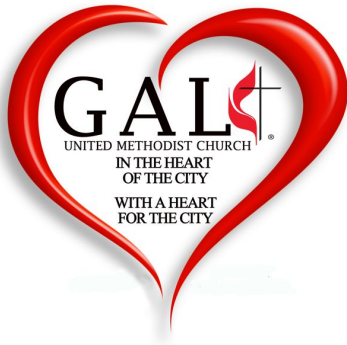


# Galt UMC This Week



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.



January 2, 2023

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



What a rich Christmas week we had at Galt UMC! I am still positively abuzz with the power of it all: the JOY of our 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, the PROFOUND DEPTH of our Blue Christmas, the LOVE & LIGHT of Christmas Eve, the WARMTH & CLOSENESS of Christmas Day. (We had such a wonderful time Christmas morning, that we will make that an annual tradition, even when Christmas doesn't fall on a Sunday.) And now we are amid the Twelve Days of Christmas that ends on Epiphany. The tradition of the twelve days of Christmas was developed when travel was difficult and it wasn't practical to spend just a meal or a day with people you loved to celebrate Christ's birth. So, people gathered on Christmas Day and spent the next twelve days together in fellowship – eating, praying, giving gifts, visiting the poor/sick/imprisoned, worshipping – until Epiphany when another grand feast would occur before everyone departed for home. How perfect this idea fits with what Epiphany represents, which is the journey of the Kings to bring gifts to the Christ Child, after which they returned home. May 2023 be a year of abundant blessings for each of you, your families, our Church, our community, our nation, and our world.

Happy New Year, Pastor Mary



p.s. Next Sunday is Epiphany Sunday, when we remember the Light the Kings followed and the gifts that they presented God's Son! Betty Metzger will be playing, and we will be blessing our Galt UMC committee members who will serve in 2023



Each week Pastor Mary works from Saturday through Thursday, taking Fridays off. Sometimes she works from the Church

Office, and sometimes from home. If you would like to meet with her to discuss any issue in your life that requires prayer (and, honestly, what issue doesn't?!?) please make an appointment to meet with her in person either in the Church Office or in your home. Contact her directly at [mjzmaaga@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzmaaga@yahoo.com) or her cell 530-417-6584.

### 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)



Covenant  
Renewal

# NEWS & Notes

For those unable to make Worship on January 1<sup>st</sup>, this is the New Year's Covenant we made: *I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, place me with whom You will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for You or set aside for You. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to Your glory and service. And now, O Wonderful and Holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, You are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it also be made in heaven. Amen.*



### Words to Start the New Year

New Year's wishes for each of you:

\*May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs, and your stocks not fall; and may your blood count, and your mortgage interest not rise.

\*May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them.

\*May you live in a home and a world at peace, with the awareness of the beauty in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile, and every wonderful, miraculous beat of your heart.

\*May the Lord bless you with every joy, good health, peace, and much love in 2023.

As Christmas approached, a Sunday School teacher asked the children in her class to draw pictures of the Nativity scene. The children eagerly began to draw pictures of the stable, Mary and Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, the wise men, and animals.

She noticed that little Johnny had drawn all of the usual characters but his picture had an additional one. Pointing to a very large man sitting in the corner of the stable, the teacher said, "Johnny, your picture is very nice, but who is that man sitting in the back of the stable?"

"Oh, that's Round John Virgin," Johnny replied.



### Heifer International Special Christmas Offering

Already thousands of dollars have been given toward our Christmas offering for the Heifer Project. What amazingly generous people we have at Galt UMC! The last day to give toward this amazing charity is January 8<sup>th</sup>. Then, on the 15<sup>th</sup> those who gather for Worship will have a chance to vote for which animal(s) we want to purchase with the money we have raised! You can contribute to Heifer Project by writing a check to Galt UMC and putting Heifer Project in the notation, or you can take a colorful envelope that is next to our "animal offering container" at the tech table and put cash in it.



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

Love came down at Christmas;  
Love all lovely, Love Divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Stars and angels gave the sign."  
- - Christina Rossetti

### Hospitality Host



January 8  
Chu Family

January 15  
Sharon Hebein

### GREETERS SCHEDULE

January 8  
John & Cindy  
Borgording

January 15  
David & Debra  
Herburger



We received a lovely note of thanks from Karole Coleman, Mattie Shepherd's daughter. It reads: *Thank you Church Family. I am so grateful for you. Thank you ALL for all of your prayers*

*and your care in caring for my mother Mattie. May the Lord continue to bless you.*

**Thank you** Richard Farhat, Pearl Silva, and Rob Seibel for moving our precious nativity into the Church before the big wind storm came. Feeling blessed that the weather was as good as it was during Christmas week!

