



TULARE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS -

OPEN DOORS

**THE MESSENGER**

**July 2019**



[tulareunitedmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:tulareunitedmethodistchurch@gmail.com)

[tulareumc.com](http://tulareumc.com)

**Our Mission Statement: To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Tulare United Methodist Church

228 W Kern St, Tulare CA

**JULY 8 -12, 2019**

**8:30 TO 12:00 NOON**

Grades K - 5

Another exciting and fun time of the year!

Theme is "The Armor of God."

8:30 Breakfast

**Permission Forms and Sign-up Sheet**

**Will be in the Narthex (Sanctuary) & Church**

**United Methodist Men "Tool Time Volunteers"**



With Ron Vaughan out of town, Greg Smith called together 15 men to reflect on the groups past, and to continue the discussion on how to best continue a 40 year tradition that creates opportunities to further build spiritual commitment, and fellowship.. Andrew Josiah opened the gathering with prayer, and a meal was shared, an additional 5 men whose schedules conflicted with the meeting time threw their names in the hat, expressing willingness to support efforts to reshape the men's organization. It was agreed that for the immediate future, the fellowship will meet several times a year to complete selected repair projects building upon the skill levels represented, taking on projects consistent with the goals of the Trustees, and supporting efforts of fundraising as needed. For now, the group will be called "Tool Time Volunteers", led by a steering committee of Chp., Ron Vaughan, Steve Tarin Jr., Greg Smith, and Jim Maxfield. Projects will be selected, a call list developed, and projects will be undertaken. With considerable enthusiasm, appreciation for a great meal, the meeting closed with prayer by Jeffrey Chavez.



## Mary's Musings

By now most of you have realized that I am a United Methodist fan girl! There are a lot of things that I love about the founding principles of Methodism, about the theology of John Wesley, and about our organizational structure. One of the things I like best is that we are a “connectional system” – Tulare UMC is not free standing – instead, we are connected through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness to a mission and ministry of disciple making and transformation in the name of Jesus Christ that is worldwide. That excites me. One of the most concrete ways that this is expressed is that we send 10 cents of every dollar you give as a tithe toward the mission and ministry of our United Methodist connection. This tithe supports many programs I love, including the infrastructure of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), which is why 100% of UMCOR giving goes directly to disaster relief and rebuilding. Our tithe helps support the pensions for all retired pastors who have ever served in United Methodist congregations. I am proud that when their time of active service is over, we help support those who have supported us. The tithe we pay has had a very personal impact on my family: tithe monies provided salary and resources for the missionaries who went to South Africa and inspired my husband to answer his call to the ministry; tithe monies provided scholarships for both my husband and me to complete our Masters of Divinity (and tithe monies provide for support of Methodist Colleges and Seminaries both in the United States and worldwide); when my husband died, tithe monies offered survivor benefits for my children, which made it possible for me to take time out from ministry to concentrate on their healing; and tithe monies now are helping to underwrite John and Zola’s college educations through a scholarship program the United Methodist Church offers the children of clergy who have died when their children are under the age of 18. That scholarship money provided through tithes is one of the reasons I am able to afford to work for a ¾ time salary at TUMC and still meet my personal financial obligations. At the District Conference we hosted last month, TUMC received a certificate stating that we paid 100% of our tithe for 2018. I am proud of us! I know how much good your giving does both in our community and in the world. In the Resurrection Spirit of Christ, Pastor Mary

p.s. For more information about our connection please log on to [cnumc.org](http://cnumc.org)

### These are the words spoken by the Bishop on June 21, 2019

READMISSION TO CONFERENCE RELATIONSHIP AND RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS AS AN ELDERS

Bishop: After due examination of your call and ministry after a time away, we now welcome you back to this communion. You have given assurance of your faith and Christian experience. You have renewed the vows of your ordination and have recommitted yourself to accept and uphold faithfully the doctrine, liturgy, and discipline of The United Methodist Church. We rejoice that you have been called again to serve among us, and pray that God may guide your ministry.

*As Mary comes forward, the bishop greets her:*

**Mary Maaga**, we celebrate your readmission to conference relationship and the restoration of your credentials as an Elder in full connection among us.

