



*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**

Worship is not something we instinctively know how to do, but something we must learn every generation. While all generations have differences of experience and perspective, there is continuity in what we crave. We all crave love, acceptance and belonging. Worship provides a space to learn that we are loved, accepted and that we belong to the maker of the universe.

Richard Foster wrote, "Worship is our response to the overtures of love from the heart of the Father. It is kindled within us only when the Spirit of God touches our human spirit." Many people believe that God is love. Worship is the place where we interact with our loving God, along with other people who are doing the same. Together we ask questions and wonder what it all means.

Worship is not a show we subscribe to on YouTube or turn on through Netflix. Although there is faith-based programming that we can learn about faith from, there is no substitute for participatory faith. In fact, Jesus became human, to come to our world, to show us in person what it means to live a life faithfully. He traveled around his region offering lessons, and health care and prescribing community collaboration. Jesus didn't phone in a relationship with us or video tape a message for us, but came to us and offered us a chance to interact with him.

Worship is a gathering of people, looking in the same direction, to give thanks to God and grow in understanding. When you come on Sunday morning, in order to get the most out of your worship time, it is valuable to get your heart in the right place. The Jewish people believe Sabbath begins at sundown the evening before. Consider a special prayer Saturday evening asking God to open your heart, and set aside your troubles from the week before. Come on Sunday morning with a fresh spirit, free from distraction (as often as you can).

Arrive at church in time to get the seat you are comfortable in, and say hello to the people you call "friend." Look for new people or visitors, people who look confused or alone and offer a greeting or to show them where the bathrooms or other places on campus are. Intentionally quiet your spirit and remember the sanctuary is more than a big room, it is a sacred space where we look to see God. The sanctuary is meant to be a holy place. It is a place consecrated for the purpose of meeting and celebrating faith and God. Consider the volume of your voice, the conversations you carry on, how you engage or distract others from centering themselves on God and worship.

Worship is NOT something someone else can do for us, but something we must choose for ourselves. But we don't worship alone and so we have to trust one another to help us worship in a holy and reverent way. And being holy and reverent doesn't mean we can't have fun, but it does mean we have a common goal. Our goal is to meet God and be filled up for the week ahead, giving thanks for all that we have that comes from grace.

Thanks be to God!

Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw

## Finance Focus

The Committee on Finance/Stewardship continues to be thankful for your generous support of our Church ministries' efforts in our local Church, the community and around the world. Easter saw generous extra giving in a variety of areas of our budget. The total giving for the first quarter of 2019 is over \$111,186 towards our 2019 ministry budget of \$486,596. As we have completed the first quarter of the year, each of you who have given, offering envelopes or on-line, have hopefully received your quarterly giving statement in the mail.

If you have not made a financial commitment to the ministries of our church, we invite you to prayerfully consider the blessings of this congregation to your family in faith. 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" to register or log in. Again, thank you for your generous financial support of the ministries of our Church.

-Rollin Grider, Finance/Stewardship Chair,  
Co-Lay Leader

## Lay Servant Ministries

The United Methodist Church has a variety of ways that laity of the church can serve the local church and beyond. Lay Servant Ministries is training for lay persons in the church who believe they are called for advanced training. Lay Servants, Lay Speakers and Certified Lay Ministers are all a part of this ministry series. In our congregation Bill Rockwell, Barbara Mitchell and Beth Hallock have taken classes to be Lay Speakers and have continued their certification annually with the District. They have all completed courses on public speaking in churches and are eligible to share the Word on Sunday morning or for any event of witness.

Dakota Koenig completed the courses, took an extensive psychology review, and was approved by our District Superintendent and District Committee of Ministry (DCOM) to be certified as a Lay Minister in 2017. As a Certified Lay Minister Dakota Koenig is eligible to be appointed to a local church as a lay pastor by the DS if the cabinet deemed the need. Every year each of these persons has to be approved for continuation by our congregation at charge conference. Laity must keep up certification through continuing education classes and, in addition, Ms. Koenig must be recertified by DCOM every two years. The commitment to ministry and God's call by each of these persons is to be celebrated as they offer advanced leadership to our congregation. For more information on Lay Servant Ministries or Lay Ministry certification check out [www.umcdiscipleship.org](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org) or call our district office.

## Family Game, May 10

The next game night is Friday, May 10, 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. For questions or for more information, please see Suzanne McMurchie.

