



A Monthly Newsletter of the United Methodist Church of Vista

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

Pastor's Ponderings

We shared time as a staff on October 23! A special thank you to Heidi Kendall and her family for the space to gather at a beach house in Carlsbad! And thank you to the Staff-Parish Relations Committee for providing snacks and lunch! We are deeply grateful for your support.

During our retreat time we worked with Kathy Cueva and Bob Bowen on modalities of health and wellness. We practiced taking care of ourselves, so that we can love and support our church family. After lunch, we reviewed the 2018-2019 calendar and went through every month. We brainstormed meetings, classes, concerts and events. We have more things we want to do than will fit on the calendar. We are excited but can't do anything without you.

During 2018 our church affirmed a Ministry Action Plan which defines the passions of our church and looks for ways and events to do the work God has called us to. Justice, Faith and Hospitality are the trio of foci that our congregation has named in different ways. Of course these three issues are very broad in scope and some folks are concerned with one and not the others. The truth is that you don't need to be concerned with all of them. I do hope there is something in the mix where you see yourself though. I hope you feel inspired by God to work in one or two areas of ministry and service.

Did you noticed that we changed the name of the Education committee to the Discipleship and Education team? That's because education is general study, but discipleship is what Christians do to learn about Jesus. Everyone studies and gets educated, but Christians learning to follow Jesus is what disciples do. We are also trying to bring our leadership roster and budget into alignment with our Ministry Action Plan. This will take a little while to work out, and take many eyes and conversations to get it done. As we look to develop our budget for 2019, our finance committee believes our goals for ministry should drive the work.

There is a lot going on and our staff is so excited to look into the future. I hope you are excited too!

Don't forget to get your flu shot and get plenty of rest! We are an excited community of faith on the move...

Pastor Leigh Ann

Annual Charge Conference

Annual Charge Conference is Sunday, Nov. 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Remember, reports due by Nov. 5. Questions? Please call Paula at 760.726.0442.

Finance/Stewardship Update

Thank you for your generosity towards our Church Ministry Action Plan by supporting the 2019 budget through your pledges and support on Stewardship Sunday, October 28. God's spirit is clearly at work here at UMC Vista! Currently we do not have the total amount of dollars pledged toward the 2019 budget for the November Flame deadline, we will share that information with you as soon as it is available. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PLEDGES!** If you have not taken the opportunity to turn in your pledge or estimate of giving for 2019, please prayerfully consider doing so by placing your estimate or pledge card in the offering plate or returning it to the Church office. We are making an impact in our community and the world by spreading the love of Jesus Christ to all people. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rollin Grider.

-Rollin Grider, Finance/Stewardship Chair

X-tra Mile Ministry Giving for November

Our X-tra Mile Ministry Giving for November will benefit Caring and Sharing program. Through this program families in need are able to celebrate Christmas with family gift cards and presents for the children. Please pick up a list of items in the Narthex.

Communion Sunday, November 4

Communion offering for Sunday, November 4 will go to support our annual Christmas Caring and Sharing Program which provides us the opportunity to share in the joy of Christmas giving with families who are struggling. Through Caring and Sharing we are able to give gifts to children including one article of clothing, a pair of shoes or a jacket, and a special wish gift (usually a toy). Our Church and Society Committee works closely with North County Lifeline in North County to select Vista families in need.

-World Missions Committee

Family Game Night, November 9

Family Game night will be on November 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. For questions or for more information, please see Suzanne McMurchie.

Discipleship Ministry (Beckie Henselmeier)

Upcoming Seasonal Studies, "The Wonder of Christmas"

Join us for the "The Wonder of Christmas" study on Sundays at 10 a.m. or Mondays at 6:00 p.m. or Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel from November 25 thru December 18.

This four-week, all-church study centers on looking to the Christmas story and the stories of real people today to find inspiration and ideas for reflecting the light of Jesus at Christmas time and throughout the entire year. Chapters include: The Wonder of a Name, The Wonder of a Star, The Wonder of a Manger, and The Wonder of a Promise. Sign up today at umcvista.org/pathways.