## **July Worship Topics**

There is nothing ordinary about these worship experiences, even though this season of the Church year is called "Ordinary Time." It is called this because it is an "ordinary" or "standard" way of being for disciples to pursue growth in Christ and to discover what talent, gifts, or special abilities we have to offer the Holy Spirit in the building up of God's Kingdom.

### **July 7 HOLY COMMUNION**

Sermon Title: "The Pentecost of Boldness"

Scripture: Acts 4:23-31

### **July 14 CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY/HOLY BAPTISM/VBS PRESENTATION**

Sermon Title: "Fighting the Enemy"

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-20

### **July 21 GUEST PREACHER MEGAN BELTRAN**

Sermon Title: "God is not SPAM"

Scripture: Romans 8:28

### **July 28 FAMILY WORSHIP/BLESSINGS FOR JULY BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND MILESTONES**

Sermon Title: "Barnabas the Encourager, Part 1"

Scripture: Acts 4:32-37

## **Trustees**

What looks different at our Church grounds this month?! Our corner sign on Kern and 'G' has been refurbished and updated! Thanks goes to Rigo Signs of Tulare for the creation, as well as to our Church's own Paul Brown who will be updating it with energy efficient lighting. Keep your eyes open for other refurbishments as time goes on! Tulare Methodists have been at "our little corner of heaven in Tulare" for 136 years for a reason! Chris Harrell, Chair of Trustees



## Member of the Month – Bishop Award Winner – GREG SMITH



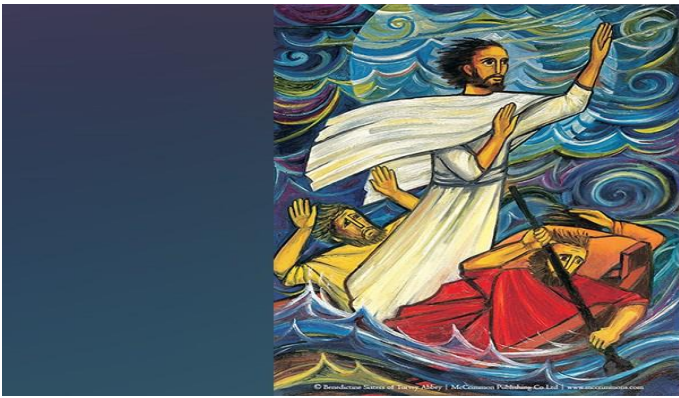
During Annual Conference on February 21<sup>st</sup>, Greg Smith was presented with the Bishop's Award for outstanding effort in leading a local Church toward revitalization. This is a portion of the nomination letter Pastor Mary Maaga sent to Bishop Minerva Carcano.



Dear Bishop Carcano,

Greg Smith embodies what it means to be a Christian disciple committed to disciple-making for the transformation of the world.

- 1) Attending to his spiritual growth: Greg Smith is a loyal, committed, and engaged participant in our weekly No Barriers Bible Study; he also attended Adult Sunday School until he was recruited to be a teacher at that same time for our Youth Confirmation Class; unless out of town, he is always in Worship. He also embodies "love your neighbor" by consistently and lovingly reaching out to homeless and marginally housed people who come to our Bible Study and Worship. There is overwhelming Christian hospitality at the heart of this man.
- 2) Providing leadership: Mr. Smith has held every leadership position at Tulare UMC in the past 40 years. He carries on the legacy of leadership from his parents Gwen and Barton Smith, who were enthusiastic members of TUMC until their passing in 2017. Most recently he has held Chair of Outreach, which oversees TUMC's outreach to the homeless and neighborhood children and youth, as well as our Clothes Closet and Breakfast Before Church. He serves on the board of Reaching Higher an ecumenical Christian after school program for children and youth. Greg was an early supporter of our No Barriers Bible Study which provides a hot meal and Bible Study to a mix of homeless, marginally housed, and members of Tulare UMC, as well as other area Churches. When this Bible Study started nearly two years ago, Mr. Smith was one of a dozen people who attended. Now we average 45-60 people at Bible Study, with additional people coming for the meal but not staying. When we struggled with needing to switch some leaders around in order to provide a fresh start for our Finance and Stewardship Team, he was more than willing to step into the role of Church Council Chair. He is admired by all for his devotion to Jesus Christ and his loyalty to the United Methodist Church. If we in the Church Office ever need anything – a consultation, a signature on a check, etc. – he will drop everything to get here. He loves his Church.
- 3) Making disciples: When the youth team embarked on creating a Confirmation Class, they asked Greg Smith to become one of the leaders. His desire to see the faith of his father and mother passed on to the next generation is palpable. He openly embraces those who are struggling with their faith and is clear about who is at the center of his: Jesus Christ. Greg Smith's prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are major factors in the current revitalization of Tulare UMC.