## Discipleship/Education (Beckie Henselmeier)

- **Early Bird Registration starts now for Camp ROAR!** Early Bird cost is \$30 per student by June 16. Camp Roar is Monday, July 22 thru Friday, July 26. Daily from 9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Cost: \$35 per student until July 14 or "bring a friend" and both get to attend for \$40. (Registrations must be turned in together.) After-Care: Available by pre-registration only. Care from 12:00 until 5:30 p.m. (or until needed) for \$15 per day per student. Register today at [umcvista.org/family](http://umcvista.org/family).

**Academic Scholarships** - The UMC Vista Foundation is offering 2019 academic scholarships to active members or family members of active UMC Vista members. Application packets, completed by the student, are due to the Foundation mailbox by May 31. Students may be called in for an interview. Applications and more information can be found on [www.umcvista.org](http://www.umcvista.org). For questions, ask any Foundation board member or call Gary Lamb, Foundation President, 760.598.1915.

## Centering Prayer

*Paul wrote, "I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance." Ephesians 1:18.* To know more about Centering Prayer, please join us every Monday morning in the Chapel, from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Please call Martha Treutle, 760.809.2520, for further information.

## Missionary Paul Jeffrey here, May 12

Want to avoid the crowded restaurants on Mothers' Day? Solution – have dinner with Paul Jeffrey. Paul Jeffrey, photo journalist and UMC missionary will present a program at our church on May 12, at 5 p.m. This is his last visit as one of our covenant missionaries as he is retiring after 35 years of work focusing on how communities around the world struggle for justice and peace. His articles and photos have appeared in numerous ecumenical magazines as well as other publications such as The Wall Street Journal and Time. Since this is a special day honoring mothers, the presentation will be accompanied by a special dinner featuring mouth-watering roast beef.

Flame Editor  
Barbara Mitchell  
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Paula Amaro  
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Next deadline is Wednesday, May 15, 2019  
Comments or suggestions, please let us know.

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

## **Communion Sunday, May 5**

Communion offering for May 5th will go to Mobility Worldwide (formerly known as P.E.T.). A Mobility Cart can dramatically change the life of a person. Help give new independence to another life by giving to May's communion offering. Thank you for your continued support. Call Sue Humphrey, World Missions Committee, at 760.726.0442 for more information. -World Missions Committee

## **X-tra Mile Ministry Giving for May**

Our X-tra Mile Ministry Giving for May will benefit the Guatemala Project. The Guatemala Government provides teachers at local schools. The Guatemala Project Student Scholarship fund is used for students (K - University) who are unable to attend school because their families cannot afford to pay the fees. Along with those fees, families must provide all school supplies, such as pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, backpacks, etc.

You can help by donating school supplies for these students. There is also great need for gently used clothes or shoes. These items will be sent with the Mission team leaving in July. Your help is greatly appreciated.

-Sherri Johnston, Church & Society

## **Sunday Supper, May 18, 4 p.m.**

The theme for Sunday Supper is "Spiritual Conversation" presented by Beckie Henselmeier on Sunday, May 18 at 4 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Dinner is \$7 per person.

As spiritual beings, our conversations about God and our relationship with the Divine outline how we understand ourselves and the world. Serving as a Chaplain, Beckie was able to facilitate ritual around the end of life, discern with individuals God's place in their lives and God's love for them, and walk alongside them in the difficult questions of life. "Spiritual Conversations" will be a discussion on what Beckie learned in Chaplaincy and the value of these lessons in our lives as people of faith.

Beckie has served as a Chaplain for two extended units of CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education). In 2013, she served as a Chaplain Intern at Sharp Memorial Hospital, working in critical care, trauma, end-of-life, and pastoral care. In 2018, Beckie served her second unit as a Chaplain with Sharp's Home Health team, visiting patients in their residence.

Beckie is a Candidate for Ministry in the United Methodist Church and has her Master's of Divinity from Iliff School of Theology. Beckie has served at Vista UMC since 2015 and is our Director of Family Ministries. She is called to ministry and is interested in meeting people for whom traditional church does not make sense, reminding them that they are beloved children of God and have divine worth.

## **Did you know...**

There are more Manna Kits available for you to take? See Barbara Mitchell for more information.

