



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

Urgent!!! Pay Attention!! Stop what you are doing and answer that email, or text, or phone call! Is the blessing of availability really a curse? Is your life getting pulled along by the demands of immediate response?

May is here and with it an invitation to pushback on everyone else's urgent expectations. Sabbath isn't just for Sunday. Sabbath is both rest for your soul and time to remember you didn't create the world. You didn't put the sun in the sky or fill the oceans with water. You didn't cause the animals to roam or the bees to kiss flowers or the winds to blow. It seems obvious but sometimes we need the reminder. The circle back to God is not busywork.

Psalms 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." It is an invitation to stop and pay attention. One of the things I wonder is, if we were better at in the past, was presence. Presence is living fully in the moment. Presence is paying attention. Before cell phones and answering machines and computers and even before cable television, there was uninterrupted time.

There was time you could go to the movies or a concert or meet friends for dinner or walk in nature and be fully there without being interrupted. Aside from the moments when your mind wandered, you weren't pulled away and alerted to some pressing matter. Have we been conditioned to believe promptness is a virtue, and that it is more important to respond quickly than to be present in the moment? We are living in the normalization of being reachable all the time.

May is the doorway to summer. I remember summertime being a time of freedom and Kool-Aid slushies and roller skating and camping and going to bed late without worrying about getting up in the morning. I remember the joy of summertime and I wonder if it can help us make space in our lives to be unavailable all the time. Perhaps May can be our prayer for a summertime of "living in the present moment."

There is a lot going on at the church. The building is making progress. We are starting our community partner outreach project again. We are making plans for more gatherings and programs and service. But even in the midst of all this, it is important to take time to be unavailable and recenter with your faith.

God bless you with some uninterrupted time to do nothing but feel the joy of life.

Rev. Dr. Leigh Ann Shaw

The Flame

Finance Focus

The Committee on Finance/Stewardship continues to be thankful for your generous support of Church ministries efforts in our local Church, the community and around the world. We greatly appreciate your continued financial support of all our ministry areas. The Easter offering saw generous extra giving of \$2,795 in a variety of areas supporting our Ministry efforts. The total yearly giving as of the fourth week in April of 2022 is \$113,234 towards our total 2022 ministry budget of \$603,509. The extra giving for the Pence Challenge is at \$9,705, and we thank of you for your extra giving. As we have completed the first quarter of the year, each of you who have given money in the offering envelopes, or on-line have probably received or will be receiving your quarterly giving statement in the mail.

If you have not made a financial commitment to the ministries of our Church family, we invite you to prayerfully consider the blessings of these ministries to you and your Church in faith. Regular giving is easy and helps us do more intentional ministry. You may mail or drop your offering at the Church, as we now have a secure lockable mailbox on our property next to the office. Many of you have arranged for direct regular giving from your bank account to the Church. Online giving is also available on our Website at www.umcvista.org. Open the website and click on giving to register or log in. Again, thank you for your continued generous financial support of the ministries of our Church.

-Rollin Grider, Finance/Stewardship Chair,
Lay Leader

2022 Academic Scholarships

The Endowment Fund Committee is offering 2022 academic scholarships to active members or family members of active UMC Vista members. Application packets, completed by the student, are due to the Endowment Fund mailbox by May 27 by 12:00 p.m. Applications are in the church office and on our website. To have an application mailed or emailed to you, please call the church office, 760.724.0442 or email umcvista@umcvista.org. For questions, call Gary Lamb.

Happy "May" Birthdays

Rosalynn Kim (1)
Tim Arrowsmith (3)
Joann Balardeta (7)
Kevin Guffey (9)
Jeanette Marusak (11)
Gary Felien (14)
Kailey Clarke (17)
John Giard (20)
Adam Way (23)
Paula Amaro (24)
Linda Boyd (24)
Jung Kim (24)
Vic Johnston (26)
Sabrina Leffler Streeter (27)
Traci Wheeler (27)
Nick May (28)
Timothy McGinn (28)
Elese Newman (31)

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

In Celebration of our Mothers

May 8th is Mother's Day! In honor of our moms, we will be sharing special pictures during worship and the whole month of May! Submit your pictures of you and your mother, or the women of your life who love you like a mom through this link:

<http://videoupload.umcvista.org/>

Be sure to mark them "Mother's Day" and include your name and your "mom's" name. For more help, contact Michael Beu at MichaelB@umcvista.org. The last day to submit photos is Sunday, May 1st!