With  
Jesus  
in the  
Boat  
- Matthew 8:23-27 -



## **Bonnie Thiele, Lay Member to Annual Conference Session June 19 – 22, 2019**

My experience at Annual Conference this year was different than the past two years because **I am different!** In the past few months I've really connected with the **Holy Spirit** and **God's Grace**. The beautiful Tulare UMC with Pastor Mary and the work of the Worship Team has been important to Sunday Worship, Bishop Carcaño's visit, and Pentecost Sunday have all touched me very deeply. With these experiences, and others, I was able to connect and really believe that **With Jesus in the Boat**, we can do anything and everything.

Annual Conference began with **Bishop Carcaño's** message, *Call to Order and Celebration of Communion*. Tulare UMC representatives of the Central Valley District met in Modesto along with the other districts. The theme, **With Jesus in the Boat**, and Scripture from Matt. 8:23-27 worked well! (*The boat was small, it was a big storm, and where was Jesus? He was asleep. So, the disciples woke him! What did Jesus do? He calmed the winds and the waves. The disciples were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him?"*)

### **What were our responsibilities?**

We received the Report from General Conference 2019 in St. Louis and participated in two-hour sessions on Wednesday and Thursday evenings for **Christian Conferencing on Strategic Visioning**. We were conferencing about **staying together** in the midst of the storm that threatens to divide us.

We met in Legislative sessions. My particular session addressed benefits for active and especially for retired clergy. This was meaningful and connected with our privilege of meeting up with Pastors Latu, Les, Mike Harrell, Linda Ford and retired Pastors who served in Tulare: Jane and David Schlager, Jim Scott (and Terri) and Marty Murdock.

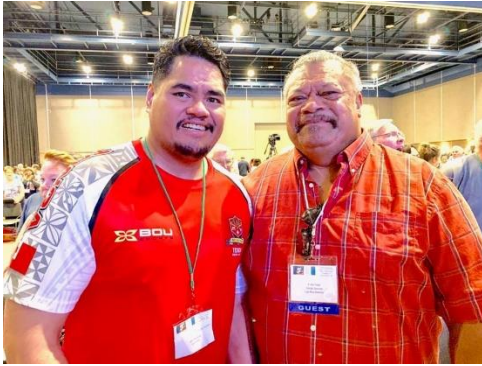
We participated in "Fixing of Appointments" as each church in the entire Conference received the name of their pastor(s), and we all prayed for the coming year **With Jesus in the Boat**.

We voted for Clergy and Laity representatives to the **2020 General Conference**, which has world-wide representation and meets every four years.

WE CELEBRATED: 150 years with UNITED METHODIST WOMEN; 200 years with Global Ministries, including missionary Katherine Parker's work. Highlighting and putting Tulare on the map was volunteer, Greg Smith, who was one of four laity who received the BISHOP'S AWARD, and Pastor Mary Maaga as she was reinstated with Elder's Orders, Rev. Mary Maaga! About 20 of our congregation came to Modesto on Friday to participate in the celebrations; we also enjoyed

dinner together, hosted by Rev. Maaga; *thank you, Pastor Mary* for being our shepherd in the way forward ***With Jesus in the Boat.***

### **Sini Tautuaa, Lay Member to Annual Conference Session June 19 – 22, 2019**



It's an honor and privilege to represent our church to the California/Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. I had a special and very amazing experience. Because when I arrived at the conference, I remembered what Jesus said "When one person or two get together in my name, I am with them" This fit really good with the Conference theme "With Jesus in the boat". When I saw all those many Christians getting together to glorify His name, I felt inside my heart that I have witnessed heaven found in this world. The music was so awesome and the preachers

selected gave us precious messages. When the conference started, most of the conference members didn't have any idea of TUMC, then after Greg Smith got the Bishop's Award, I know and feel that now we are on the map. Therefore, I like to give thanks to Greg Smith and Rev. Mary Maaga as well as all our church family for coming together to do God's work like Greg Smith said in his acceptance speech. I would like to challenge each and everybody like a proverb from our tiny island of Tonga "The award of good job by doing more great job in the future."

