



August 2022 Newsletter

Sonora United Methodist Church

90 Yaney Avenue, Sonora, CA 95370

You will come to discover that I preach on the love and grace of God very often. One of the most important images of God's love is how Jesus opened a place for us in the family of God. In my first month with you, it is easy to see you live out being the family of God. In many ways you are family to one another. This leads me to think of one of my favorite songs, "Part of the Family," written by Jim Manley. I learned to sing it at concerts by Jim and Jean Strathdee. The chorus goes:

Come in come in and sit down
You are a part of the family
We are lost and we are found
And we are a part of the family

The verses speak about worship as a welcoming and inclusive experience where we come to find our place in the family of God. It is about the messiness of life. A faith community that includes people of all ages and races. A place where we experience the forgiveness and grace of God. It's a community where there is rest for the weary and wholeness is found. One of my favorite parts of the verses says:

Greeters and shoppers
Longtime and new
Nobody here has a claim on a pew
And whether we're many or only a few
We are a part of the family

The ONE committee has been working on ways to strengthen the family ties being built in our congregation. Being a place where one will find their place in God's family is what makes Sonora UMC a great church. As we look to our future together it will be important to stay focused on how we invite others to come in and sit down, because you are a part of the family.

Shalom
Pastor Kevin

Sermons:

August 7.	The Need for Clean	Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20	Psalm 50: 1-8, 22-23
August 14	Wild Grapes or Faithful Cloud?"	Isaiah 5: 1-7	Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2
			Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-19
August 21	I Knew You	Jeremiah 1: 4-10	Psalm 71: 1-6
August 28	Cracked Cisterns	Jeremiah2: 4-13	Psalm 81: 1, 10-16

Women's Fellowship

Greetings All,

Women's fellowship has a number of events planned for the coming months, so mark your calendars.

We thought this month we would try a Saturday for our lunch meeting. We will meet Saturday the 20th at 11:30 at the Tea House in Columbia with the plan to use their outdoor seating area. Meet at church by 11:15 to carpool and let Lorraine or me know if you would like to come as reservations will be needed. Our breakfast meeting will be a potluck on Sunday the 28th at 8:30 in the parsonage. Men are welcome if they want to share the mealtime. Several things are planned for upcoming 2nd Saturdays. On Saturday September 10th we will have a clothing giveaway (using the leftovers from our last sale) as well as provide free root beer floats. With the help of ONE committee, we will also have the sanctuary open for viewing of the stained glass windows. We will ask the local artist who created our newest window if he could be there to talk about the process.

There is the possibility of holding an evening rummage sale on Saturday October 8th during 2nd Saturday events.

If the city holds Trick or Treat Street this year, we will have our haunted hallway with free hot dogs and nachos. This has usually been the Saturday closest to Halloween. We thought the November 2nd Saturday, on the 12th, might be a good time to sell Africa Team Ministries items. We are thinking of asking the Soulsbyville-Tuolumne church if they would like to use our space to possibly sell some sort of food offerings or anything else during this time. We will once again be participating in the annual Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child event. Watch for an updated bulletin board and more information. Our collection day for the shoe boxes will be Sunday November 20th. If you are planning to do a box, back to school items are available now at great prices as well as clearance price summer clothing, t-shirts etc. I will put out boxes and brochures soon. More details can be found at samaritanspurse.org/occ. Finally, we have talked about doing some version of our soup luncheon the same weekend the Catholic ladies hold their annual bazaar. This has in the past been in early December. If COVID numbers are higher, we would offer soup to go, with possibly a bake sale and gift baskets to raffle.

We continue to have our Friday Qi Gong exercise at 1:30 followed by Bible study around 2:00 in the Fireside room. All are invited.

May God bless you and keep you. In this time of continuing divisiveness, let us all sow the seeds of kindness.

Karla Wasson

Mother Lode Food Project (Green bags)

The next Green bag collection date is Sunday, August 21. The nonperishable food items collected are taken to the Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency for distribution to the local food banks. Thank you for remembering to make sure that the food is within the best use date. There are Green bags in the large box in the Fireside room. Paper bags work, too. If you would rather send a check to help those in our county in need, the address is:

ATCAA Food Bank
PO Box 1307
Jamestown, CA 95327

From the Trustees;

I was just reading the newsletter from August 2021 and it said that “for the next month or so we would be washing walls and beginning to paint in the Parsonage.” Well, it took us a whole year to paint and fix the the problems that we discovered. The interior is about finished, with Dave Wasson taking out the stained carpet in the dining room and installing a new wood grained laminate floor. Thank you to Dave and everyone else who worked so hard on the Parsonage this year.

Our other responsibility is to our renter, Diane Del Priore, and the Norlin House. Diane told us months ago that the refrigerator in the house wasn't working properly but she'd replace it and take the replacement with her when she eventually moved. She'd received one from a friend but it developed problems and she is again in need of a new fridge. Since she now cannot afford a new one, the church bought a new one which will stay with the house. It is a 20 cu ft Whirlpool from Lowe's. Total cost was \$804 which included delivery and hauling away of old one. She is very happy with it!

Next on the list for the Norlin House is to replace a couple of broken window panes and also some kitchen cabinets that had developed toxic mold problems. Hopefully those issues will be addressed this month.

On Sunday, July 31, we will have a Church Council meeting to finalize the budget, which will include the changes to the Pastor's salary. We will also be discussing how we will be using the Parsonage in the coming year and what programs we can safely resume or begin, even though there are many COVID cases still around in our county. We have many new ideas and hope you will be excite to take part in these new programs. Please remember to wear your masks during church services and other activities. Let's keep each other safe.

Lorraine Vogt

Birthdays

August 2	Shawn Barnes	August 14	Eli Mansfield
August 3	Angie Hursky	August 21	Ann Whitlach
August 12	Gavin Williams	August 31	Jim Nuzum

Anniversaries

August 21 Roger and Kathy Francis

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90 Yaney Ave.
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July 2022
Worship: 11:30 am ~ MASK Required
Or Soulsbyville UMC @ 9:30am

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Office Phone: (209) 532-4850
E-mail - Office: sumc_office@att.net
Website: www.sonora-umc.org

Worship Services: 11:30

Pastor: Rev Kevin Campbell
Email: revkev835@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Juliet Simerley
Pianist: Juliet Simerley
Custodians: Dan & Alice Townsend
Newsletter Editor: Gail Pollard