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

Next deadline is Wednesday, May 18, 2022
Comments or suggestions, please let us know.

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

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) special offering

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery, **Advance #982450**. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries. One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.

-Sue Humphrey, World Missions Committee

Celebrations from Church Council

- **Building Committee:** As is evident the work is continuing on the expansion of our Church Building as well as some interior modifications that were requested by the Music Department, as well as the Youth Director. Both the Choir room and the Youth room are being enlarged accordingly. We are also replacing the wall and floor tiles in both of the existing Men's and Women's restrooms in the existing building. There will not be any changes to the bathroom in the Bride's Room.
- **Music:** The Music Ministry has celebrated three wonderful Sundays of enhanced music in worship. On Palm Sunday the choir was featured with three anthems during the service. Easter Sunday saw a brass ensemble playing with hymns and special music throughout the service. And on this past Sunday April 24 we offered an All Music Sunday with choir, handbells, chimers, and most especially featuring the Praise Band and guest musicians.
- **Reconciling Ministries:** Reconciling Ministries is going to meet with the leadership of the North Coast UMC to discuss their path towards joining the Reconciling Ministries network. We're beginning to plan for attending the Vista Strawberry Festival on May 29 and the Peace Vigil December 4. How would you like to participate?
- **Women United in Faith:** Women United in Faith will complete toiletry kits for the border in the next few weeks and transport them to be taken across the border. The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial for 2022 will be part of programming and focus on supporting the education and training of deaconess and home missionaries.

Coming May 7 in time for Mother's Day!

Women United in Faith (formerly UMW) will be doing a Farmers' Market Bake Sale on Saturday, May 7, with follow-up on Sunday, May 8 at church. Bake sale proceeds help to fund women and children's ministries. If you can help provide baked goods, please bring them to the church on Friday, May 6 from 7:30 a.m. - noon. (If not possible on May 6, please have goods to Farmers' Market by 8:00 a.m. on May 7.) Thank you for your continued support!

Zoom Gatherings and Meetings

Zoom meetings are one way we are working on keeping connected. All you need is a computer or smartphone with a built-in microphone and a camera and you can join in. Download the Zoom app to your device, click on "join a meeting" and follow the prompts to join the gathering.

No Host-Drop In Coffee Chat, Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Meeting ID: 613 081 197

SPRC, May 4, 6:00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 968 9336 2856

Congregational Care Meeting, May 5, 1:30 p.m.

Meeting ID: 921 7026 9939

Church Council, May 7, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting ID: 959 0726 4821

Education/Discipleship, May 11, 6 p.m.

Meeting ID: 983 3122 0500

Trustees, May 17, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting ID: 949 2569 3986

Finance, May 25, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 963 4459 7468

Badges

Please wear your badges to church! It helps all of us after being gone for so long. Badges can be ordered by speaking or emailing Pat McConaughy-Hotaling or Paula Amaro or Barb. Mitchell. Your first badge on joining the church is "on the church" after that the cost has gone up slightly to \$9.00. If you've lost pieces/parts to your badge, we have some parts, just let us know what you are missing and we'll see what we can do. TIP: If it's the magnet that's missing? Check the undercarriage of your car seat!

Cal-Pac Conference...Summer Camp 2022

Cal-Pac Camps is a Christ-centered organization that focuses on the spiritual development of our campers. It is nearly impossible to not make a new friend at camp. All of our campers and staff come from rich and diverse backgrounds allowing for shared experiences to shape our identities.

The link to register for Camp Cedar Glen registration is: <https://www.campcedarglen.org/summer-camp-1>.

Senior High Camp (grades 9 - graduating): June 26 - July 2 (Cost \$475)

Junior High Camp (grades 6-9): July 3-8 (Cost \$395)

Older Elementary Camp (grades 3-6): July 10-15 (Cost \$395)

Younger Elementary, July 10-13 (Cost \$305)

District Camp Scholarships

The UMC Vista Endowment Fund is offering 2022 partial scholarships to children of active UMCV members. Once you have obtained confirmation of your camp registration, a copy of it needs to be sent to the UMC Vista Endowment Fund's mailbox at church or email to Gary Lamb at gdlamb@sbcglobal.net by June 20, 2022.