In my conclusion I would like to say thank you so much from the bottom of my heart to my TUMC church family for sending me to witness and enjoy this tremendous experience.

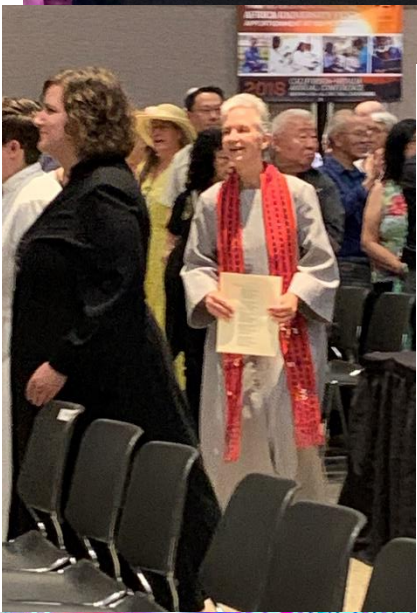
### **Anaya Gray, Youth Delegate for the Central Valley District**

My experience at Annual Conference was incredible. Being a youth delegate was a great experience. I loved meeting new friends and learning more about the way the church works. Some of my favorite parts of Annual Conference were getting to see Greg Smith get the Bishops Award for all his work in our church and being a loyal disciple of Christ. I also loved watching Pastor Mary get her Elders Orders restored. Annual Conference was a great experience. I can't wait for next year.

### **Road Trip:**

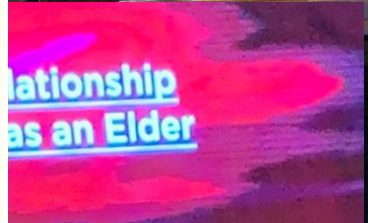
22 people joined Bonnie, Sini, Anaya and Pastor Mary at Annual Conference on Friday June 21<sup>st</sup>. We were there to watch Greg Smith be surprised with the Bishop's Award (not sure how surprised he was, as he was wearing a suit). Steve Gong, Claire Grant, Linda Day, Martha Linder, Nan Maxfield, Eric Gong, Jessica Stone, Bob Duncan, Julia Summers, Lynnda Boswell, Heione Tautuaa, Linda Vaughan, Carol Jackson, Lewis Marcelino, Dolores Marcelino, Stacy Perry, Pat Perry, Greg Smith, and Paul Brown. Pastor Mary showed us off to her Conference family and Greg's speech was really good. We also enjoyed great music and messages. The Tongan Choir was amazing.

*Greg Smith receiving Bishop's Award for his leadership in revitalizing TUMC at 2019 Annual Conference in Modesto*



LET IT BE KNOWN THAT  
 MARY MAAGA  
 HAS BEEN ORDAINED  
**ELDER**  
 AND IS A MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF ELDER IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HAVING BEEN JUDGED AS WELL QUALIFIED TO BE ENTRUSTED WITH THIS SACRED OFFICE, THIS PERSON HAS BEEN ELECTED THERETO BY THE CALIFORNIA-NEVADA ANNUAL CONFERENCE.  
 UNDER THE PROVIDENCE OF ALMIGHTY GOD, A BISHOP OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HAVE, BY THE IMPOSITION OF MY HANDS AND BY PRAYER, SET THIS ONE APART FOR THE WORK OF AN ELDER IN THE CHURCH, TO PREACH THE WORD OF GOD AND TO ADMINISTER THE HOLY SACRAMENTS, SO LONG AS THIS PERSON CONTINUES TO BE A FAITHFUL SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST AND ADHERES TO AND TEACHES THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD AND THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF MY OFFICE  
 THIS 21ST DAY OF JUNE IN  
 THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2019  
 IN MODESTO, CALIFORNIA  
 BISHOP *Francis Conner*



