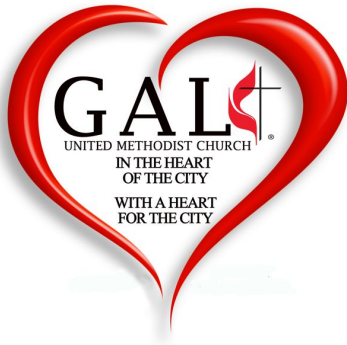


Galt UMC This Week



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.



March 13, 2023

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



On the mornings when it isn't raining, I love to do my devotions on the back patio while throwing a ball for Freya. Part of my devotions is Scripture and written prayers I have come to love over the years, which I recite as I play ball; part is prayers for all of you, starting with the prayer chain and then continuing on to whoever/whatever the Lord lays on my heart. Then comes the part I find the most challenging: LISTENING. On the Second Sunday of Lent we received a sheep to remind us to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd and follow Him. I am a really good talker, as any of you who come to Worship or Bible Study can attest! But I am not always a very good listener. As a New Year's Resolution this year I challenged myself to become a better

listener. When I feel God urging me to change for the better, I know the best way to do that is to take on a daily discipline. So, to become a better listener, I decided to add a listening practice to the end of my devotions. For example, this morning I heard roosters crow, cows low, trains chug, geese honk, many different birds chirp, the sliding door of a neighbor, a bathroom door shut within my house, Freya's panting, the "thwack" of the ball as she caught it. Then I listened more deeply. I heard my heart beat, then my heart sing in gratitude to God – the words took shape in my throat and mouth as I quietly sang the doxology. Then I heard the still, small voice of God filling my soul with grace. When I listen deeply, I feel the connection, whether I am listening to nature, to a person, or to God. Listen. Feel. Connect. That's become the heart of this year's Lenten journey for me.

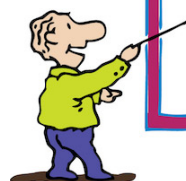


Blessings in the Spirit of the Living God, Pastor Mary



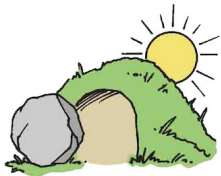
Next Sunday

March 19: Sermon: "Seven Word Journey"
Scriptures: Luke 23:13-46, Mark 15:34,
John 19:25-30



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
Sunday Worship: 10am Galt UMC,
1:30pm Bruceville Point
Contribute online: galtumc.org



NEWS & Notes



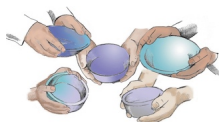
EMPTY BOWLS FUNDRAISER
So much more than a good meal.
Food. Music. Artisans. Auction. More.

An invaluable act of community service.



Help us complete our new building to meet the growing needs of our most vulnerable.

Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center, Inc.
Sat. March 25, 2023
6-9 pm
Littleton Center,
410 Civic Dr. Galt CA
Adults \$20 Under-12 \$5



These are selling fast! Get yours from Faye Gaines or Mark King after Worship!



Volunteers for the Sunshine Food Pantry care deeply, work hard, and are committed and persistent in their desire to make a difference for good in the lives of the working poor and elderly people of our community.

Many of these volunteers are members of our Church, and others consider Galt UMC to be their spiritual home even if they rarely or never worship with us. We thank each and every one of you from the bottom of our hearts!

Recent headlines from various newspapers:

“Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery: Hundreds Dead.”

“Miracle Cure Kills Fifth Patient.”

As a courtesy, a pastor took an elderly church member to the local nursing home to seek information about how they determine whether or not an older person should be put in a nursing home.

“Well,” said the nursing home director, “We fill up a bathtub. Then we offer the person a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to empty the bathtub.”

“Oh, I understand,” said the elderly visitor. “A normal person would use the bucket because it’s bigger than the spoon or the teacup.”

“No,” said the administrator, “A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near a window?”

Eight Days that Changed the World THEY CAN CHANGE YOU TOO!

During this forty day season of Lent, we are receiving gifts to help in focusing our journey to the Cross and Empty Tomb. Pastor Mary has suggested that you keep these gifts in a special place in your home that you might reflect on the lessons they represent during the week. (If you missed a week, please ask Pastor Mary for any extras – or you can improvise your own item.)

Ash Wednesday – “sack cloth” to represent our sorrow over the ways our disobedience grieves the heart of God.