Save the date: Student Family Christmas Movie on Saturday, Dec. 15, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Alternative Christmas, November 11

Alternative Christmas gives you an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for people on your list who "have everything" or for you to make a donation in another person's name, to a charity of your choice. This year we have 10 worthy projects for you to select from. They are: International Child Care, Caring and Sharing, Operation Hope-Vista, and Two Fishes, Guatemala Project, Heifer Project, Sierra Service Project, Neighborhood House of Calexico, UMCOR and Canine Companions for Independence.

The process is simple: pick up an order form and look around at the booths. Each booth will have a representative to answer your questions. After you have decided which cause to support, fill out an order form, get a greeting card and info on the project to give your recipient, then pay the cashier. Please make checks out to UMC Vista and our church will send the money to the appropriate places.

Remember, Alternative Christmas will take place on Sunday, November 11 in the Narthex and on the upper lawn from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

-Brenda Walker

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Next deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018
Comments or suggestions, please let us know.

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

All Church Parking Lot Sale,

Nov. 10, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Move your Spring cleaning to Fall! We are holding a Parking Lot Sale in support of our 2018 Budget on Saturday, November 10. Set aside items that we might be able to offer at the sale, and bring them to church the week of November 5-9. Pickup is available. Volunteers are needed to help sort and price items, and to assist on the day of the sale. For more information, or to volunteer please contact Pastor Frank, 760.760.0442.

Centering Prayer

"O, Lord, You are beautiful. Your face is all I seek. For when your eyes are on this child, Your grace abounds to me. Amen."

This is the joy of Centering Prayer. Sharing the grace and love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ with our small group of friends. Join us on Mondays from 9:30 to 10:45 am in the chapel. Twenty minutes resting in prayer with Christ's Holy Spirit. Exciting book discussion afterwards. For more information, please call Martha Treutle, 760.809.2520 or Jan Simpson, 760.803.0908. God sends His love always and forever to you. Come join us and experience His gentle presence.

-Martha Treutle

Reconciling Ministries

The Reconciling Ministries Community invites you...

- Monday, Nov. 5 at San Marcos Regal Theater to see movie, Boy Erased, at 11:45 a.m. It tells the story of a Baptist preacher and his wife whose son undergoes conversion therapy.
- Tuesday, Nov. 13 for a day at Balboa Park to visit the San Diego History Center to see the history of the LGBT community in San Diego County. Meet at the church parking lot at 9 a.m. to carpool. Please see Lyn Berry for more information.

Heartfelt Thanks

Thank you for your gift of \$774 to support International Relief Teams.

This month we are helping the victims of Hurricane Michael, the most destructive storm to hit our nation in decades. We have already delivered more than 11,500 ready to eat meals and 3,500 disaster health kits to evacuation centers.

Your continued support enables us to meet these needs. Thank you for your kindness and compassion.

Barry LaForgia, Executive Director
International Relief Teams

(See letter on Missions' bulletin board in Narthex.)

ADULTS GROWING IN FAITH

A Report from Church Consultant Mary Scifres

Did you know that many UMC Vista adults are already growing in faith as travelers on our church's new adult discipleship pathway? These new offerings are all part of the Ministry Action Plan (MAP) you approved last spring at our specially called Charge Conference. We look forward to sharing more details about the MAP progress when we gather for our Annual Charge Conference this month. But for now, we thought you'd like to know about the enriching education opportunities for adults this fall.

More than a dozen people are participating in our new "Fast Track" Disciple Bible Study, and another eight are attending Sunday morning adult study. Almost 50 people attended our amazing first Sunday Supper last month to learn more about the Dead Sea Scrolls with Rev. Arrowsmith. Last weekend, 25 women were part of our women's retreat.

All of this great growth is just the start. We have another Sunday Supper coming up in January with Rev. Greg LaDue to discuss "Faith and Psychology," open to any and all who want to learn more for this one-evening opportunity.

Interested in a study series without making a huge commitment? Want your December to actually help you prepare to celebrate the spiritual gift of Christmas? Then you'll want to join us for the Advent series "Wonder," which starts in December. Details coming soon.

A big thank you to Beckie Henselmeier, our Director of Family Ministries, Margene Haase and her education ministries team, and our wonderful pastors Leigh Ann Shaw and Frank Hallock, who lead much of the adult teaching alongside Beckie and her team.

