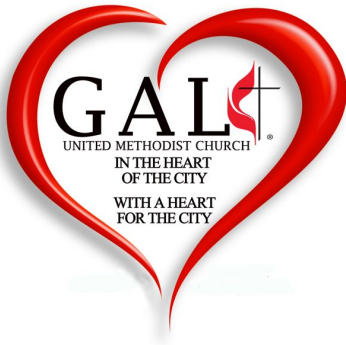


Galt UMC This Week



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 27, 2023

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



Thank you to all of you who have given me such positive feedback on your Lenten journey this year. I am grateful that my idea about the symbolic objects in the plastic Easter eggs has helped you in deepening your walk with the Lord. That was our hope, Leesa Klotz and myself, when we gathered the items representative of the Eight Days That Changed the World. The challenge for every preacher is twofold: How to make ancient words relevant to your life AND how to make what you experience on Sunday mornings spill over into the other six days of the week. Only the Holy Spirit can accomplish this, but from what some of you have told me the Easter eggs helped. YAY! Since not all of you have been at Worship all five Sundays of Lent you have missed out on some of the teachings. Fear not. If you have Facebook you can get caught up! Every day for eight days at 4pm starting on April 2 (Palm Sunday) and ending on April 9 (Easter) I will share about the events and teachings of Jesus on that day. You can watch it live or watch it as a recording later. You can even share it with others!



May you have a blessed Holy Week, Pastor Mary

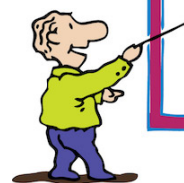


April 2 PALM SUNDAY with Holy Communion

Sermon: "Hide and Seek, Lost and Found"

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

John Miller singing; Betty Metzger plans to be at the piano!



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



Holy Week Special Services

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 *Alleluia! He is Risen! Risen, indeed!*

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. **THESE ARE THE EIGHT DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD!**



Eight Days That Changed the World – THEY CAN CHANGE YOU TOO!

During this forty-day season of Lent, we have received gifts to help in focusing our journey to the Cross and Empty Tomb.

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent – a nail to remind us of the suffering of Christ and what He taught us from the Cross: forgiveness, salvation, love, atonement, suffering, victory, hope

Fifth Sunday of Lent – a rock to symbolize the hard reality of grief, and Jesus Christ the cornerstone upon which our lives of faith are built

Now that the work of Lent is complete, we make our way to Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday



Sunshine Food Pantry THANKS Empty Bowls Supporters

Words can't express the gratitude we all feel for your support of our first fundraiser for the food pantry Building Project! We will let you know the total amount raised in the next newsletter.

Hospitality Host



April 2

Bob & Inez
Munoz

April 9

Mona Stratton
Anne Albrecht

GREETERS SCHEDULE

April 2

David & Debra
Herburger

April 9

Mariah & Mercedes
Diego



Quilt Club @ 11am on Mondays

We meet upstairs for an hour and a half or more to work alongside each other on our handicrafts as we pray, talk, laugh, and, yes, sometimes cry. We also bless blankets or quilts to give those who are facing hardships. Two weeks ago we blessed a blanket for Dottie Farhat as she faces cancer surgery and Richard Farhat with his knee surgery. These fleece tied blankets were made by Mary Blackwell. We received this thank you note in response: *What a delightful surprise to receive such beautiful gifts. We will treasure them always. The Lord be with you all.*



Tuesday, March 28, 11am BIBLE STUDY in person: THE BOOK OF RUTH



Wednesday, March 29, 8am - 11:30am Sunshine Food Pantry prepares food boxes for delivery to seniors



Thursday, March 30, Pastor Mary out of office for Conference Trustees

Welcome to Worship

Sunday, April 2, 10am Palm Sunday worship.



Sunday, April 2, 1:30pm Bruceville Point Palm Sunday worship.

Sunday, April 2, 4:00pm -EIGHT DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD: PALM SUNDAY on Facebook Live



Monday, April 3, 11am Quilt Club



Monday, April 3, 4:00pm -EIGHT DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD: Holy Monday on Facebook Live.



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 7th and run weekly through the summer. New link will be published in May.