First Sunday of Lent – mirror to represent our willingness to reflect on our behavior and our commitment to praying for ourself.

Second Sunday of Lent – sheep to represent our willingness to follow the Good Shepherd and do for vulnerable people what He has called us to do

Third Sunday of Lent – a scented cloth to remind us of God’s tender care.



Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 1pm

Hospitality Host



March 19
Judy King

March 26
Ed & Freddie Delgado

GREETERS SCHEDULE

March 19
Mariah & Mercedes Diego

March 26
Sharon Hebein Sharon Drake



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
WEEKLY
Sneak Peek



Quilt Club @ 11am on Mondays

Quilt Club has become one of the best hours of the week for the people who attend.

Pastor Mary is not “crafty” at all, but enjoys sitting and visiting and doing various tasks she is given. You can too! Or bring a quilt that is precious to you and show and tell. We start with prayer and then talk about whatever is on our hearts and souls. It is a gentle loving atmosphere. Questions? Call our leader Sharon Hebein 707-304-1839.



Tuesday, March 14, 11am BIBLE STUDY in person: THE BOOK OF RUTH



Tuesday, March 14, 6:30pm Building Committee for the Sunshine Food Pantry.



Wednesday, March 15, 8am – 11:30am Sunshine Food Pantry prepares food boxes for delivery to seniors



Wednesday, March 15 – 4:30pm -Trustees meeting in Social Hall with Insurance Representative.



Thursday, March 16 – 11:15am Finance meeting in Church Office.



Saturday, March 18 – 10:00am United Women in Faith in Social Hall.

Welcome to Worship

Sunday, March 19, 10am Fourth Sunday of Lent “Seven Word Journey”.



Sunday, March 19, 1:30pm Bruceville Point Worship.



Sunday March 19: 4:00pm Bible Study on Romans on ZOOM.



Monday, March 20, 11am Quilt Club



Bible Study on ZOOM @ 4pm on Sundays ROMANS

Eighteen of us met over ZOOM to study Chapter 4 of Romans with Paul’s emphasis on the faith of Abraham, and then we entered into the poetic and inspiring beginning of Chapter 5: *We boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.* Please join us! Doesn’t matter that you have missed classes – anywhere you jump in will be a blessing to you .and to all of us who gather weekly.

Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Study: Romans

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84535159630>



Bible Study in person @ 11am on Tuesdays RUTH

This past week we talked about the difference between how people in the ancient world understood love and romance versus now. In the ancient world the most important qualities one looked for in a potential spouse was: love of God; love of community (neighbor); love of self, in terms of keeping oneself honorable and above reproach. Romantic love for your spouse might then grow, but even if it didn’t your marriage would be a blessing to your community. This is the understanding of marriage at play as Ruth meets Boaz, and as Ruth’s mother-in-law Naomi advocates for their union. Come see what happens next! We were blessed in having 10 people from Bruceville come by bus to the class, as well as 12 others from Galt. Come be a part of this inspiring and fun time together.

Our District Prayer focus this week:

March 19: Pray for Linden UMC.

March 26: Pray for St. Paul’s UMC, Stockton.

The Work of the Church – How Our Church

Works by Pastor Mary



Last week I began writing about the split that is taking place now in the United Methodist Church. As with all Church splits – from the controversy between Paul and the Jerusalem Church over circumcision to the current one over the full inclusion of all sexual orientations – the heart of the matter always is WHO KNOWS

GOD'S WILL BEST. Because there are several sources for determining God's will in any given situation, Christians of deep faith can arrive at different conclusions. Those Christians who believe in the primacy of the words of Scripture tend to be more politically and socially conservative, including the Jerusalem Church in the first century that wanted to follow the laws of the Old Testament alongside faith in Jesus Christ. Those Christians who believe in the primacy of the Holy Spirit in interpreting words of Scripture, including Paul in the first century who replaced the law with grace through faith in Jesus Christ, tend to be more inclusive, as Paul was with gentiles.

What is clear to me is that there is a desire to know the will of God and do what pleases God on the part of those who are staying in the United Methodist Church and on the part of those who are leaving to join the Global Methodist Church. I don't question anyone's faith. To be honest I am relieved that the split is finally upon us. It means both sides can go about doing the work of God in the world without continuing to use untold amount of energy and financial resources in fighting with one another. Sometimes it really is better for the children when a divorce happens.

