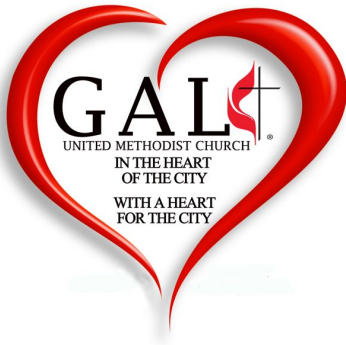


Galt UMC This Week



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 9, 2023

Let's Talk – A Word from Pastor Mary Maaga mjzmaaga@yahoo.com 530-417-6584



“Once upon a time....” When I hear those words, I know I am being invited to an imaginative journey. I love the feeling of anticipation, of not knowing what will come next, of being freed from the constraints of everyday life. Jesus was a master storyteller. He would start His stories with: “Which one of you....” or “There was a man....” or “The kingdom of heaven is like....” The Lord wanted us to remember the things of God, and as humans the way we remember is through story. When I was in my PhD program training to be a cultural anthropologist, we were taught to ask people to tell stories. “Tell me a story about your community” gave me far more data about the actual lives of people than “How many people are poor in your town?” For the next five weeks we will be concentrating on Jesus as Storyteller. As part of this journey, I would love for several of you to tell a story that reflects your relationship with the Savior. This would be a story you would write out, then tell during Worship, and that would also be reprinted in the newsletter. I trust that the Holy Spirit will nudge several of you to do so! I look forward to working with you, as I know the congregation will look forward to hearing your, “Once upon a time.....”

May Christ's Light Shine, Pastor Mary



Jesus as Storyteller for Five Sundays starting January 15

Sermon: “The Kingdom of Heaven is Like.....” Various readings from Matthew, Chapter 13. Betty Metzger is

back with us on piano! Mattie Shepherd will be singing! We will also take a “straw poll” to decide what animal Galt UMC is purchasing from Heifer Project.

Contact us:

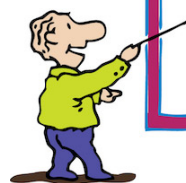
Mary Maaga, Pastor
Galt United Methodist Church
571 C Street
Galt, CA 95632

Telephone 209-745-4133

e-mail at: galtumc@gmail.com

In-person worship: 10am Sunday

Contribute online: galtumc.org



NEWS & Notes

Thanks
Many Thanks
Thanks
Thanks
Thanks

Thank you to all who helped clean up, organize, and store our wonderful Christmas decorations: Pearl Silva, and her friend Mike – also her friend Gordon who allows us to store our larger items like the outdoor nativity and Christmas trees in the loft of his barn; Judy King and Colleen Hurley packed up the Christmas decorations, along with Pastor Mary; Ed Delgado packed up the figurines from the nativity and also provided transportation to the barn. Many hands, light work!

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Each week Pastor Mary works from Saturday through Thursday, taking Fridays off. Please only contact her on Fridays if it is an emergency. 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 or her cell 530-417-6584.

A little boy came home from Sunday School and told his mother he got a part in a play. "What part is it?" she asked. "I play the part of the husband," he replied. "Go back and tell the teacher you want a speaking part," the mother said.

—Author unknown

The Gospel Doctrine teacher said, "Next Sunday, for our lesson on honesty, I'd like you to read the 17th chapter of Mark."

On the following Sunday, the teacher said, "Now then, all of you who have read the 17th chapter of Mark, please raise your hands." Nearly every hand in the congregation went up.

"You are the very people I want to talk to," the teacher said. "There is no 17th chapter of Mark."



Heifer International Special Christmas Offering

Next Sunday the final giving total will be announced, and we will have a chance to vote on what animal(s) we want to purchase for a community in need!!

In the supermarket, a minister was shopping for his wife. He was pushing a cart which contained their screaming baby. The minister kept repeating softly, "Don't get excited; Albert; Don't scream, Albert; don't yell, Albert; keep calm, Albert."

A woman standing next to him said, "Preacher, you certainly are to be commended for trying to soothe your son, Albert."

The minister looked at her and said, "Lady, I'm Albert."



Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday 9am – 1pm

Hospitality Host



January 15

Sharon Hebein

January 22

Mercedis & Mariah
Diego

GREETERS SCHEDULE

January 15

David & Debra
Herburger

January 22

Jessie & Tammy
Dennison

Our District Prayer focus this week:

January 15: Pray for First UMC, Lodi
January 22: Pray for Salem UMC, Lodi



This week at our Church

WEEKLY
Sneak Peek



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



Tuesday, January 10, 11:00am- In person Bible Study: Scripture 101.



Tuesday, January 10, 5:30pm.



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

Thursday, January 12, 7:30-10:00am: Sunshine Food Pantry DISTRIBUTION.

Sunday, January 15, 10:00am, GaltUMC worship. *Jesus as Storyteller.* Betty Metzger on piano.

Welcome to Worship



Lord's Lambs Sunday School during worship.



Sunday, January 15, 1:30pm, Bruceville Point in person worship.



Sunday, January 15, 4:00pm, Bible Study on ZOOM: Romans



Monday, January 16, 11:00am, Quilt Club.



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. This is a wonderful way to meet Methodists from outside of Galt.



January 29

An alphabet list of what dish to bring will be coming next newsletter.

Topic: Bible Study: Romans

Time: Jan 15, 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

About a decade ago I was invited to meet with the leaders of Galt UMC to come up with a strategy for renewal and growth. What touched my heart – and made me declare that I would love to pastor Galt UMC someday – was your devotion to serving the community. The clearest expression of that is the Sunshine Food Pantry. When God answered my prayer by sending me here, it became clear that the need for food support among our working poor and senior citizens was going to grow. The dramatic increase of need during the pandemic has not let up in this current economic downturn. Friends, 2023 promises to be a banner year in Galt UMC's impact for good in our community. A process that an "Exploratory Committee" entered over two years ago by leaders at Galt UMC is about to give us 14 units of affordable housing for veterans on our empty lots! And because God gives us more than we can ask for or imagine (Ephesians 3:20-21) our project is giving birth to affordable housing units for seniors at two other sites in Galt: the empty lot across the street from Brewster's and the old Seago Milk Plant property at 3rd and F Streets. Christian Church Homes, a non-profit developer of affordable housing is in negotiation for these properties. We hope to hear that this housing project is a GO from all involved parties by the end of this month! Once Christian Church Homes buys our lots, that will put \$180,000 toward the construction of a freestanding Sunshine Food Pantry on the lot the Church Offices, the shed, and the storage container are currently on. More on this next week.



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.

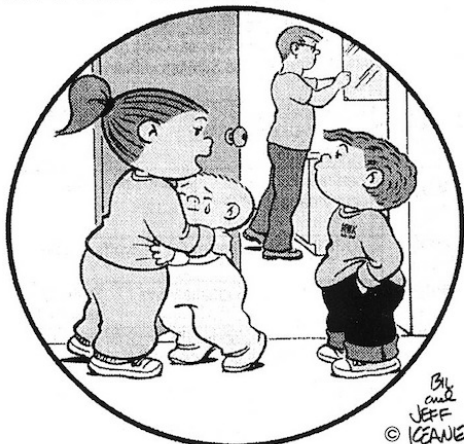
We are looking forward to a New Year with more children learning about Jesus! Please join us on January 15 with your little lamb. And thanks to everyone in the congregation who is supporting our ministry in various ways. God is blessing this endeavor!

Thank you.

Madeline Powell, and Michele Weinel,

Children's Ministry at Galt UMC.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"Aspirin is okay for headaches, but lovin' is best for heartaches."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
© Bil & Jeff Keane
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Ten Reasons for Being an Episcopalian

(According to Robin Williams)

- 10) No snake handling.
- 9) You can believe in dinosaurs.
- 8) Male and female, God created them; male and female, we ordain them.
- 7) You don't have to check your brains at the door.
- 6) Pew Aerobics.
- 5) Church year is color-coded.
- 4) Free wine on Sunday.
- 3) All of the pageantry, none of the guilt.
- 2) You don't have to know how to swim to get baptized.
- 1) No matter what you believe, there's bound to be at least one other Episcopalian who agrees with you.

Galt United Methodist Church

Mary Maaga, Pastor
Church telephone - 209-745-4133
Morning Worship
Online at galtumc.org



Galt United Methodist Church
571 C Street
Galt, CA 95632