## **Update on April 13**

It was a VERY busy Saturday at the church on April 13th! In addition to the Trustees holding a special work day to prepare the campus for Easter, the Building Committee hosted a conversation about our future building plans and the Education/Discipleship team offered a wonderful evangelism outreach event for the community with an egg hunt, great games, crafts and a cake walk! The whole day was exhausting and lots of fun! Special thanks to ALL who made each of these events happen!

## **Building Committee update...**

The work of the Building Committee continues. There will be special small group meetings for any interested to give input into various areas of the planned building construction. The goal is to put together the most clear and tailored plans to foster the ministry vision of this congregation. Once we have completed construction documents based on your vision for ministry, these, along with a financial plan, will be presented at a specially called charge conference. The Building Committee hopes to have the construction documents completed by the end of July. Please continue to give your input to any member of the Building Committee as we move forward. It is essential that all members of the congregation stay up-to-date on this work so that together we can make the best possible decision for the future of our church.

Your Building Committee members are Rob Pierce, Margo Rogers, Martha Phillips, Mike Walker, Susan Kronoff, Jacque Howard, Rollin Grider, Tim Clarke, Suzanne McMurchie, Billy Stempson and Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw.

## **UMCOR is in Tijuana**

UMCOR has started a daily feeding program for migrants of three meals a day for 300 people for six months. Volunteers are needed to help serve and clean-up after each meal. Food and cooks are provided by UMCOR. Arrangements have been made for sleeping accommodations in Tijuana. It is suggested that folks volunteer for one or two days per visit. If you are interested in more information contact Tom Pilkington at [tompilkington@gmail.com](mailto:tompilkington@gmail.com).

## **SSP parking lot sale fundraiser, May 11**

Please help support our Sierra Service Project (SSP) youth mission trip to Oregon in August. They will be holding a parking lot sale on the upper parking lot on Saturday, May 11 from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can drop off your donations on Friday, May 10 at 4 p.m. Volunteers needed to help. If you can volunteer or have any questions, please contact Taylor Lyons (SSP youth) or Scott and Tracy Lyons, 760.696.1185.



## Happy “May” Birthdays

Rosalynn Kim (1)  
Tim Arrowsmith (3)  
Paula Catling (5)  
Betty Wayne (5)  
Joann Balardeta (7)  
Kevin Guffey (9)  
Gary Felien (14)  
Laura Biggs (16)  
Michael Burns (16)  
Sean Casey (17)  
Kailey Clarke (17)  
Alan Feder (18)  
John Giard (20)  
Adam Way (23)  
Ethel Arrowsmith (23)  
Paula Amaro (24)  
Lorraine Bradshaw (24)  
Linda Boyd (24)  
Jung Kim (24)  
Jake Bowlin (25)  
Vic Johnston (26)  
Ben Selinger (26)  
Annelise Gerwig (27)  
Traci Wheeler (27)  
Nancy Feder (28)  
Nick May (28)  
Timothy McGinn (28)  
Amber Schneider (28)  
Elton Nixon (29)  
Caedmon Bowlin (31)  
Pamela Fantin (31)  
Elese Newman (31)

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

## Volunteer Opportunities

- **Office volunteers needed!** Office volunteers needed! Duties include answering the phone, greeting guests and light office work. Mondays from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information or questions, please call Paula, 760.726.0442.
- An urgent need for **volunteers to usher at the 11 a.m.** service. Please call Sara Baldwin, 760.724.1859 for more information.
- **“and Two Fishes”** would appreciate donations of “gently” used clothing for our homeless population. A container in the Narthex is provided for collection. Also, **volunteers are needed for the 2 p.m. shift on Thursdays.** For more information, see Loretta Pierce.
- **Sound and Video techs needed.** Contact the church office for more information.

## Did you know...

- The Hansen family spent April 13 in Tijuana working on a home with International Relief Team?

## Heartfelt Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, phone calls, and prayers, that I received from this great church.

Michael Walker

Thank you to all the wonderful cooks who provided fare for our Easter Breakfast—it was all very delicious. Many thanks to our hardworking Hospitality folk, particularly Pam Fantin and her friend, Michael Trebbian, who spent from Sunrise service through cleanup making sure everything went well. Continued thanks to Ruth Rockwell. A very special thanks go to Tracy and Scott Lyons and Kevin Guffey who were also there to help with setup, keep things moving smoothly and also cleanup. Thanks also to SSP Youth and parents who helped with all the activities and cleanup. Thanks to Evangelism for being willing to spend funds. Thanks to Pastor Leigh Ann for finding funds for the new gazebo-like tent. It takes a village and you are all appreciated more than you know. Blessings and thanks to all. Christ has risen indeed!