How will this impact the California-Nevada Conference that Galt UMC is a part of? Not much. While 400 Churches in Texas have voted to leave the UMC, only 9 in our Conference have entered the process to leave. The General Conference of the UMC offered local Churches a path out of the United Methodist Church with their church buildings and property if they got approval from two-thirds of their congregation and pay a financial remuneration set by each Conference's Board of Trustees to cover clergy pension liabilities and compensation for the property, which in our Conference was set at 20% of property value. Next week I will share a little more about what I think is at stake in the split. In May we will have an open meeting to discuss any questions that might arise for you as you read these articles.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

If you would like to join Galt UMC, please let Pastor Mary know so she can plan to meet with you and answer any questions you might have. Membership vows

can be taken at either Galt UMC or Bruceville Point on March 26.

March

Editor's Note: Due to a lapse of something or whatever, the March birthday/anniversary list was missed at the first of the month. It is here today, and a happy late birthday wish to those at the first of the list. My thanks to the loyal reader who pointed out the omission.

- - Earl



- 2 Ed Delgado
- 2 Jimmy Gaines
- 3 Anne Albrecht
- 3 Hyo Chu
- 5 Michele Weinel
- 9 Mariah Diego
- 9 Mercedes Diego
- 9 Sharon Drake
- 10 Alejandro
- 11 Anne Chu
- 13 Pearl Silva
- 15 Elaine Davidson
- 16 Saphyria Kumar
- 21 Freddie Delgado



Happy
Anniversary!

- 2 Kirk & Tina Smith



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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Several dens of Cub Scouts were out collecting food to benefit the Sunshine Pantry. Thank you boys and leaders!



They even helped sort the items



A seven-year-old boy was sitting in church with his grandmother impatiently fidgeting while a long-winded preacher went on and on.

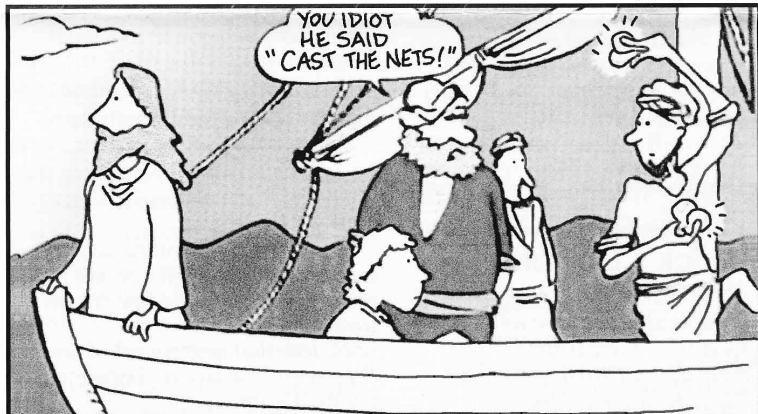
Finally, the boy nudged his grandmother and asked, "Grandma, would you please sing?"

"Why do you want me to sing?" She asked.

"I heard it wasn't over until the fat lady sings," he answered.

INHERIT THE MIRTH

by Cuyler Black



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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Holy Week

April 2 – April 9

Mark your calendars now for the events of Holy Week:

Palm Sunday, April 2, 10am *Holy Communion and Palms* as we remember Jesus Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 5pm *Worship* in our Galt UMC Sanctuary as we remember Christ's last supper with His disciples, as well as His prayer in the Garden at Gethsemane, betrayal, arrest, and Peter's denial

Good Friday, April 7, noon *Worship* in our Galt UMC Sanctuary as we remember Christ's sacrificial death and the gift of atonement

Easter, April 9

6:30am Sunrise Service in our Galt UMC Courtyard

8:30am Breakfast Potluck (Pastor Mary will provide sparkling cider and hot chocolate – everyone else bring fruit, or pastry, or bagels, or mini quiche)

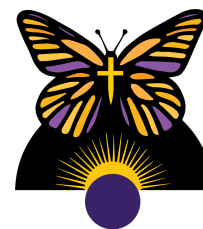
10am Worship at Galt UMC

After Worship – Easter Egg hunt for children in our front courtyard

1:30pm Worship at Bruceville Point

4pm Last Facebook Live class of Holy Week

Every day during Holy Week at 4pm on Facebook Live, Pastor Mary will give a short teaching about the events and teachings of that day from Scripture. You can watch live, or as a recording at any point.



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

