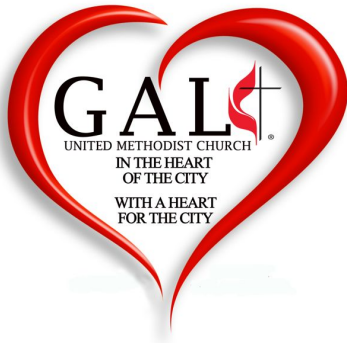


# Galt UMC This Week



Galt UMC is a warm welcoming family who worship, pray, learn, and love one another by serving our community so that everyone can encounter the Risen Lord and experience transformation through God's Grace.



April 17, 2023

**Let's Talk – A Word from Pastor Mary Maaga** [mjzmaaga@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzmaaga@yahoo.com) 530-417-6584

Newsletter Guest Article by Debra Herburger: Educator, Grandparent, Member of Galt UMC

Did you know that April is World Autism Awareness Month? Knowing that my grandson Remington has autism, Pastor Mary asked me to write her article while she is on vacation. Since 1 in 36 children in the U.S. is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, we all know children who have autism. Nearly two-thirds of children with autism between the ages of 6 and 15 have been bullied. Adults with autism often struggle with depression and feeling accepted. Our open-hearted Church family at Galt UMC is an ideal place for acceptance and celebration of people with autism, as well as support for their family members, who often get judged for their children's behavior.

I asked Remington what he wanted people to know about him. Here is what he said:

- \*It is easy to get distracted and forget that I am supposed to sit still and be quiet
- \*It takes a lot of energy for me to sit still.
- \*I don't mean to distract other people.
- \*I like the music in Church - it makes me feel calm.

I also asked Remington's big brother Darian what he thought would be helpful for people to know about his brother and others who have autism. Here is what he said:

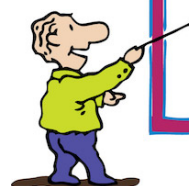
- \*Be patient and kind.
- \*Think about the intentions of the person and not the outcomes or behaviors.
- \*When it is hard for him to sit still and be quiet for a long time he isn't doing it on purpose - he doesn't realize he is bothering others.



Finally, what I really want you to know is that like every single grandparent in our Church, I just want my grandson to be accepted for the amazing person that he is, even though it might take longer to see that in him, or it is harder to notice. And, for Autism Awareness Month, I just really wanted to raise our awareness and strengthen our understanding. If you want to talk further about this, please contact me.

Blessings, Debra Herburger  
[debra.herburger@gmail.com](mailto:debra.herburger@gmail.com)  
916-837-6456

p.s. This coming week Pastor Mary will be on vacation. Please respect her need for a time of renewal and rest. If you have a care need, please contact Colleen Hurley at 209-712-1541. Pastor Mary will be back in the office on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Contact us:

Mary Maaga, Pastor  
Galt United Methodist Church  
571 C Street  
Galt, CA 95632  
Telephone 209-745-4133  
e-mail at: [galtumc@gmail.com](mailto:galtumc@gmail.com)  
In-person worship: 10am Sunday  
Contribute online: [galtumc.org](http://galtumc.org)  
Office Hours: Tues. Wed, Thur,  
9am-1pm

# NEWS & Notes



## Upcoming Worship this Week, April 23

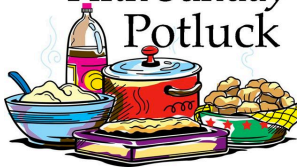
We are blessed to have Dion Jergo at the keyboard, and Colleen Hurley at the pulpit! Dion and his “big” sister Mattie Shepherd will help lead worship around the themes of TRUST and STEPPING TOWARD JESUS. Colleen is preaching from Matthew 14:22-33 on the topic of “Peter Walking on Water.”



## Face Book Live: Eight Days That Changed the World

1425 views so far of the Eight Days That Changed the World! How wonderful that our ministry at Galt UMC is having such a reach. You can still watch these videos on Mary Maaga’s Facebook page.

## *Fifth Sunday Potluck*



April 30

and TOWN HALL MEETING

Please share our website with family and friends! It is a peak into who our Church family is and what we believe!