*Ordination of Credentials as an Elder*



## JULY CALENDAR

**Every Sunday** (JULY 7, 14, 21, 28)

- 8:00 **Chapel** – Hope Chapel with Holy Communion
- 8:30 **Breakfast** – Wesley Hall
- 9:00 **Sunday School Classes** (Adult Only)
- 10:00 **Worship Service**
- 3:00 **Kids Game Day** –
- 5:00 **Boy Scouts** - Upstairs – Education Wing

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**Every Monday** (JULY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29)

**NO BARRIERS BIBLE STUDY**

- 5:00 **Fellowship & Music** –
- 5:30 **Supper** – Wesley Hall
- 6:00-7:00 **Study of Acts** with Pastor Mary

**Every Tuesday** (JULY 2, 9, 16, 23, 31)

2:00 **Twin Oaks Devotional**

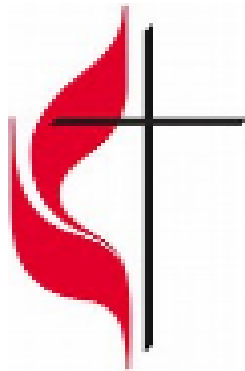
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Tue., Jul 2 10:00 **Hispanic/Latino Team** Pastor's Office

Sun., Jul 7 11:15 **Trustees Meeting** Fireside

No other meetings during July enjoy your Summer



- 5 BOBBI MOORE**
- 7 RICHARD MONTGOMERY**
- 9 LINDA GALICIA**
- 15 LILLIANA RODRIGUEZ**
- 16 BECKY WAITS**
- 21 MARIAN VANDER WALL**
- 24 JOHN JONES**

## *July Anniversaries*

- 22 DAVID & JULIA SUMMERS**
- 27 CESAR & MEGAN BELTRAN**
- 30 BETH & WILLIS COX**

*If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed please contact the church office.*





# JULY

## 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> **5:00 NBBS 5:30 Supper 6-7 Bible Study with Pastor Mary	<b>2</b> 11:15 Hispanic Latino Mtg.  2pm Twin Oaks Devotional	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>78:00</b> Hope Chapel <b>8:30</b> Breakfast <b>9:00</b> Adult Sunday School <b>10:00</b> Worship – Communion <b>10:00</b> Hispanic/Latino <b>11:15</b> Trustee-Fireside Rm <b>3:00</b> Kids Game Day	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 2pm Twin Oaks Devotional	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Vacation Bible Study 8:30 – 12:00noon “THE ARMOR OF GOD”</b>						
<b>14</b> 8:00 Hope Chapel 8:30 Breakfast 9:00 Adult Sunday School <b>10:00</b> Worship <b>10:00</b> Hispanic/Latino <b>3:00</b> Kids Game Day	<b>15</b> **5:00 NBBS 5:30 Supper 6-7 Bible Study with Pastor Mary	<b>16</b> 2pm Twin Oaks Devotional	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Pastor Mary is on vacation until Monday July 22<sup>nd</sup></b>						
<b>21</b> 8:00 *Chapel 8:30 Breakfast 9:00 Adult Sunday School <b>10:00</b> Worship <b>10:00</b> Hispanic/Latino <b>3:00</b> Kids Game Day	<b>22</b> **5:00 NBBS 5:30 Supper 6-7 Bible Study with Pastor	<b>23</b> 2pm Twin Oaks Devotional	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:00 *Chapel 8:30 Breakfast 9:00 Adult Sunday School <b>10:00</b> Worship <b>10:00</b> Hispanic/Latino <b>3:00</b> Kids Game Day	<b>29</b> **5:00 NBBS 5:30 Supper 6-7 Bible Study with Pastor	<b>31</b> 2pm Twin Oaks Devotional				

# Our Church Transforming the World

## Youth Group



We are so grateful to Megan and Cesar Beltran and Greg Smith for leading this year's Confirmation Class, which met every Sunday morning from September – May. Seven of our young people affirmed their faith in Jesus Christ and took vows to become adult members of Tulare UMC: Anaya Gray, Esaiez Amador, Steven Tarin, Nelice Gonzalez, Anthony Gonzalez, Tomas Castro, Exavian Castro. We are proud of you and inspired by your words of faith and gratitude during Worship on June 9.

