



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

What is the bold "new beginning" to which we/you are called? What are we/you in the "middle of" creating? What do you see as our next adventure in ministry?

Graham Greene says, "A story has no beginning or end: arbitrarily one chooses that moment of experience from which to look back or from which to look ahead."

As I think of the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus, we treat his story as a beginning of a new life, but also the ending of the old broken world. In this regard, Jesus is both a new beginning and an ending. There is never a time when we aren't living a new thing, an old thing, and a thing where we are squarely in the middle. It is exciting, but also a good reminder.

Our faith is always about stirring up something new and handing things off to someone else and giving thanks for what brought us to this place. We are coming up to the end of the year and I'm thinking a lot about endings and beginnings and what God is calling this church to next. Thank you if you have made a commitment to invest in the ministry of this church for 2020 by turning in a pledge card! We are currently striving to make our ministry plan for 2020 and use the pledge estimates to evaluate how much and what we are able to do. It takes a lot of work and I'm grateful to Rollin Grider, Joann Balardeta and Bonnie Berumen, the finance committee, and the church council for doing a lot of work to assess your investment in this ministry we do together. The current budget estimate for 2020 is about \$550,000. Once the pledges and estimates of giving all come in, we will begin the work of reconciling our call with our giving. It is always exciting to begin a new ministry year and get excited about the new ways God is moving us deeper in faith and deeper in service. But this isn't the only thing we are doing!

Concurrently with making our ministry plans for 2020, we are working on plans to finish our ministry site which was started in the 1990's. Rev. Lanny Arrowsmith emailed me a picture and article about that ground-breaking ceremony for the first phase of our building. Bishop Sano, (then) Councilwoman Judy Ritter, (then) Mayor Gloria McClellan, AnnaBelle Baker, Tommy Thomson, Ranae Mathias, Bill Rockwell and a few others were all in that amazing picture. (You should ask Lanny to see it too.) It is awesome! That was both a beginning, as they dreamed this building, and an ending of the congregation's wandering. But everyone has told me that without a kitchen and fellowship hall, this ministry location isn't finished. It's been a long road and I know God will move this forward to completion if it is the right time and we are truly being faithful to God's call.

And still more ministry that is happening at Vista... We are continuing to work on the Outreach Grant Program! The Cable Foundation has allocated about 3.2% of the fund to our Outreach Program for 2020. This represents \$282,000.00 to fund mission and ministry in our church and the world. There were six grant requests for international work! There were several local programs that work on sex trafficking and with abused and recovering persons. We had several first time grant requests and were able to learn about new programs! I'm excited by this work! And beyond this outreach giving, this congregation offers still more funds to other programs like UMCOR, Vista Teen Outreach, Casa de Amparo and so many more during the year with special opportunities. Through your time and finances you are supporting this church and more!

There are many places to get involved in this congregation and in our community. There are new beginnings and on-going ministry and even a few endings happening all over the place. This is the sign of a healthy church that is growing into the future! God bless you for the time we live in. (Don't forget to get your flu shot and take care of yourself!)

Grace and peace,

Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw

Stewardship Sunday for our 2020 MINISTRY VISION

Thank you to all who made a commitment to invest in our ministry for 2020. Seventy-five (75) people or families returned a pledge card the week of October 27th totaling \$173,270.00. Our projected ministry budget for 2020 is \$545,678.83. The giving toward the ministry budget is based on your pledges and regular giving, as well as projected special offerings, and special fund raising. During our stewardship campaign for 2019 we received 110 pledges by mid-January when we finalized our ministry budget.

Help us close the gap with your support! I hope you feel encouraged by our faithful efforts, study and worship! Please consider making a pledge to your church for 2020. Every gift helps! Thank YOU!

All Church Parking Lot Sale, Nov. 16, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Move your Spring cleaning to Fall! We are holding a Parking Lot Sale in support of our 2019 Budget on Saturday, November 16. Set aside items that we might be able to offer at the sale, and bring them to church the week of November 11. 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 Scott Lyons or Rollin Grider, 760.760.0442.