[GaltUMC.org](http://GaltUMC.org)

April is a busy month. What with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday with it’s Potluck Breakfast and Easter Egg hunt, whew!! Let’s add some more fun. How about a Fifth Sunday Potluck? Theme? A Spring Picnic.

What would you take to a picnic? Keep it simple. If your last name starts with A, B or C, please bring hoagie style sandwiches. You know, those long loaves of bread filled with meats, cheeses, greens, whatever. Then cut into 3 or 4 inch sections.

Those with last names starting with D—L Please bring sides and salads like cole slaw, potato salad, fruit and veggie trays, eggs , even bags of chips.

The rest of the alphabet can bring SIMPLE finger food type desserts like cookies, brownies, cupcakes rice crispy treats. Let’s have a large family style picnic.

- -Mona Stratton  
Lay Leader  
334-235-1467

The Town Hall will focus on programs at Galt UMC. What is missing from what we offer our Church family? What has served its purpose and needs to be let go? What will be attractive to the community and grow our Church?

## Pastor Mary Celebrated as a United Methodist History Maker History in the Making: Rev. Dr. Mary Maaga

The latest edition of our California-Nevada Conference newsletter features an interview with Pastor Mary Maaga of our Galt Church!

The current article was picked up and featured through our national UMC news service. Those with internet can read the entire article. There is also a video that goes along with the article.

You can access the article and video interview with this link:

<https://www.cnumc.org/newsdetails/history-in-the-making-rev-dr-mary-maaga-17374947>

WOW!!! Galt made the national UMC news!!!!





**The Work of the Church –  
How Our Church Works by  
Pastor Mary**

“Prevenient Grace” is a foundational belief in the Methodist tradition that sets us apart from many other Christian Churches. It was our founder John Wesley’s response to the idea of “predestination” that many Churches in the 1800s had embraced. “Predestination” was the belief that human beings were predestined to salvation or damnation. Wesley was utterly opposed to that idea, instead promoting the power and overarching primacy of GRACE:

*God’s prevenient grace is the divine love that surrounds all humanity and precedes any and all of our conscious impulses. This grace prompts our first wish to please God, our first glimmer of understanding concerning God’s will, and our “first slight transient conviction” of having sinned against God.*

It is the presence of God’s Prevenient Grace that may – with openness to the Holy Spirit and the witness of God’s love by believers – bring a person to new birth in Christ. This new birth, also known as conversion, may be sudden and dramatic, or gradual and cumulative. It marks a new beginning, the initial experience of which may not be visible to those around them. New birth/salvation/justification/conversion is the first step toward a life devoted to an increase in the knowledge and love of God and in love for our neighbor. Wesley described Sanctifying Grace as a heart *habitually filled with the love of God and neighbor* and as *having the mind of Christ and walking as he walked.*

The words in *italics* are from The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016

**Hospitality  
Host**



**April 23**

Jean Nelson  
Sharon Drake

**April 30**

Fifth Sunday  
Potluck



**April 23**

John & Cindy  
Borgording

**April 30**

Ricky & Candy  
Toynbee



**News**

Many thanks to ALL the volunteers who organized a wonderful Empty Bowls fundraising event last month! The final amount raised is in: \$18,659.53!

Mark your calendars now for upcoming Building Project Fundraising Events:

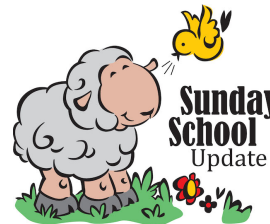
Sunshine in the Vineyard, Saturday, June 24, Valensin Vineyard \$75 a ticket: gourmet nibbles, wine & beer, live auction. Tickets go on sale next month.

Farm to Food Pantry Barbecue, Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> in the Galt UMC Parking Lot: more details soon!

**Our District Prayer focus this week:**

**April 23:** Pray for ministries of the Central Valley District and our superintendent, the Rev. David Niu.

**April 30:** Pray over highlights of ministries in each place so far this year.



Greetings from Lord's Lambs!