Twelve of our youth had a blast at Greg and Connie Smith's home swimming, eating, and talking about life and God. We have some deep and articulate young people. Next time you see one of them, ask what they have learned in the past year about themselves and life. Prepare to be inspired. Also, prepare to tell them what YOU have learned about yourself and life in the past year.

Our next swim party will be at Lynnda Boswell and Jeffrey Chavez's home on July 13. Rides from Church at 3:30; return 7:30. We will be planning our Youth Talent Extravaganza then. Mark your calendars now for an entertaining and fun afternoon featuring our youth group and friends: **Youth Talent Extravaganza, August 4 at 3pm.** A free will offering to support youth activities will be taken.

## Pentecost Pageant

Thank you children and youth for opening up the story of Pentecost for us with your enthusiastic performance! Pastor Mary says she has another pageant in the works for early next year about Paul's missionary journeys.

## Family Fun Day – August 11, 2 – 6pm at the Parsonage

Bring a picnic – Pastor Mary will provide drinks and frozen desserts. The back gate to the parsonage opens onto Blain Park. Bring outdoor games to share. Kids of all ages, plus their parents or grandparents or aunts or uncles or friends are welcome to join us! This will be a fun afternoon!!



## Adult Sunday School – every Sunday

Ever wonder who decided what is included in our Holy Bible? Ever think about writings produced in the first and second centuries that were not included, and why? These questions make for some lively conversations, which is what our Adult Sunday School loves! Please come join us Sunday mornings at 9am in the room behind the library.

## **No Barriers Bible Study – every Monday, downstairs Social Hall**

You are sure to get hooked if you come even once to this powerful time of outreach and Scripture study. Those who are regulars will be happy to have your voice and presence add to the richness of the Kingdom of God that we experience every week. Doors open at 5, potluck 5:30, study of Acts of the Apostles 6:00 – 7:00pm. We start and end right on time.

## **Membership Directory**

If you're looking for an updated directory, please call Lynnda in the Church Office and she will have one made for you.

## **Ushers**

Taking the offering on Sunday mornings is a fulfilling way to volunteer, and doesn't mean an extra trip to the Church during the week. If you would like to be an usher, please contact the Church Office. Commitments are one month in duration.

## **Passing It On**

Sharing your faith can be as simple as telling a family member, a friend, a neighbor, or a co-worker that because you go to Church you are more\_\_\_\_\_ and less\_\_\_\_\_. One person at TUMC told a friend that because he goes to Church, he is more patient and kind and less judgmental. That friend said that he plans to come visit. Another simple way to evangelize (a fancy Bible word for "pass it on") is to take one of our cartoony booklets from the entrance way and share it with a post it note (this is the important part) indicating which page reflects what you like best about being United Methodist. These are simple ways to PASS JESUS ON and GROW OUR CHURCH. Finally, be sure to invite your friends to log onto our website: [tulareumc.com](http://tulareumc.com) If you haven't done so, you will be very impressed, so please check it out.

## **Baptisms – July 14**

Faithful brothers Russell and Stuart Lewis are getting baptized during Sunday morning worship on August 14. They first came to us for the meal on Monday nights, stayed for Bible Study, attended worship for the first time on Christmas Eve, and now are faithful, consistent worshippers and Bible Study members. (If anyone else would like to receive this life giving Sacrament of Holy Baptism on July 14th, please contact Pastor Mary right away.)

Russell Lewis has written lyrics to a song called "Tribute to TUMC":

*Verse 1: Listen, and you shall hear, God's voice calling in the air.*

*Come Sunday morning if you will, see what's shaking things up there.*

*Come on in on Monday nights, sit right down and have a bite.*

*Stay for Bible Study if you choose, let me tell ya friend, you might learn a thing or two.*

*Chorus: Good people, good time. This is what was in mind. So come on people, there is a plan. God's coming to take us to the Promised Land.*

*Verse 2: Our mission is to invite others in, with a hand shake and a wonderous grin.*

*Come on people, it's up to you. Learn about God, and what He can do.*

*Ask Him for forgiveness and He will give it to you.*

*Chorus repeat*

*Verse 3: We are shaking things up. We are making it known. TUMC is the place to go.*

*If you want good friends, then come and see, what's shaking at TUMC, corner of Kern & G.*

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Check out our new and improved corner sign! Our Board of Trustees has a lot on their plate and our Chair Chris Harrell is doing a bang-up job keeping everything organized and moving forward. Guess who is retiring this summer? Terry Brazil, Johnny Starling, and Martha Linder! Hope we will be seeing more of all of you around the Church in the year ahead.