**Many thanks** to all who came early to set up Christmas Eve – including two women who were first time visitors! – Richard Farhat, Tim Reynolds, Dottie Farhat, Kim Farhat, Mercedes Diego, Mariah Diego.

And no **thank you** for the Christmas Season would be complete without thanking Leesa Klotz for the beautiful visuals, and Earl Arrants for always being willing to play the organ

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“This Is a Day of New Beginnings” (#383 in the *United Methodist Hymnal*) is a hymn that is rarely sung today, but is appropriate for the New Year:

*This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember and move on...  
Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,  
step from the past and leave behind  
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,  
seeking new paths, and sure find.  
Christ is alive, and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings.*

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“What part of ‘You should not’, don’t you understand?” —God

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One of the least understood Christian days of the year, Chuck provides some insight while having an epiphany of his own. (3:34)

To watch Chuck’s video: [Click Here](#)



Happy New Year to everyone and especially to our Lord’s Lambs! Our next Sunday School meeting upstairs will take place on January 15, 2023 during the 10:00 worship time.

We will be learning about how much Jesus loves us and how our hearts belong to Jesus. The children will be memorizing the Bible verse from Colossians 3:15, ‘Let—Christ rule in your hearts.’ A fun, yarn craft and paper activity the children can take home with them is planned to impress these Christian concepts. We will also remove Christmas decorations on our Charlie Brown tree and redecorate it as a tree of thanks to God for our many winter blessings while discussing and brainstorming each child’s ideas.

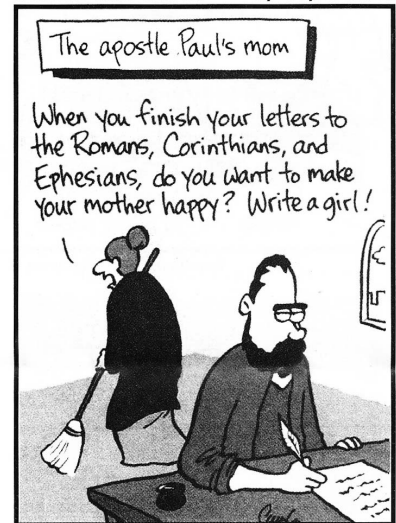
Please remember to accompany your children upstairs to the classroom door when Pastor Mary releases them for Lord’s Lambs time. Since relatives are required to pick up their children at the classroom door when the Sunday School class is over, PLEASE COME UPSTAIRS AGAIN FOLLOWING THE DOXOLOGY TO GET YOUR CHILD. The Doxology is the hymn the church sings toward the end of the service starting with the words, “Praise God from whom all blessings flow.” Pastor Mary will remind you when it is time to bring them downstairs.

We are looking forward to a New Year with more children learning about Jesus! Please join us on January 15 with your little lamb. And thanks to everyone in the congregation who is supporting our ministry in various ways. God is blessing this endeavor!

Thank you.

Madeline Powell, and Michele Weinel,  
Children’s Ministry at Galt UMC.

**Inherit the Mirth** by Cuyler Black



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This week at our Church

**WEEKLY**  
*Sneak Peek*



A Time to Share and Care

**Caring and Sharing: This coming Saturday, January 7: 11am – 12:30pm upstairs:**

This once a month gathering with Pastor Mary and Colleen Hurley is a chance to talk confidentially about the things that burden you, knowing that in sharing you will feel closer to the compassion of God, and upheld by the love of your Church family.



**Bible Study**  
Tuesday, January 3, 11:00am In person Bible Study: Scripture 101.



**Building Committee**  
Tuesday, January 3, 6:30pm SFP&RC.Inc



**Sunshine Food Pantry**  
Wednesday, January 4, 8:00 to 11:30am: Sunshine Food Pantry prepares food boxes for delivery to seniors.



**Lunch Bunch**  
Thursday, January 5, 11:30am Lunch Bunch at Denny's Restaurant on C Street.

**Lunch Bunch**



A Time to Share and Care

Saturday, January 7, 11:00am to 12:30pm: Caring and Sharing.

