



# May 2022 Newsletter

## Sonora United Methodist Church

90 Yaney Avenue, Sonora, CA 95370

**Every Sunday Is Easter Sunday... From Now On!**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed!**

This ancient Easter greeting was not just exchanged by the Early Christians on Easter but all year long as they passed each other on the street. They knew that Easter is not only one day but is an experience to live out every day of our lives.

We are the Easter people.

We are people of the resurrection filled with hope, joy, and love.

We believe that because Jesus lives, we can live abundant lives every day.

Palm Sunday and Easter were wonderful worship services at our church. This congregation was alive with joy, celebration, and hope. It is my prayer that the resurrection spirit will continue throughout the rest of this year.

On the liturgical calendar the Easter Season continues for 50 days and ends with Pentecost Sunday.

During the month of May we have much to look forward to as we experience worship each Sunday, pray for each other, support each other through life's trials and reach out in service through 'Rice and Beans' and much more.

As I write this I am praying for peace in our world and in our hearts.

Pastor Dave and I reach out to you with our support and prayers. We are amazed at the strength of the lay leadership of this church and are privileged to walk with you.

Pastor Norm

### **Preaching Schedule**

May 1	Rev Norm Mowery
May 8	Nancy Fraleigh Mother's Day
May 15	Roberta Clapham
May 22	Rev Bill David
May 29	Pastor Tom Weathers

## May 1 9:30 am Outreach idea Meeting

Gathering ideas for what we want to do to serve our community and making plans for our future. "Vacation Bible School"? Adult Bible studies? Board game days? . All are invited. In the Parsonage

After church: **Church Council meeting** to confirm additional Delegate to Annual Conference. Answer questions about the meeting with the District Superintendent about the future of the Methodist churches in Tuolumne County. Reports from committees

## Women's Fellowship

Greetings All,

We are fast approaching our rummage sale that will be on May 14th in the parking lot from 8am till around 2pm. Setup will be Friday the 13th at 1pm starting with lunch. We will do our final pre-sorting on Saturday the 7th at 9am. If you are able to help in anyway, please let me or Lorraine Vogt know. We could still use donations of kitchen ware, house wares, decorative items, books, movies, CDs, men's items, etc. Please make sure items are clean and in good usable condition. Try to have donations to church by our sort day on the 7th.

Our monthly breakfast meeting will be Sunday the 22nd at 8:30 at the parsonage. This will be potluck, so bring something to share.

Aside from our setup Friday, we are continuing to have Qi Gong and Bible study Fridays at 1:30 in the parsonage. Bible study is based on the Upper Room devotionals Wednesday readings which include discussion questions. All are invited. Small groups are a way to get to know each other a bit better.

Thank you all for your support.

Blessings,  
Karla Wasson

## Birthdays

5/12 Mary Lou Nuzum  
5/12 Lois O'Day  
5/21 Gail Pollard  
5/26 Joyce Frazier

## Paragraph 213 Task Force Update

The Task Force on the future of the 4 Tuolumne County Methodist Churches has prepared recommendations. The District Superintendent, David Niu, the Task force leaders and the members of the Central Valley District Committee of Church Location and Building are asking us to pick a date and time when most of us can attend a meeting and discuss the recommendations. The Saturday dates we can pick from are May 28 or June 4 or June 18. Our meeting will be held at our church, but there will also be a Zoom connection. There are many issues to discuss. We will pick our favorite date and time at the May 1st Church Council meeting.

The Minutes of the April 9 Task Force meeting discuss some of the issues. Copies of those minutes and a copy of the 23 page final assessment of Sonora UMC are in the Fireside room.

Merging means that 2 of the churches will join together and one of their buildings will have to be sold as they cannot afford to maintain both churches

Yoking means that the churches will remain separate, maintaining their own buildings, but they will together support one pastor. The Pastor will work half time and each church will pay the pastor 1/4th of his salary.

The recommendations are:

Tuolumne and Soulsbyville will merge. After the merger, they will together decide which church building they will sell.

Jamestown will merge with Sonora, or the Tuolumne/Soulsbyville combination, or be closed and the Conference will take over their building.

Sonora will be yoked with the merged Soulsbyville-Tuolumne UMC and that all the churches will engage in discussions every 6 months with each other and the District Superintendent to explore the advisability to have one United Methodist Church serving the county. Sonora currently only has enough money to support a 1/4 time pastor. Hopefully we will figure out how to grow during the year we are yoked.

These are recommendations and we will have the chance to vote on them.

Loraine Vogt

Sonora United Methodist Church  
90 Yaney Ave.  
Sonora, CA 95370

May 2022  
Worship @ 11:00am

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

**Office Phone:** (209) 532-4850

**E-mail - Office:** [sumc\\_office@att.net](mailto:sumc_office@att.net)

**Pastor Dave:** [djbenn7071@gmail.com](mailto:djbenn7071@gmail.com)

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

**Worship Services: 11:00**

**Pastors:** Rev Dave Bennett and  
Rev Norm Mowery

**Administrative Assistant:** Juliet Simerley

**Pianist:** Juliet Simerley

**Custodians:** Dan & Alice Townsend

**Newsletter Editor:** Gail Pollard