Christmas Concert, “Angelic Hosts Proclaim” is announced

The Music Ministry invites you to attend our annual Christmas season concert “Angelic Hosts Proclaim” on Sunday, December 8 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This seasonal concert for Advent and Christmas presents our Chancel Choir, Anderson Handbell Choir, the Chamber Orchestra and soloists. The concert will feature music from emerging composers, such as Kim Andre Arnesen and Ola Gjelo, as well as well-known modernists Dan Forrest, Joel Raney and Frank Hallock. One of the highlights of our Christmas concerts is inviting the audience to sing with the choir and orchestra in arrangements of carols. In keeping with the “Angelic Hosts Proclaim” theme, we will join together singing arrangements of “The First Noel” and “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”. Plan now to come and join us for an afternoon of beautiful and uplifting music as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christmas. A free-will offering will be taken during the concert presentation, a \$10 donation is suggested.

Annual Charge Conference

Annual Charge Conference is Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Remember, reports due by Nov. 5. Questions? Please call Paula at 760.726.0442.

Alternative Christmas, November 10

Alternative Christmas is just around the corner. 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 nine worthy projects for you from which to select. They are: International Child Care, Caring and Sharing, Operation Hope-North County, and Two Fishes, Guatemala Project, Heifer Project, Neighborhood House of Calexico, UMCOR, and SSP.

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, Nov. 10 in the Narthex and outdoors from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Inter-generational Advent, Nov. 30 (also known as Hanging of the Greens)

Join us on Saturday, Nov. 30 when the Discipleship/Education Committee will be hosting a continental breakfast from 9:00 to 10 a.m. Supplies will be available for individuals/families to create an Advent craft to take home. After breakfast we will be decorating for the holiday season downstairs and also in the sanctuary/narthex and chapel.

Please RSVP to Margene Haase (email: m.haase46@icloud.com) so that we have plenty of supplies.

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

Next deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019
Comments or suggestions, please let us know.

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

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 3

Communion offering for Sunday, November 3 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

From the Staff Parish Relations Committee

We welcome Rob Pierce to the role of Video Technology Coordinator at UMC of Vista. Rob will be working on the weekly video production for our worship. He will also be coordinating volunteers to offer Sunday leadership. Rob has a strong United Methodist background, comes with a master of divinity degree and much experience in worship. Rob is passionate about music and worship. Please say "hi" when you see him and find out how you can get involved with our congregational communications and technology.

Discipleship/Education Committee thanks you

The Discipleship/Education Committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make Trunk or Treat a success. It was wonderful to see so many families from the community come and have a very enjoyable evening. Thank you for your generous offering of food for Vista Teen Outreach. They are so very grateful for the way you continue to support them.

-Margene Haase, Chair,
Discipleship/Educ. Committee

Family Game Night, November 8

Family Game Night is November 8 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome. Bring a snack to share and join us! For questions or for more information, please see Margene or John Haase.

Update on the Outreach Grant Process

November 9, the Church Council will meet to determine the funding levels for each of the requests. On November 17, the Charge Conference will review and move the funding forward if approved. Any questions, please see or call Beth Brainerd Hallock, 760.726.0442.

Meet Our Newest Members

Kathe Enright, born in Oklahoma, is transferring her membership. She first met Pastor Frank at Shephard of the Hills in Mission Viejo! She has already gotten involved in Bell Choir. Kathe has been married to Glenn for 38 years and they have four children and two grandchildren. Kathe enjoys watching sports, needlework and playing the piano. Kathe, not yet retired, is a paralegal consulting with several lawyers.

Paul and Barbara Lange have been married for 50 years and over that time attended several different churches. They met in a singles bar and have two sons and four grandchildren. Barbara was born in Massachusetts and Paul in Connecticut. Barbara is a retired social worker and Paul was in shipping. They enjoy pickleball, hiking, gardening, game nights, concerts, travel, and reading. Paul plays guitar and harmonica, and likes computer work and music.

Kenn Bing, Tim Smith and their daughter, Destiny are transplants from Michigan by way of Maryland! Tim and Kenn have been married 22 years. Kenn is a Professional Organizer and served in the US Marine Corp four years, and with the Michigan Air National Guard three years. Tim is a Physical Therapist. He became part of our first service Praise Disciples before the family was totally relocated! Both Kenn and Tim have been involved in a variety of activities, but together the family enjoys music. Destiny at 18, is a recent high school graduate, and is attending Mesa College working in Business. She was in softball and enjoys competitive cheer, walking and movies.

Steven Youell, a native Californian, was born in Martinez, CA. He comes from a Catholic background. Steven is currently working as an Auditor. He enjoys camping, hiking, reading, computers and writing. He also enjoys volunteering.

Again, welcome to all our newest members to this church family of God. You are a blessing to us all!