Beth Brainerd Hallock and Barbara Mitchell

## Welcome to New Members!

Cindy Anske grew up in the South Bay area of Los Angeles, raised as a Methodist. She has participated in many activities in her past churches including Chancel Choir, Performing Arts Ministry, Worship, Missions and Finance Committees and Administrative Board. Cindy, a manager in Development Operations for Ionis Pharmaceuticals enjoys dancing, gardening, golf, music, reading, classic movies and wants to learn Bridge!

John Giard, a native San Diegan, used to be a Presbyterian; and was active in his churches including First UMC La Mesa. Meeting Melissa through work, they have known each other 14 years and have been married for 10 of those. Together they have four children ranging from 24 to 17 years. John is a Claims Supervisor for Geico. He enjoys many sports and outdoor activities, music, making things, travel and reading.

Melissa Giard is also a native San Diegan and is an Insurance Compliance Manager. She loves football, gardening, singing, the beach, sewing, music, stycations and cake decorating.

Joe Marquez grew up in Ventura, California. Joe was an altar boy in the Catholic Church, and as a Protestant drove the church bus! Joe has had a lot of experience with caregiving. He has two children, Frances and Emma (both adopted) and also has six grandchildren! Joe, now retired, enjoys golf as his number one interest, computers, dancing, gardening, sports and travel. Oh! And he now has a new significant other in our own Karen Canfield.

Ben Selinger, the youngest of our new members, is single. He has attended several churches in the past volunteering for missions activities. Ben is a produce clerk for Vons in Vista. He enjoys working out, hiking, making beaded bracelets, concerts and movies, going on tours and reading.

Julie Tambur was born and raised in Texas. Her father is a retired minister in a First Christian Church. In the past Julie has taught Sunday School and has already volunteered in our Sunday School program. Julie, who is a Kindergarten teacher with VUSD has two children, Lindsay (20) and Kaitlyn (16). She loves to watch college sports; is not excited about outdoor activities, but enjoys crocheting, diamond painting, games and movies. She travels to Colorado each summer and enjoys reading.

We welcome all our new members. Please take time to get to know these folks.

## United Methodist Women's Corner

- **UMW Circles meet Tuesday, May 7: Ruth Circle** will meet at The Broken Yolk Cafe (101 S. Las Posas Road in San Marcos) at 9:30 a.m. **Kenworthy Circle** will meet at the church at 2:00 p.m.
- **Organization Meeting is on May 14.** The Tremble Clefs Choir (persons living with Parkinson's disease) will perform and be guests at the salad potluck lunch.
- The **UMW leadership meeting** is May 21 at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

### UMW invites you to a concert, May 14, 11 a.m.

Everyone in the church is invited to attend a concert put on by "The Tremble Clefs", a therapeutic singing group for people with Parkinson's Disease and their partners. The performance is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14 at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The awe-inspiring group of singers will amaze you! Following the concert, UMW is sponsoring a potluck salad luncheon so we can get better acquainted with them. Come just for the concert or bring a salad and join us for lunch.

### Pray together for...

Jake Bowlin, Karen Canfield, Donna Richard, Mike Walker, Marlene Coast, Lyn Berry, Donna & James Hill, JaDene Dugas, Thelma Koda, Don Mackay, Skip Harvey, Jan Simpson, Larry Veysada, Dan Gubaton, Ethel Arrowsmith (hospice), Tom Johnston, Ko Kim, Carol Yunt, Barbara Baldrige, Marilyn Mathias, Louise Foster, Bill Peaker, Jane Fischer, Harold MacDermot, Joan Lindegren, Joan Brainerd, Nancy Koski

### 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!

### Moonlight Amphitheatre Summer 2019

Please call Tom Humphrey, 760.727.2313 or email him at [trhumphrey7@cox.net](mailto:trhumphrey7@cox.net) if you are interested in purchasing tickets (\$45 each) for the following:

"The Producers", June 21, 8:00 p.m.

"Matilda", July 26, 8:00 p.m.

"West Side Story", August 23, 8:00 p.m.

"Victor Victoria", Sept. 20, 7:30 p.m.