



## July 2022 Newsletter

**Sonora United Methodist Church**

90 Yaney Avenue, Sonora, CA 95370

### **Welcome Rev Kevin Campbell - our new Pastor**

I have been a half-time pastor for seven years, and still think of my previous 25 years of ministry as my normal. Normal is having office hours and an open door policy. Normal is being around for everything that happens at church. Normal is gatherings and chats getting to know a new congregation as quickly as possible. Juggling ministry and caregiving is still something to which I am adapting. Weighing what kind of contact is safe is a new normal that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought upon us. Asking for patience as I get to know you, your ministries, ways you reach out to share Jesus, and the dynamics of your church is part of this new reality.

What remains the same is my desire to be available to you. I want you to know how to be in contact with me. I will continue to live in the Tuolumne parsonage and have the same mailing address as those churches, PO Box 815, Tuolumne, CA 95379. My family and the church share a landline: (209) 928-1376. I have a cellphone, which you can call or send text messages: (209) 631-4409. My e-mail address is [revkev835@gmail.com](mailto:revkev835@gmail.com). There are times I am in the middle of medical procedures and will let calls go to the answering machine, but I try my best to return calls promptly. We can always work out ways to meet in person.

My time as your pastor is just beginning, yet I have lived in Tuolumne County for seven years. There is work to accomplish as the Tuolumne and Soulsbyville Churches continued to work on becoming a merged congregation. The work of visioning the best way for Methodists to be in ministry throughout the County is not finished. We will discover together how the merging congregation and your church can work together in ministry. Each congregation will pray and engage in its own ways to further their particular ministries. It is an exciting future and finding out what God leads us to will be an adventure. I am hopeful as we explore this new future together.

Shalom,

Pastor Kevin

#### **Sermons:**

July 3:	"Wash and Be Clean".	2 Kings 5: 1-14.
July 10:	"Where Do We Go from Here?"	Amos 7: 7-17. Colossians 1: 1-14.
July 17:	"The Most Important Thing".	Luke 10: 38-42
July 24:	"Rooted in Love"	Hosea 1: 2-10, Colossians 2: 6-19
July 31:	"Is Wealth a Problem?"	Luke 12: 13-21 Psalm 107: 1-9, 43

## **Masks will be required at Worship services and other events when Pastor Kevin is present. Please read reason below**

Jamie has Mitochondrial Disease, which is a genetic and progressive illness. There are a variety of genes which mitochondria need to properly generate energy in all the cells of our bodies. So people with Mitochondrial Disease have a variety of disfunctions. Jamie has advanced respiratory failure, loss of GI function and overall muscle weakness as the worst of her symptoms. She is wheelchair bound and requires non-invasive ventilation most of the day (oxygen all the time,) As a result Jamie is immunocompromised. A simple cold could very easily lead to a major hospitalization. COVID-19 attacks the respiratory system, so is especially dangerous for her and life threatening. It is also important to protect his wife Tammy so she can carry on essential medical care for Jamie. That is why we need to take additional precautions not to bring the virus home to our household.

Shalom,  
Pastor Kevin

## **Women's Fellowship**

Greetings All,

Happy summer, I hope this finds you all safe and well. During this time of transition there will be changes, but some things will continue as they have. Women's fellowship will still meet for lunch and breakfast monthly. Lunch is on Friday the 15th at 1:30 and will be bring your own brown bag. If it's not too hot we'll gather outside in the parsonage lawn. Breakfast will be a potluck on Sunday the 24th at 8:30.

Friday Qi Gong exercise and Bible study is normally at 1:30 every Friday aside from the women's fellowship lunch meeting. Bible study is based on the Wednesday Upper Room devotional reading for that week with the questions provided. For those who want to attend only Bible study that would start around 2:00, just after Qi Gong. All are invited. I would like to extend an invitation to our sisters and brothers at Soulsbyville-Tuolumne to join us for any they are able.

It is my hope and prayer that now as we are yoked together, we can explore how we may support each other, grow together, connect with one another and perhaps forge new friendships in the process. Let us welcome Pastor Kevin with open hearts and open minds. I will close with the blessing from yesterday's service:

"May the God of amazing grace give you eyes to see beauty everywhere, hands to do good to everyone and hearts to bless all you meet."

Karla Wasson

# Lagniappe

Lagniappe means something given as a bonus or extra gift. That is what you have done for us and Linda and I are most grateful. You have been generous beyond our expectation or imagination. The ‘send off’ on Sunday was wonderful. Thanks so much for the gifts, cards and kind words. Loving, Caring, Praying! Norm and Linda Mowery

## A time of change

As you can see from other articles in this newsletter, Sonora United Methodist Church will be going through changes. Thanks to Bobbie Clapham, chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, and the committee (Angie Hursky, Alice Mansfield, and Lorraine Vogt) who worked through the meetings with the District Superintendent, David Niu, and our new Pastor, Rev. Kevin Campbell, and much puzzling Pastor Compensation paperwork.

Thanks also to our church Treasurer, Gail Pollard and Finance chair, Wendy Buckman, who worked on our budget figures to make the necessary changes.

A good goodbye: Thank you to all who provided a lovely farewell party to Pastors Dave Bennett and Norm Mowery. We gave them gifts to remember us by: a photograph of the church by Gail and a fun book about Pawverbs from dogs. Loisi Hursky presented them with beautiful afghans she has been working on all year. We will miss these wonderful guys and their gracious wives, Jackie and Linda, as they have all become our friends as well as our Pastors. We expect to grow and change because of the counsel and knowledge they have given to us and the confidence we have gained while they were here.

A good beginning: It will take time for Pastor Kevin to get to know us and we him. He does not yet know our ways and traditions. We have ways that we do things that we won't even recognize until he does what is natural for him and there is a difference. We all know each other, but he has not met most of us. Please meet him with a welcoming heart and the assurance that we will learn and grow with what we learn from him. He has taught classes in rural church leadership, so we are welcoming a knowledgeable Pastor with many years of experience.

A few hints: Wear your masks and your name tags. Write a card to him introducing yourself. Keep him and his family in your prayers and pray for our church and Soulsbyville/Tuolumne church as we go through these changes together. We will continue to be a place of God's love and care to each other and our community.

Lorraine Vogt

## Birthdays

July 3 Diane Westgate Benson

July 8 John Motch

July 19 Ron Leedy

July 28 Maqueda Williams Nicholson

July 29 Dave Wasson

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Worship Times note: MASK Required

Soulsbyville @ 9:30

Sonora Worship @ 11:30am. (New Time)

**Sonora United Methodist Church**  
90 Yaney Avenue  
Sonora, CA 95370

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**Website:** [www.sonora-umc.org](http://www.sonora-umc.org)

**Worship Services: 11:30**

**Pastor:** Rev Kevin Campbell

**Email:** [revkev835@gmail.com](mailto:revkev835@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant:** Juliet Simerley

**Pianist:** Juliet Simerley

**Custodians:** Dan & Alice Townsend

**Newsletter Editor:** Gail Pollard

