

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.



November 13, 2022

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

As a preacher, I always hope the words I speak on a Sunday morning will glorify God and inspire all of you. Sometimes that hope is realized, and other times I miss the mark. How delighted I am that several of you have told me that my message on All Saints Sunday "The Outcome of Your Faith" really touched you. The Scripture I based my sermon on was 1 Peter 1:8-9: *Although you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for **you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*** In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and in the spreading of that Good News by Peter, Paul, and the other disciples, there are 4 central outcomes for those who believe in Jesus Christ and discipline their lives around His teachings: 1) Freedom from sin – you are set free from every past ugly thing you have ever done, and from all the things you failed to do, but should have; 2) Peace thru forgiveness – as you forgive others the harm they have done you, you will know peace and the fulness of God's forgiveness of you; 3) Hope of heaven – you live with the assurance of eternity with the Lord and reunion with those you have loved on earth; 4) Friendship with God – you have a friend, a supporter, a living Presence of love incarnate who is on your side!

Blessings, Pastor Mary



For you are **receiving**
the outcome of your **faith**,
the **salvation** of your **souls**.

1 PETER 1:9, NRSV



THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

This coming Sunday give thanks to God in heart and soul and voice! John Miller will sing two songs and we will hear a message by Pastor Mary called "Thanks Giving Not Thanks Getting" Scripture: First Letter of John 3:16-18 and 4:7-12 Richard "Cornelius" Farhat, worship leader.



Contact us:

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In-person worship: 10am Sunday
Contribute online: galtumc.org

NEWS & Notes



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

New Members Being Received December 18

December 18 is the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the theme will be JOY. It will be our JOY to receive Karen Honer and Jessie Dennison as official members of our Galt UMC family that day. Please let Pastor Mary know if you too would like to join and she will get materials to you about the United Methodist Church as well as sit down and answer any questions you might have.

Blanket Drive

The Sacramento Union Gospel Mission which works with the homeless in Sacramento is doing a blanket drive. They are seeking warm, dark colored blankets that are

washable. Drop off is at the Galt Seventh Day Adventist Church (619 Myrtle Street) on Sunday, November 20, from 9am – 3pm.



Bricks to Honor Loved Ones

The Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center, Inc. is selling bricks for the walkway of our new building that can be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one. Log on to sunshinefoodpantrygalt.org and follow the prompts. This is a wonderful gift for the person on your Christmas list who already has everything!



Quilting

New member Sharon Hebein is going to help us create two welcoming pieces of quilted wall art for our entrance ways! If you are interested, please plan to come upstairs at 11am on Monday, November 28. Don't quilt? Then bring any other kind of hand work. Will be a wonderful hour of ongoing creativity and fellowship.



It started with 1/2 cup of rice. Then someone added an onion and a can of tomatoes; another person brought in a bag that had a few carrots, some celery, green onions, and asparagus; then came a bag of potatoes, and someone contributed a nice chunk of ham and another person added some shredded turkey! Each contribution by itself seems lonely, small, and not enough to do much with, but when it is all put together we create nourishing and comforting soup to share with many.

Stone Soup reminds me very much of the amazing work that the many volunteers of the Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center, inc. engage in; they pull together donations from many different places and create something that is more than just food for people who are food insecure--they create a tangible, visible, measurable symbol of caring for others.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Stone Soup! We had cupcakes, cookies and bread to go with our soup, and best of all, about 25 people enjoyed fellowship with each other!

“One good thing about being wrong is the joy it brings to others.”

—Author unknown

Strange but true: The pilgrims prepared cranberry sauce at the first Thanksgiving feast to keep the flies off the other foods — not for consumption.

Sign seen on a poster in Portland, OR
“Life is short. Smile while you still have teeth.”



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
WEEKLY
Sneak Peek



Bible Study Offered Weekly

John's Gospel in person Bible Study at 11am on Tuesdays in the Social Hall is a time of deep engagement with the things of God. Come with your questions. Come with your desire to know more about God. No prior Bible knowledge is required. We had three new people last week! We are meeting on Nov.15 this coming week, then not meeting during Thanksgiving week (Nov.22). When we return on Nov. 29 Pastor Mary will do three sessions on Christmas traditions in Scripture.

ZOOM Bible Study on Sundays at 4 is taking a break for the Holidays. We will return with the study of Paul's Letter to the Romans beginning January 8th. If you would like to be a part of this study, let Pastor Mary know and she will send you a link after the first of the year.

Facebook Live Returns for a Limited Run!



For five Sundays starting November 13, Pastor Mary will be on Facebook Live from 4 – 4:30 talking about Biblical traditions around Thanksgiving and Christmas and the way these traditions have gotten shaped by cultural pressures. The good news is that the sessions are recorded, which means that if you have Facebook, you can watch them at any time! Last Sunday 200 people watched.



Wednesday, November 16: Pastor Mary out of the office for Continuing Education.



Thursday, November 17: 4:00pm on ZOOM. Anyone can attend. Here's the link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84152238058>



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, November 19; 9:00am at Old Town Diner on Lincoln Way.



Saturday, November 19: Thanksgiving turkey and dinner box distribution: starting at 10:30am.

Welcome to Worship

Sunday, November 20, Thanksgiving Worship at 10am; John Miller will be singing.



Sunday, November 20, 4pm – 4:30pm Bible Study with Pastor Mary on Facebook Live



November 21-25: Pastor Mary with renewal days, holiday, and day off *in case of emergency, please contact her by cell 530-417-6584. Back in office on November 26.