Many thanks to Jessica Stone and her sidekick Donna Barrier for organizing the Clothes Closet. We are now open during Breakfast Before Church and in the half hour before No Barriers Bible Study. If you would like to help Jessica to staff the Clothes Closet, please let us know in the Church Office.

Lavon Brogan is a mighty prayer warrior. Though she is too fragile at 96 years of age to come to worship anymore, she wants us to know that she prays for her beloved TUMC every day.

Kristen Brown is having a baby! Congratulations to the whole family, including Grandpa Paul and Grandma Brenda Brown.

Marie Butler's daughter came to California to visit her Mom and help her get around to doctor appointments for her arthritis. We have missed you Marie!

Beverly Montgomery's life was celebrated on June 12<sup>th</sup> in our Historic Sanctuary. She is deeply missed by all of us.

Good news for Troy Garrett and Tammy Thompsen. Prayers answered! Ask them about it.

Ditto for Jesse Ramirez.

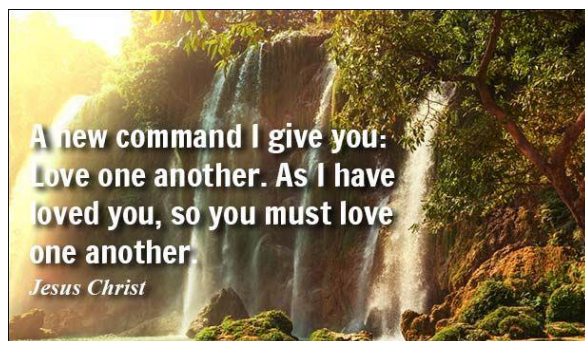
Wonderful to have Mike Huddleston back in town for most of a week. We love and miss you, Brother Mike.

Neva Stevenson and Carol Hall are in Oregon beating the heat. In case you didn't know, Neva and Carol are sisters.

Heione and Satini Tautuaa had an all expenses paid trip to Florida to celebrate a professional excellence award received by their daughter Veisia, who will be relocating to Tulare as soon as a home can be located that will meet her professional needs. (Prayers please!)

Ron Vaughan received the Methodist Women's Fellowship "Man of the Year" Award for 2019! Congratulations, Brother Ron!!

**Thank you** Julia and Dave Summers for painting and updating the West entry.





# STEPHEN MINISTRIES

By Claire Grant

The image you see at the top of this article is the Stephen Ministry Caregiver's Compass and it is central to all of our training sessions. The symbol at the center of the Compass is a Chi - Rho which consists of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ. This symbol reminds us that Jesus is always at the center of our caring ministry.

The four points of the Compass indicate four very important characteristics of our care givers. Stephen Ministers are compassionate. They are full of faith. They are skilled and they are trustworthy. Our training sessions are centered on this compass and encourages our growth in each of these areas.

Thus far our training has involved developing skills in areas that deal with feelings, listening, assertiveness, maintaining boundaries and confidentiality. It is our prayer that God will use our caregivers with these qualities to bring healing and wholeness to others.



The Outreach Committee has joined in all the activity occurring around our church campus. Thanks to Jessica Stone, the former articles stored for "Dress for Success" have been moved to other local Thrift Stores, holding back some winter clothes. Jessica has rearranged the Clothes Closet

emphasizing men sizes (pants 32" to 36") women's sizes (small and medium), and a variety of children sizes. In addition to supplying clothes for the homeless, Jessica is preparing small bags to include hygiene products for both men and women. For the summer months and into the fall, the Closet will focus upon clothing, socks, hygiene, and household incidentals for families moving from homeless to housing. Plans still remain to periodically provide a day for neighbors who appreciate having access to some of the clothes the Closet provides. Outreach funds for the Summer and Fall will be used to purchase selected clothing items, emergency food provided through the office (Lynnda Boswell), and water purchased for distribution. Remaining "budgeted" funds will be held for early winter needs.