Bible Study in person @ 11am on Tuesdays RUTH

How wonderful when God does for us what we could not possibly ask for, or even imagine, like God did for Ruth and Naomi in leading Ruth to glean in the fields of Boaz, a righteous and good man who offered protection for these vulnerable women. What will happen next? Come and learn from the Scripture, as well as the stories Pastor Mary tells. Also, enjoy the coffee and refreshments provided by our hospitality team of Marina Bruns and Judy King. Come at 10:30 for a time of fellowship.



Brian King; David Quarnstron; Zola Maaga

We are happy that you are a part of our Church family. We are now 107 members strong!



Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am - 1pm

A pastor was trying to negotiate a lower price for his auto repairs. "Remember," he pleaded to the mechanic, "I'm a poor preacher."

"I know," the mechanic replied. "I was in church on Sunday."



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

Last week I promised that I would share my theological and Scriptural reasons for wanting the United Methodist Church to remove all institutional barriers to the full inclusion of people from all sexual orientations. What I thought I would start with are some excerpts from a correspondence that I had with a theologically conservative colleague of mine. I will share portions of these letters over the next several weeks.

Because I came to Christ through Scripture and the Holy Spirit, so had as Christian role models the men and women of the Bible, I took very seriously the ethical and moral demands of discipleship. It was something of a shock for me as a young adult to meet Christians who didn't know Scripture and were little interested in knowing the stories and teachings of our faith. To this day I am obsessed with the Holy Bible. My greatest joy is in spending time soaking up its teachings and stories. This being the case, I am flabbergasted that of all the things that The Book of Discipline could emphasize as "incompatible with Christian teaching" homosexuality is the one! Seems to me that outside of the cultural and political reasons for its selection, the only other possible reason is because it represents "easy purity" – which is to say a behavior or identity that is visible in another and either is or isn't true. When I reflect upon the teachings of our Lord and the rest of the New Testament Scripture, and take the world out of the equation, I arrive at a much messier standard that could get any number of us bounced from ordained ministry: judgement is incompatible with Christian teaching; materialism is incompatible with Christian teaching; and so forth.... In some very important ways I am more spiritually equipped for ministry because of the ways I have wrestled with the parts of my heart, soul, and behavior that have been (and are) incompatible with Christian teachings. Through this wrestling with judgment and materialism I have learned to depend on God's grace alone.

Please feel free to text or email me any questions that I can answer in these articles. In May we will have a round table discussion for those who are interested in furthering the conversation.



Lunch Bunch

is a "buy your own lunch" time for visiting and getting to know each other the first Thursday of every month. This month we will meet April 6, 11:30am at Compadres Mexican Restaurant in the Raley's Center.



Palm Sunday: Have you ever waved a palm branch in a worship service? If so, do you know why? Chuckle along and learn about Palm Sunday with Church.

To see Chuck's video - - [Click Here](#) 4:08

Holy Week: Holy Week is the last week of Lent, the week immediately preceding Easter. It is observed in many Christian churches as a time to commemorate and enact the suffering (Passion) and death of Jesus Christ.

To see Chuck's video - - [Click Here](#) 3:15

April



- 2. Kingsley Price
- 6. Darla Ervin
- 7. Jack Hornor
- 16. Linda Hulse
- 17. Dottie Farhat
- 19. Alan Weinel
- 19. Brian King
- 22. Alestino Bautista
- 23. Amanda Avery
- 24. Jung Chu
- 24. March Seibel-Harper
- 26. Olivia Klotz
- 29. Pam Carmichael
- 29. Richard Moore



- 23. John & Cindy Borgerding



Mark your calendars now for an All Church Potluck and Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, April 30, following Worship! 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?

Our District Prayer focus this week:

April 2: Pray for all the churches and ministries.

April 9: Pray for St. Mark's UMC, Stockton



From the
Editor's Desk

*This 'N That
From Here and There*

- - By Earl Arrants

Donkey brings chaos to Palm Sunday Service

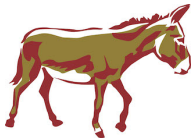
Rev. Paul Lintern of Oakland Lutheran and Southside Christian Churches in Mansfield, OH, follows the ongoing adventures of mythical Pastor Jeff Mutton of Good Lord Community Church.



Pastor Lintern

He will never forget the sight. It will go down forever in the church history as the year of the donkey.

It will go down in Jeff Mutton's mind as the year he was an...



"Don't you have a donkey?" Jeff asked Pastor Dale near the beginning of Lent.