Our District Prayer focus this week:

November 20: Pray for Linden UMC.
November 27: Pray for St. Paul's UMC, Stockton



Sunshine Food Pantry Wednesday, November 16, 8:00 - 11:30am: Prepare food boxes for delivery to Senior Citizen homes.



Book Club for Women Wednesday, November 16, 5:00pm on ZOOM. Last one until 2023.



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

Tis the season for your Pastor and the members of the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) to complete Appointment Forms! They are due December 1, and each year I set the goal of having my part of them complete (takes about 8 hours from start to finish) by Thanksgiving, so it's not hanging over my head. One of the unique things about the United Methodist Church is that individual congregations do not "hire" their own pastor, but instead are "appointed" one by the Bishop and her/his Cabinet of District Superintendents. This system was originally developed in the early 1800s when Pastors were assigned to a "circuit" of multiple Churches where non-clergy – known as "lay" people – did the preaching and pastoral care and where Pastors came through only periodically to marry, bury, baptize, and serve Holy Communion. Some Pastors and local Churches find the appointment system frustrating, especially if they have a Pastor they like, and that person gets re-appointed. For me, as a woman and having been part of a mixed-race clergy couple, I have loved the system since I/we were appointed to local Churches that likely would not have hired us for fear of alienating Church members who were used to Pastors being white males. So, about those Appointment Forms: I will be asked to make the case for why the Bishop and Cabinet should reappoint me to Galt UMC for a fourth Conference year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) – I will also need to share with them about what I have done to strengthen my pastoral skills and to improve weaknesses in my ministry. I will be asked to demonstrate "fruitfulness" in my work among you. The Bishop wants details, details, details, which is why the forms take so long to complete. Our SPRC will be filling out their own forms stating whether they would like to have me reappointed, as well as an evaluation of my strengths and areas for improvement. If you would like to help in that process, please be in touch with Colleen Hurley, acting Chair of SPRC, prior to their meeting on November 21st. She would love to hear what you appreciate about my ministry, and also any areas that can use improvement. I am always looking to grow! Colleen can be reached at churley55@comcast.net or 209-712-1541.

Jokes Pastors Can Tell

It was the day of the big football game, and in church the time for the collection of tithes and offerings was approaching.

The pastor, a sports enthusiast, reached into his pocket, took out a quarter, flipped it into the air, watched it land, and like a referee joyfully announced, "The ushers have elected to receive.

thank you

Debra Herburger came up with the Stone Soup idea AND made delicious soup for all of us to enjoy! We appreciate your sharing your enthusiasm for building community and your culinary skills.

thank you

Rosie Kumar came up with a wonderful meal idea that was enjoyed by United Women in Faith this past week. Thirteen women enjoyed curry, pb&j, hummus, pickled beets and other yummy food representative of our cultural background. We also learned a lot about one another! Next month's meeting will be on Dec. 10 at 10am.



Students and Staff from Liberty Ranch High School once again filled the shelves of our Sunshine Food Pantry to overflowing. Each year they have been very generous to us and they are still collecting and will return next Friday with another load.

God's Kids Say & Do the funniest Things

From the Elmira, NY Daily Advertiser, March 23, 1883:

"A little girl in Spencer, NY, who attended Sunday school was greatly puzzled by one line of the hymn that was sung, which she understood as "Mike rime's a bird, an I long bath been," With the help of a hymn book, she discovered the line read: "My crimes a burden, long hath been."



The four weeks of Advent are an opportunity to prepare yourself for a NEW BIRTH OF FAITH. Come sing familiar carols and hear the greatest story ever told!

First Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27 **LOVE** Christmas Happens in the HEART *The story of Mary being visited by the angel Gabriel and her heart being full of God's love, which prepared her for becoming our Savior's mother*

Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 4 **PEACE/Holy Communion** Christmas Happens in HEAVEN *The story of the Angels and their message for humanity*

Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 11 **HOPE** Christmas Happens in the FIELDS AND OTHER PLACES LEAST EXPECTED *The story of the Shepherds and their willingness to go and see*

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 18 **JOY** Christmas Happens HERE *The Prophet Isaiah promises us that God is bringing a gift that will make us whole*

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th, 5pm: carols, candles, the Christmas story, and the musical talents of pianist Betty Metzger

Christmas Morning, Sunday, December 25th, 10am in the Church Social Hall: wear comfortable clothes, enjoy hot chocolate, eat cookies, sing carols, give thanks to God for the birth of His Son!

Blue Christmas Service – December 21st 5pm



Also known as “The Longest Night”, a Blue Christmas service recognizes the loss and loneliness that can be felt during the holidays due to the loss of loved ones, illness, or upsetting transitions of all kinds. There will be gentle music, prayers, and a chance to light a blue candle as an acknowledgment of how hard this holiday season is for you. We will create a soft, calming atmosphere where you are sure to experience the presence of the Lord and the caring of your Church family.

Christians are like Pumpkins

A woman was asked by a coworker, “What is it like to be a Christian?”

The coworker replied, “It is like being a pumpkin.”

“God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you.

“Then He cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff.

“He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed.

“Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.”

“This was passed on to me by another pumpkin.

Now it's your turn to pass it on to another pumpkin.

I liked this enough to send it to all the pumpkins in my patch.

—via Rev. Bud Frimoth
Portland, OR

GREETERS  SCHEDULE

November 20
David & Debra
Herburger

November 27
Colleen Hurley
Judy King

Hospitality Host



November 20
Tom & Linda
Hulse

November 27
Bob & Inez
Munoz



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