, it would be that she enjoys watercolor painting. She would also love to travel to other countries outside the US. Perhaps, someone knows about a trip to Ireland in the future? That would be on the top of her "wish" list.

After graduating from Cal State Fullerton, Karen taught young children from pre-school to first grade. Currently, she also works for VUSD in the Vista Transition program for Special Education children and young adults.

Stop by the nursery to say "hello" to Karen. Some Sundays are quite busy, and some she might just offer you a chance to come in, sit in a rocking chair and unwind for as long as you need. Thank you, Karen!

-Ruth Rockwell, SPRC committee member

## All Church Work Day, June 2

All Church Work Day is Saturday, June 2 from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please bring work gloves and water. We have several campus-wide projects for all ages! Work will include organization and cleanup of the storeroom. Come and help us prepare for the summer months. See Billy Stempson for more information.

## Make a Difference Day 2018

"Make a Difference Day" 2018 is Sunday, June 24. The congregation of UMC Vista have an opportunity to demonstrate what work/application they are passionate about at this time. Commit to becoming a shepherd and working directly with individuals and organizations in our community. Shepherds will be responsible for diving deeper into the applying organization as well as the specifics of the application and putting forth a recommendation to the Church Council for funding. For more information, please see Beth Brainard-Hallock.

## Student Ministry News (Beckie Henselmeier)

- At Polar Blast VBS, kids will go on an icy cool adventure where they'll discover that Jesus will always love them! Students will have incredible Bible-learning experiences where they see, hear, and touch their faith! Who: Students age 4 – finished 4th Grade, When: Friday, June 29, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday, June 30, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., and Celebration Sunday, July 1 at 9 a.m. \* Please send a sack lunch with your students. Snacks will be served! Cost: \$20 per student or "bring a friend" and both get to attend for \$10. (Registrations must be turned in together.) Register today online at [umcvista.org/vbs/](http://umcvista.org/vbs/). See Beckie Henselmeier for more information.
- Movies on the Lawn 2018 is almost here! Friday nights on June 22, July 20, and August 10! More information is at <http://www.umcvista.org/movies-on-the-lawn/>.

## Summer Intern

The Education Committee is proud to introduce Ben Seckington as a Summer Intern. Ben is a member at Hope UMC in Rancho Bernardo and will be spending the summer with us assisting and enhancing our Student Ministry through the summer months. Please welcome him as we share in this opportunity to not only build our program but build a relationship with this young person in Christ.

## Youth Promotion Sunday, June 3

Youth Promotion Sunday is June 3. Students in fifth grade will be promoted into Youth Group for our summer activities and events. All other students will be promoted on Sunday, August 12. See Beckie Henselmeier for more information.

## Graduation Sunday, June 10

On Sunday, June 10 at both worship services we will be recognizing students who are graduating from high school or college. If your student is graduating, please call Paula at the church office by Monday, June 5 or write their name, school, and degree (if it applies) on the back of your registration card.

## Summer Sunday School, June 10

Summer Sunday School starts June 10. This year, we're traveling to the seashore and embarking on a voyage to learn about Jesus' presence with us ALWAYS in "Shipwrecked!" Through various stations and experiences, we'll learn that Jesus carries us through all of life's storms. Music, games, crafts, snacks, and more! We'll meet as one group in room 212. See Beckie Henselmeier for more information. Sign up on the website.



## Happy “June” Birthdays

Joey Graziano (1)  
Samuel “Issac” de la Cruz (5)  
Brandon Flanagan (6)  
Linda Grider (6)  
Ruth Kameya (6)  
Chaba Andrassy (7)  
Emily Hansen (7)  
Melissa Bodnar (8)  
Paul Fischer (8)  
Brenda Walker (9)  
Susan Delaney (11)  
Myriah Christian (12)  
Luene Corwin (12)  
June Miklau (12)  
Joan Brainerd (13)  
Stella Hansen (15)  
Barbara Shores (16)  
Laurie Clarke (18)  
Alyssa Coker (18)  
Louise Horna (18)  
David Freeman (20)  
Larry Averell (21)  
Marlene Coast (22)  
Susan Hamlin (22)  
Sarah LaFoe (22)  
Alicia Olinger (23)  
Lauren Adams (24)  
Susan Miller (26)  
Jim Wills (26)  
Phillip Setter (27)  
Sharon Hall (29)  
Abby Way (29)

Note: If your birthday is not listed, please call Paula at the church office.

## Our History

*UMC Vista has a rich history in this community. If you have a memory about our past that you would like to share, please contact Barbara Mitchell, 760.726.0442.*

### The Scrip Table

Many people have no idea what the Scrip Table is or what the purpose is. To put it simply, Scrip is a way to raise funds to support our organization!