Annual Christmas Concert, Sunday, Dec. 9

The Music Ministry of UMC Vista will present its annual Christmas season concert on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This year's concert is entitled "All Is Well", and will feature the Chancel Choir, the Anderson Handbell Choir, and Chamber Orchestra, as well as organist Adam Ferrara, and beloved musicians Jimmy Patton and Enrique Platas. Enhance your concert pleasure by planning to come early to hear Rev. Hallock's pre-concert conversation about the music you are going to hear. The lecture will begin about 3:15 p.m. before the concert. Light refreshments will be available at that time.

Plan to come and bring family and friends as the music of the season prepares us for the arrival of Christmas in music and song. There is no charge for admission; however, a free-will donation will be taken to help support the Music Ministry. Come and celebrate the season with us!

Happy “November” Birthdays

Colleen Guffey (3)
Hector Hernandez (3)
Pam Montoya (3)
Grace Wheeler (5)
Stacy Hansen (6)
Louise Clarke (8)
Kevin Midlam (8)
Janet Ahrens (9)
Leonidas Clarke (9)
Nancy Montgomery (10)
Josh Clarke (12)
Miriam Tivar (12)
Jane Arrowsmith (13)
Barbara Baldridge (13)
Norman Corwin (13)
Beverly Duncan (13)
Tim Frazier (13)
Susan Lenker (13)
Charlotte Chappell (14)
Teresa Flanagan (16)
Thelma Koda (16)
Cynthia Midlam (16)
Emma Hernandez-Jackson (17)
Martha Phillips (17)
Carol Elsasser (19)
Louise Foss (19)
Kathy Johnson (19)
Bryant Wheatley (22)
Al Amaro (23)
Suzanne McMurchie (25)
Abbie Bowlin (26)

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

Volunteer Opportunities

- An urgent need for volunteers to usher at the 11 a.m. service. We have lost seven ushers since the beginning of the year. Please call Sara Baldwin, 760.724.1859 for more information.
- Volunteers needed for “and Two Fishes” Thursday soup kitchen! Two shifts available. The 2:00–3:30 p.m. shift is preparing the food and setting up. Second shift, 4:30–6:00 p.m., helps serve the meal and clean up. Please call Margo at 760.917.5370 for more information.

Did you know

- There are more manna kits available? See Barbara Mitchell for more information.

Directory Additions and Corrections

Please add this list to your directory.

CATLING, Paula
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*Steve: (408) 890-1362
stephen - preston@hotmail.com

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Gerda25h@gmail.com

RISER, Sandy
3630 Vista Campana S. #41
Oceanside, CA 92057
(520) 360-2081
sriser520@yahoo.com

Corrections:

CLARKE, Heather & Tim
City: Oceanside, CA 92056 (not Vista)

HANSEN, Emily & Scott
Phone number: (760) 453-6585 (cell for Emily); delete home number, (760) 729-6534.

United Methodist Women's Corner

- UMW Circles meet November 6: **Ruth Circle** will meet at the home of Dakota and Heidi at 3766 Hillview Drive in Oceanside at 9:30 a.m. **Kenworthy Circle** will meet in the chapel at 2:00 p.m.
- The UMW leadership meeting is November 20 at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The November/December Upper Room meditation books (\$1 for large size, \$.50 for small) are available in the Narthex.

Pray together for...

Skip Harvey, Jan Simpson, Ron Bradshaw (hospice), Marvin Philippi, Bill Rockwell, Jim Pence, Dan Gubaton, Ethel Arrowsmith (hospice), Tom Johnston, Ko Kim, Carol Yunt, Barbara Baldrige, Marilyn Mathias, June Miklau, Lenore Averell, JaDene Dugas, Louise Foster, Bill Peaker, Sue Downey/Bob Baker, Jane Fischer, Harold MacDermot, Joan Lindegren, Joan Brainerd, Nancy Koski

Stay connected

E-mail: umcvista@umcvista.org

Website: www.umcvista.org

Facebook: United Methodist Church of Vista

Be sure to check us out on Yelp!

Fellowship Meal update...

Thanks for your participation! We've received \$100 from the Mr. Taco fundraiser (from May - August). Thank you to those who come and fellowship with each other and support our church at the same time.

-Tom Humphrey

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