Happy “November” Birthdays

Alice Leclair (1)
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)
Kathe Enright (11)
Josh Clarke (12)
Miriam Tivar (12)
Jane Arrowsmith (13)
Barbara Baldrige (13)
Norman Corwin (13)
Beverly Duncan (13)
Tim Frazier (13)
Susan Lenker (13)
Charlotte Chappel (14)
Teresa Flanagan (16)
Thelma Koda (16)
Cynthia Midlam (16)
Emma Hernandez-Jackson (17)
Martha Phillips (17)
Louise Foss (19)
Kathy Johnson (19)
Beth Schmeiser (21)
Kenn Bing (22)
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.

Centering Prayer

“Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yolk upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you will find rest for your souls. For my yolk is easy and my burden is light. “ (Matthew 11:28-30) Would you like to learn how to give all your burdens and concerns to the Lord? Join us for Centering Prayer every Monday at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Call Martha Treutle with any questions about this life-changing ministry, 760.726.0442.

Hearfelt Thanks...

Thank you to all those who continue to pitch in and help so many times. You are a blessing to this church. Many thanks to the Guffeys, the Lyons, the Pences who helped with the UMW Bake Sale AND Pride event. We appreciate your trucks and your muscles! Special thanks to Katie and Keira Pierce, Tim Clarke for their help with the bake sale. Many thanks to those ladies who brought in baked goods whether or not they were UMW. UMW raised over \$600 from this event which will go to Missions. Many thanks to all of you that purchased what we had left over from Saturday (which wasn't much), but you, too, are awesome. Thanks to the crew that helped with the New Members' Lunch—Pamela Fantin (who will be leaving us for her new home in Idaho), Ruth Rockwell, Margo Rogers, Suzanne McMurchie, Joann Balardeta and for all those who took time to join us in welcoming our newest members. This is a wonderful church family, and like most families, we are here for each other..and I, for one, give praise and thanks for that. Thank you all again...blessings.

Barb Mitchell

I want to thank everyone for the prayers and cards I received during my recovery from a recent fall. I feel so blessed to be part of a church family that is so caring and supportive. God blesses us everyday!

Jacque Howard

What is Scrip?

Currently, SCRIP is the term used in the nonprofit world that refers to GIFT CARDS and GIFT CERTIFICATES issued by major merchants such as ARCO, Stater Brothers, Albertsons, Home Depot, Walmart, Lowes, Sprouts, Chevron, Target and Souplantation. (These happen to be some of our top sellers.)

The very same gift cards and gift certificates issued and accepted at merchant establishments are the same gift cards and gift certificates used in the Scrip Program here at our church at the SCRIP TABLE every Sunday. Scrip is issued by the merchants themselves, and can be, depending on the merchants, paper gift certificates or plastic gift cards. Also, depending on merchants, the Scrip gift cards and gift certificates may be able to be redeemed on the merchants' own websites.

We buy the Scrip at a discount (1½ to 15%) and sell at face value. The profit we make goes to help support the capital expenditures needed for the children and youth programs.

The Scrip we sell can be used for your own personal use, or for gifts for weddings, birthdays, graduations, and/or Christmas, just to name a few.

We have regular weekly buyers, some occasional buyers, and many who never buy at all. Why not stop by the Scrip table in the Narthex and pick up an inventory sheet. I'll bet there are items there you use weekly that you could purchase and help the YOUTH at the same time.

I hope to see you at the table soon. We need a few volunteer workers too.

-Tom Humphrey

United Methodist Women's Corner

- The UMW Circles meet in October 5: Kenworthy Circle will meet in the library at 2:00 p.m. **Ruth Circle** will meet at the home of Dakota and Heidi at 3766 Hillview Drive in Oceanside at 9:30 a.m.
- The UMW leadership meeting is November 19 at 10:15 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...

Alline Piercy, Jean Vought, Patrick O'Connor, Larry Veysada, Raub and Marilyn Mathias, Mary Jane Bode, JaDene Dugas, Thelma Koda, Skip Harvey, Jan Simpson, Tom Johnston, Ko Kim, Carol Yunt, Barbara Baldrige, Louise Foster, Bill Peaker, Jane Fischer, Harold MacDermot, Joan Brainerd, Nancy Koski

Memorial Service

Ethel Arrowsmith passed away on Oct. 17. Her memorial service is Saturday, November 2 at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

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!

United Methodist Church of Vista
490 S. Melrose Drive
Vista, CA 92081
Phone: (760) 726-0442
Web: www.umcvista.org
Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VISTA, CA 92081
PERMIT NO. 13