Heartfelt Thanks

Dear Pastor Frank, Adam, Carol, Choir, Anderson Bells, Blakeslee Chimes, Praise Band and guests,

Music Sunday's service was an amazing experience of poignant proportions from top to bottom. Everything was well done and beautifully shared. From the "da capo" music, to the Blakeslee Chimes, through the scripture with the "added enhancements" (amazing and beautiful, by the way), to Frank's homilies which so perfectly fitted the entire sequence together, to Adrienne Nims' beautiful native flute solo, "Cathedral in the Trees", to Anderson Bells and all the way to the "finale", this service was a treasure of warmth and beauty and, I think, pretty close to one of those "thin moments" of mingling the holy and the everyday. Thank you so much for such a wonderful experience. I hope everyone was touched as much as I.

Love and blessings.

Barb Mitchell

Thank you Education Committee and volunteers for the hosting the awesome Easter Festival! My grandson, Aiden, had a wonderful time guessing how many jellybeans were in a jar, participating in the cake walk, making a bunny out of a sock and finding Easter eggs filled with goodies. Thank you Scott Lyons for building the cross for flowers on Easter Sunday. Thank you Tracy Lyons for the Angel display in the Narthex.

Paula Amaro

Update from a Community Partner

On March 22nd the Vista Community Clinic (VCC) and California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) Medical Assistant (MA) Training Program hosted its 10th Graduation Ceremony. Their training program has graduated approximately 300 highly trained students since its inception in 2016. The program primarily serves low-income, minority, bilingual (English-Spanish) North County residents. In 2021, our church provided financial support through our Outreach Grant to nearly 20 recipients who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to become Health Heroes in our North County Communities. This program was also awarded a 2022 Outreach Grant to continue to support aspiring students start a healthcare career.

Participants of this program are required to meet the threshold of a 70% minimum in all aspects of the program (overall grade, exams and quizzes). Students are also required to complete 360 classroom hours with no more than three absences in the span of six months and 160 clinical hours; this totals to 520 program hours. The accelerated Medical Assistant Training Program is manageable with a full-time job; however is not for the faint-of-heart. Many graduates choose to serve their communities in local community health centers like Vista Community Clinic, while others take MA jobs at Palomar Hospital, Rady's Children Hospital, Sharp and other specialty clinics.

Valedictorian, Daisy Carreno, who is now employed at Scripps Hospital, said it best during the March 22nd graduation ceremony:

"Graduating class, as you begin to decide on a job, a career, or in furthering your education, never conform to the limitations that others may put on you. There will be people along your journey that will judge you and set expectations based on their preconceived ideas of who they think we are and who they think we should be. So, when those voices start to become too loud, I want you to take a moment and close your eyes and picture yourself in the future becoming the person you aspire to be saying they told me I couldn't, and so I did."

If you have any questions about the VCC and CSUSM Medical Assistant Training Program, please reach out to Nannette Stamm at nsamm@vcc.org or Tanya Douglas at (442) 888-0825.

Flowers for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special Events

Is there someone or something you would like to recognize and celebrate? Let us know WHAT and WHEN you would like “Flowers” and Michael Beu will create a “Flower Slide” just for you. Please click on this link: <http://specialeventslides.umcvista.org/> to fill out a form in order to request the flowers.

Chimes

Cameron and Chloe are enjoying playing chimes and would like to invite others to join them on Wednesdays from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. For questions, please contact Carol Pence or call the church office at 760.726.0442.

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!

Pray together for...

Raub and Marilyn Mathias, Traci Wheeler, Erin Fraser, Andrea Shaw, Nancy Koski, Ko and Rosalynn Kim, Charlotte Chappell, Olive Harris, Beverly Thomason, Stan Hamilton, Margo and Jim Rogers (hospice care), Joan Brainerd

Prayers for the family of:

- Tom Johnston. He passed away on April 17th. Plans for a memorial service is pending.
- Alline Piercy. She passed away on April 19th. Her service will be held at Eternal Hills, May 9 at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, you may make a donation to “and Two Fishes” in her memory.

For anyone who remembers Nate Goode: please take a moment to check the bulletin board in the narthex for a bulletin and information on the life of Nate, which was even more amazing than most of us knew! Both Nate and Sue were longtime active members of this church and have been much missed over the years.

Return Service Requested

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