"Sure. Ol' Jack," Dale replied. "Gentle, calm, best donkey I've ever had."

"Do you think he could carry someone down the aisle on Palm Sunday?" Jeff asked.

"Sure, Jack would do anything for me," Dale smiled.

The Sunday before Resurrection Sunday was the Lenten equivalent of the Christmas pageant at Good Lord Community Church, ever since Pastor Mutton had arrived there 15 years ago. It included children, choirs, palms, decorations, parade, instruments - - everything that could project hosannas.

Maundy Thursday was a special communion service. Good Friday featured the Tenebrae of focus on the seven words of Jesus from the cross. Sunday morning pulled out all the stops for the resurrection.

Palm Sunday was the big production.

Years past had featured robes and palm branches and a 30-something bearded, long-haired member of the Sunday school committee to walk in humbly down the center aisle, with children fore and aft. Always on the verge of chaos, it was mostly on the cusp of festive, a great departure for these folks who otherwise never raised their hands in worship.

Then came the year of the donkey. Jack arrived just as promised in time for an entry through the foyer, covered on back with cloaks and carrying Dave, the new Sunday school superintendent. Three children in front were in charge of feeding carrots to Jack to entice him forward.

Everyone seemed thrilled to see the parade and some were bragging that this was just like the big church in Columbus that walks camels down their aisle at Christmas.

But then, Jack decided he wanted all the carrots in the children's baskets, and his big teeth frightened 10-year-old Sophie, who started running up the aisle, causing Jack to become a racehorse and children to start screaming from fear of being trampled by a herd of one.

The commotion, the braying, the screaming, the overturning of the table of handbells up front and the fact that Dave had been thrown off Jack's back into the laps of the Krendler sisters (who were vehemently opposed to Pastor Mutton's church shenanigans anyway), was bad enough, but then what Jack did to the carpet up front, which then caused panic among the children and for several of the tender ones to throw up from the sight and smell, turned the parade into the most memorable church service there in, well, memory.

Dale had many reasons why Jack had not performed as planned — too many carrots, too many children, fear of palms branches, nervous intestines — but the time it took to get Jack out of the front of the church, for the children to go to the assembly room (without stepping in anything) and for the property committee to clean, the altar guild to restore and the handbell choir to recover, left no time for an actual worship service.

"Well, at least you completed one part of that story today," Jeff's wife said when they finally got in the car to go home, Jeff looked at her with a skeptical expression.

"You cleared the temple," she said.

Thank You



We received a lovely card and letter from Sue and Walt Buckmaster in response to our prayers and the Get Well card that our angels of kindness, Dottie and Kim Farhat, sent out on our behalf. The whole note is on the bulletin board in the social hall. It reads in part: *Sure miss all of you and those Sunday morning church services in such a beautiful setting, and also miss participating in that special community outreach program – The Sunshine Food Pantry. What a worthwhile program, and so well-organized and appreciated by the many it serves in the community.*



Good Friday

Seven Words from the Cross

outline of sermon given by Pastor
Mary, March 19

Forgiveness: Luke 23:32-34

Jesus's whole life and ministry have been a widening circle of forgiveness. As He suffers on the cross, He forgives those who are causing His suffering. Forgiveness for those who know not what they do. Forgiveness for those of us who DO KNOW the wrong that we do. Christ died that we might be fully and finally forgiven. He died to set us free.

Salvation: Luke 23:35-43 *Jesus suffered, and the criminals beside Him suffered. Through the eyes of newborn faith, one criminal asked for mercy. There would be no time to show the world he was a changed man. Is a change of heart enough? Jesus's answer is YES: a changed heart brings salvation for the soul.*

Love: John 19:25-27 *At the last the Lord was a good son, not just in showing obedience to His Father in Heaven, but to His Mother whose heart was broken by His suffering. He provided for His Mother by giving her the Beloved Disciple to love and be loved by.*

Atonement: Mark 15:33-34 *Sin is separation from God. In order to take on the sins of humanity, our Lord had to know God's absence. Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Savior, was abandoned by God so that we never will be.*

Suffering: John 19:28-29 *Emotional suffering in seeing His mother's pain. Spiritual suffering in feeling the absence of God. Now the Lord Jesus Christ is in physical agony. He is given vinegar for His thirst in order to fulfill the prophecy of Psalm 69.*