Our class is growing as more children are attending and enjoying Sunday school here at Galt UMC. The lesson on

April 16th was how to follow Jesus. Our group will meet again on May 21. The theme at that session will be how to share as Jesus commands us. We will have music and show a child's Christian video. We look forward to your little ones being upstairs again that day. Two thank you's go to Anne Albrecht for donating a lovely repaired, child's quilt to our Sunday school. Also, thank you Jean Nelson for adding color to our wooden craft crosses for the children to paint on Sunday, April 16th.

Please remember that we must restrict children under age three from attending our Sunday school because of safety reasons. Thank you.

In His Love, Madeline Powell,  
Director of Children's Ministries



This week at our Church

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday  
**WEEKLY**  
*Sneak Peek*



**Pastor's  
on  
Vacation**

Pastor Mary will be on vacation this week - Monday, April 17 through Sunday, April 23. While Pastor Mary is on vacation, please contact Colleen Hurley for any ministerial needs - 209-712-1541.

Pastor Mary will be back in the office on Monday, April 24.



**Quilt & Handiwork Club @  
11am on Mondays**

What joy to sit in the company of talented people and soak up the practice and legacy of making something wonderful out of scraps! Please join us even if you are not "quilty" or "handy" – the conversation is lovely and your idle hands will be given something simple to do.



**Tuesday, April 18, 11:00am** Bible Study in person: Guest Teacher, Earl Arrants.



**Bible Study in person @ 11am  
on Tuesdays JAMES**

A guest teacher will lead on April 18 while Pastor Mary is on vacation. When she returns on April 25<sup>th</sup> we will continue our study of James.



**Sunshine  
Food  
Pantry**

**Wednesday, April 19, 8am – 11:30am** Sunshine Food Pantry prepares food boxes for delivery to seniors



**Finance  
Team**

**Thursday, April 20: 10:00am:** Finance Committee meets in church office.



**Bible Study on ZOOM @ 4pm on  
Sundays ROMANS**

The ZOOM Bible Study on Sundays at 4 will take a break in April and resume on May 7<sup>th</sup> and run weekly through the summer. New link will be published in May.

**Welcome to Worship**

**Sunday, April 23: 10:00am:** . Worship at Galt UMC. Guest preacher, Colleen Hurley.



**Sunday, April 23: 1:30pm:** . Worship at Bruceville Point.



**Monday, April 24, 11am** Quilt & Handiwork Club



Bible Study of ROMANS on ZOOM every Sunday at 4pm starting May 7 through August 13

Field trip to the Isleton Museum, Saturday, May 20, meet at the Church 9am to car pool – buy your own lunch follows at Manny's Barzzeria, Isleton

Round Table to discuss the split of the United Methodist Church, Sunday, May 21 after Galt UMC Worship

STONE SOUP/PENTECOST Celebration, Sunday, May 28 following Galt UMC Worship



**Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday 9am – 1pm**

## Ministry/Activity Survey

**Current**

**Participated?   Please Keep   Comment**

Bible Study in person (weekly)			
Bible Study on Zoom (weekly)			
Sunday School (Monthly)			
Bruceville Fellowship (weekly)			
Quilt and Handiwork Club (weekly)			
United Women in Faith			
Newsletter			

**Short Term Past**

Weekly early morning prayer during Lent			
Facebook Live Bible Study during Advent and Holy Week			
“Good End” workshop			

**Long Term Past**

Online Worship			
Facebook Live Bible Study (weekly)			
Caring and Sharing (monthly)			
Men’s Breakfast (monthly)			
Book Club			

**Future Program Possibilities**

Prayer Workshop (Colleen Hurley)			
Men’s Faith and Fellowship Group;			
Music Program: Adult choir, children’s choir, Hand Chimes			
Youth Program			

**Other Ministries/Activities you would like**

**see:**

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**Other**

**Comments:**

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**Please return by Sunday April 30 at our Potluck Town Hall, or in the basket by the collection plate**

**Galt United Methodist Church**

Mary Maaga, Pastor  
Church telephone - 209-745-4133  
Morning Worship  
Online at [galtumc.org](http://galtumc.org)



Galt United Methodist Church  
571 C Street  
Galt, CA 95632