**Welcome to Worship**

Sunday, January 8, 10:00am, GaltUMC worship.



**Community Outreach**  
Sunday, January 8, 1:30pm, Bruceville Point in person worship.



**Bible Study**  
Sunday, January 8, 4:00pm, Bible Study on ZOOM: Romans



**Quilt Club**  
Monday, January 9, 11:00am, Quilt Club.



**Staff Parish Relations Committee**  
Monday, January 9, 5:30pm, SPRC on ZOOM.



Community Outreach

**Bruceville Point Ministry every Sunday at 1:30pm at Bruceville Point Senior Living in Elk Grove**

Would you like to help Pastor Mary lead worship for our wonderful Christian friends at Bruceville? Just let her know.



**Quilt Club @ 11am on Mondays**

This is a warm and loving group of women who are wanting to work together to create quilts that will be a blessing to people in our Church and community who need encouragement. Already a fleece tie quilt was made by Mary Blackwell, that the group will bless to be received by a special someone.



**Bible Study in person @ 11am on Tuesdays "Scripture 101"**

Come any Tuesday and be inspired by God's presence in Scripture and in our lives today! No long-term commitment required. Bible Study is also a wonderful opportunity to get to know our friends from Bruceville Point who attend weekly. For the next several months we will be looking at overarching themes in the Bible and answering all questions you have! Pastor Mary is an enthusiastic teacher.



**On ZOOM @ 4pm on Sundays "Romans"**

Each Sunday at 4 we will meet for an hour on ZOOM to study Paul's letter to the Romans, which has been described as the most important book of the Bible for understanding modern Christianity. Come whenever you can. You are sure to gain something every time you come. Pastor Mary has insights, as do all the class members who have previously attended when we studied Acts of the Apostles. This is a wonderful way to meet Methodists from Maine, Florida (yep, the Watters attend), and throughout California.

**Topic: Bible Study: Romans**  
**Time: Jan 8, 2023 04:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**  
Every week on Sun  
**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84535159630>



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

How blessed we are to have so many generous and gifted people serving Galt UMC on Committees that accomplish the work of the Church. Next Sunday, January 8, we will ask the following people to stand that they might receive a blessing for the year ahead.

Church Council: Leesa Klotz, Chair; Mona Stratton, Lay Leader; Rosie Kumar, Lay Servant; Mercedes Diego, Lay Member to Annual Conference; Betty Yoder, Membership Secretary; Trustees Chair (elected at Trustees meeting 1/10); Pearl Silva, Finance Chair; Eva Roach, Treasurer; Earl Arrants, Financial Secretary; Colleen Hurley, Staff-Parish Relations Chair; Madeline Powell, Director of Children’s Ministry; Faye Gaines, Outreach Chair

Trustees: Rob Seibel, Ed Delgado, Jim Parrish, Pearl Silva, Candy Marhefka, Richard Farhat, Rosie Kumar

Finance: Pearl Silva, Chair; Eva Roach, Earl Arrants, Faye Gaines, Mercedes Diego, Judy King

Staff-Parish Relations: Colleen Hurley, Chair; Mariah Diego, Earl Arrants, Leesa Klotz, Ricky Toynbee, Beverly Sigafos, Betty Price

Children’s Ministry: Madeline Powell, Director; Michele Weinel, Marina Bruns, Karen Honer, and a constantly expanding group of helpers!

Every year folks rotate off Committees and new people are appointed. If you are not yet serving and think you would be interested in serving in some capacity, let Pastor Mary know or talk with the Chairs of any of these committees. Next week: So what’s up with the Sunshine Food Pantry and what is the Building Committee?

The Quilt Club is gifting this quilt, made by Mary Blackwell. The group is now preparing an additional project.



Sunshine Pantry volunteers helped deliver toys to good little girls and boys. Toys were collected by Les Schwab Tires, Heritage Park, Lutheran Church, and CalWaste during the month of December. Deliveries of toys were made on the day of the Christmas Box give-away, and also on a recent Sunshine Food Pantry distribution.

**Christmas Food Box & Toy Distribution**

Saturday, December 17

Galt Sunrise Rotary teamed up with Sunshine Pantry to distribute Christmas Dinner Boxes and toys to residents of the Galt Community.



Santa was on hand to help direct traffic. The auto line extended down the street and around the corner.



Rotary and Galt UMC member David Herburger helped deliver over 100 Christmas dinner boxes as drivers rolled past.



**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