Victory: John 19:30 *It is finished. Finished. Complete. Perfect. The Lord's mission was over. He had run the race God set before Him and crossed the finish line, the victory won. With His victory over sin, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior made victory available to all of us.*

Hope: Luke 23:46 *Seven words from the Cross. Seven words that reflect the meaning of Christ's life and death. Jesus cries out to God and says, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." We live in hope because we know that His Father will receive His Son's Spirit and return it to us on Pentecost as the Holy Spirit, that power from on high that equips us to be all that Christ as called us to be as His disciples.*



Fifth Sunday Potluck

April 30

April is a busy month. What with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday with its 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 oldest computer
can be traced back to
Adam and Eve.**

Surprise! Surprise!

It was an Apple.

**But with extremely
limited memory.**

Just 1 byte.

**Then everything
crashed.**



Shared by Betty Yoder





April



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>For more info on any activity, please contact Pastor Mary at 530-417-6584 mjzmaage@yahoo.com</p> <p>Pastor Mary will be taking several days off this month. While Pastor Mary is on renewal and vacation please contact Colleen Hurley for any ministerial needs.</p>					<p>1</p> <p>AA group meets at 8:00am Nor anon meets at 9:15am</p>
<p>2 Palm Sunday Worship 10:00 Holy</p> <p>Bruceville Worship 1:30pm</p> <p>AA 7:30-8:30am</p>	<p>3 Quilt Club 11:00am</p> <p>4:00pm Facebook Live</p> <p>AA group meets at 7:00pm</p>	<p>4 Bible Study in person 11:00am</p> <p>4:00pm Facebook Live</p>	<p>5 4:00pm Facebook Live</p> <p>NA group meets at 6:00pm AA group meets at 6:00pm</p>	<p>6 Maundy Thursday Worship 5:00pm</p> <p>Lunch Bunch 11:30am at Compadres Restaurant 4:00pm Facebook Live</p>	<p>7 Good Friday Worship Noon</p> <p>4:00pm Facebook Live</p>	<p>8 4:00pm Facebook Live</p> <p>AA group meets at 8:00am Nor anon meets at 9:15am</p>
<p>9 Easter Sun Rise Service 6:30am 8:30am Easter Breakfast Easter worship 10:00am</p> <p>Bruceville Worship 1:30pm 4:00pm Facebook Live</p> <p>AA 7:30-8:30am</p>	<p>10 Quilt Club 11:00am</p> <p>AA group meets at 7:00pm</p>	<p>11 Bible Study in person 11:00am</p> <p>Trustees Meet 4:30pm</p> <p>Building Committee 6:30pm</p>	<p>12 Pastor Mary on vacation</p> <p>Set-up for Sunshine Pantry 8:30-10:30am</p> <p>NA group meets at 6:00pm AA group meets at 6:00pm</p>	<p>13 Renewal days</p> <p>Sunshine Pantry distribution 7:30-10:00am</p>	<p>14 Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>15 Women's meeting 10:00am at the church</p> <p>AA group meets at 8:00am Nor anon meets at 9:15am</p>
<p>16 Bright Sunday worship 10:00am</p> <p>Bruceville Worship 1:30pm</p> <p>AA 7:30-8:30am</p>	<p>17 Quilt Club 11:00am</p> <p>AA group meets at 7:00pm</p>	<p>18 Pastor Mary on vacation</p> <p>Bible Study in person 11:00am Guest Leader</p>	<p>19 NA group meets at 6:00pm AA group meets at 6:00pm</p>	<p>20 Finance Committee meet 10:00am</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 AA group meets at 8:00am Nor anon meets at 9:15am</p>
<p>23 Colleen Hurley guest speaker</p> <p>Bruceville Worship 1:30pm</p> <p>AA 7:30-8:30am</p>	<p>24 Quilt Club 11:00am</p> <p>Pastor Mary back from vacation</p> <p>AA group meets at 7:00pm</p>	<p>25 Bible Study in person 11:00am</p> <p>Building Committee 6:30pm</p>	<p>26 Set-up for Sunshine Pantry 8:30-10:30am</p>	<p>27 Sunshine Pantry distribution 7:30-10:00am</p>	<p>28 Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>29 AA group meets at 8:00am Nor anon meets at 9:15am</p>
<p>30 Fifth Sunday Potluck Town Hall Meeting</p> <p>AA 7:30-8:30am</p>						

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