We have preloaded store cards that you purchase for their face value and in return the Church receives a percentage of the face value of the card! So if you buy gas, eat, need prescriptions, buy clothes, go to the movies, go to Disneyland, shop at stores like Lowes or The Home Depot we have a card for that at the Scrip Table.

What have we done with the monies we have raised?

1. The outdoor Play Structure
2. ALL of the tables and chairs for ALL of the classrooms
3. The Blue-Ray DVD players in each classroom
4. The TV monitors in each classroom

Stop by and learn more, the volunteers at the Scrip Table are happy to help!

-Tom Humphrey, submitted 2014

## TEN Ways to be SPIRITUAL this Summer:

Pick one or two and give yourself time for Faith, Spirituality and a new Hope.

10: Breathe deeply right where you are. God created the world and all the smells and sights and sounds. Get outside for a minute or a few more and be blessed by God.

9: Allow others to simply be. Shine your light but know that other people are on their own journey or in their own rut. You don't need to carry everyone else, only walk your own way.

8: Create Community. Find people who are on a spiritual, faith quest also. Ask them questions about their experience and perspective. You don't have to ask questions to prove you are right or change their mind. Growing friends takes time and listening.

7: Study and Learn. Read scriptures. Read other faith pilgrims. Read the classic by Brother Lawrence's The Practice of the Presence of God. Go to a discipleship class.

6: Share your time, talent and treasure. Give your time and let the world benefit from your skills, knowledge and wisdom. Tithe 10% of all the money that comes to you to those doing good work in faith. Your life will be changed by Giving.

5: Treat your Body Right. You only get one body. Honor it. Care for it. Take a Sabbath rest. Eat the best quality food you can. Work up a little sweat.

4: Cultivate Compassion. Compassion means 'feel with.' From the homeless man on the street, to the college student, or your most frustrating family member, consider what it would be like to 'walk in their shoes.'

3: KEEP A SABBATH. It doesn't have to be Sunday, but pick a day or hour to turn off to the world's demands and turn in to God's Re-Creating recreation creation.

2: Get JOY. Not just happiness but deep joy. Joy is contagious and spreads. Joy can be found, discovered, cultivated and shared. Being faithful doesn't mean you frown all the time. Laugh often and pass it along!

1: Accept Yourself. You can only stretch so far. You can only live in the moment right now. You are beautiful in God's heart, so why shouldn't you give yourself a break? Even if you are working on getting healthy or paying off your bills or restoring a relationship with someone, don't spend your life saying... 'when this or that happens I'll be ok, happy, and satisfied.'

-Rev. Leigh Ann Shaw

## Family Game Night

The next game night is Friday, June 8, 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. For questions or for more information, please see Suzanne McMurchie.

## Community Offerings

### Days for Girls Workshop

Second Saturdays is Days for Girls Workshop in Escondido. Days for Girls is a charitable foundation that makes it possible for young girls around the world to attend school every day. If you can sew, cut, stack, quality control, you can help! June 9, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. is our next date. Gather at our church to carpool at 8:15 a.m. Please contact Barbara Mitchell, 760.390.4196 for more information.

## United Methodist Women's Corner

- The **UMW Circles** meet Tuesday, June 5: Kenworthy Circle will meet at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Ruth Circle will at the home of Dakota and Heidi's at 3766 Hillview Drive in Oceanside at 9:30 a.m.
- The **UMW leadership** meeting is August 21 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

## Pray together for...

Laurie Clarke, Jim McGlocklin, Family of Chris Clarke, Sherry Johnston, Ko Kim, Carol Yunt, Barbara Baldridge, Marvin Philippi, Marilyn Mathias, June Miklau, Lenore Averell, JaDene Dugas, Mary Nixon, Louise Foster, Bill Peaker, Nick and Kara May, Margene Haase, Lynda Mounts, Sue Downey/Bob Baker, Jane Fischer, Harold MacDermot, Tom Johnston, Bob Hickman, Joan Lindegren, Ron Bradshaw, Joan Brainerd, Nancy Koski, Alice Leclair, Jan Frate

## Help needed

Church member Laurie Clarke has broken her foot and will not be walking for five weeks. If you would like to participate in helping with meals or grocery shopping, please call Laurie at 847.705.8501 to see when and how you can help.

## Stay connected

E-mail: [umcvista@umcvista.org](mailto:umcvista@umcvista.org)

Website: [www.umcvista.org](http://www.umcvista.org)

Facebook: United Methodist Church of Vista

Be sure to check us out on Yelp!

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