"Money never stays with me. It would burn me if it did. I throw it out of my hands as soon as possible, lest it should find its way into my heart." ~John Wesley~

## METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Katerine Parker, United Methodist Missionary to Nepal** visited Tulare United Methodist Church on Thursday, June 13, 2019. A small group was in attendance; however, we represented four United Methodist Churches: Tulare, Exeter, Reedley and Visalia. Tulare MWF invited Katherine and supported our guests with refreshments and an audio-visual technician (Andrew Summers) for the presentation.

Katherine is one of 350 UMC missionaries serving our Connectional Church around the world. She told us about the history of Christianity coming to Nepal, culture of the area, and the work they are doing today. Those present contributed \$359 to support Katherine and the United Mission to Nepal.

**Past Men of the Year in attendance on June 16, 2019: Richard Montgomery, David Summers, Steve Gong, Jim Maxfield, Greg Smith, Lewis Marcelino, and Mike Huddleston.**

Each of their names is on the plaque and each one of them has a red apron.

Our **2019 Man of the Year** has loved the Lord all of his life, and he also loves history. In fact, he wanted to continue his university education to get a Doctorate in History and teach in college. But God had other plans for him! He got a secondary teaching credential and a Master's degree in history. How was this going to play out?



He became a social worker and learned how to help people fill out applications and where to go to get government help. God guided him to use his social work background and help others.

With his history background, he decorates for Vacation Bible School, provides objects for the upper room, or helps a young man to dress like Ben Franklin.

Our **2019 Man of the Year** has taken his unique talents that God has given him and blended them together to help others wherever God guides him.

Meet our **2019 Man of the Year: Ron Vaughan!**

### **Thank you note from: Ron Vaughan**

Thank you Methodist Women for the great honor of being chosen "Man of the Year for 2019" I was very surprised, even when it was mentioned that the recipient was interested in history - I thought it could be someone else!

***Planning Meeting August 5<sup>th</sup> for October 26<sup>th</sup> "Landscapes of Christian Faith" Women's Day Retreat 10am in the Fireside Room. The day retreat was originally scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> please change your calendars.***

## Vacation Schedule

Pastor Mary will be on vacation following Worship on July 14 until the morning of Monday, July 22. She will be traveling to Friday Harbor, Washington to visit Rev Dr John V Moore, her Pastor, who will be turning 100 this coming September. She will also be spending time in Davis with her children John and Zola, as well as Emily the Psychic Sidekick Dog. **In case you need pastoral care please contact Stephen Ministry Leader Claire Grant at 686-8993 or 303-6514.**

Yes we will be having No Barriers Bible Study on July 15 – there will be a special teacher that night while Pastor Mary is away.

Administrative Assistant Lynnda Boswell will be on a much-deserved vacation from July 2 – 9. We are grateful to have Marge Risi's help at the desk while Lynnda is away.

Julia Summers, our amazing Events and Hospitality Coordinator, will be on vacation most of July and August. We will try not to get into too much trouble while you are gone!



## *Events and Hospitality*

Dear Church Family,

This past year has been very busy with events other than worship, study, and meetings!...Harvest Dinner, Hanging of the Greens, pageants, Sweetheart Dinner, Spring Dinner, Holy Week Events, Jubilee Dinner, Bishop's Visit, Pre-Conference Celebration, Cleaning Days, Memorial Services, Bible Study Dinners...

"It takes a village" to make things happen. Thank you all for the continued help. Most of you were not there for one event, but stepped up to help again and again! It is a joy and a privilege to work with the Tulare United Methodist Church village! Thank you.

Julia Summers, Event Coordinator

P.S. If you would like to continue to be "on call" for this next year's events, please let me know. (901-5067 or [sewcreate@aol.com](mailto:sewcreate@aol.com))

**Monthly Messenger:** Deadline to submit information for the August Messenger is Monday July 22nd by noon.

**TULARE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**228 W. Kern Ave.**

**Tulare, CA 93274**

Return Service Requested

PHONE

(559) 686-8523

OFFICE HOURS

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

9:00am – 1:00pm



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA CONFERENCE of the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Bishop Minerva Carcaño

Debra Brady, District Superintendent



**TULARE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

**Pastor Mary Maaga**

Lynnda Boswell,

Administrative Assistant

Landes Dung,

Music Coordinator/Director

Catalina Daggett, Organist

Andrew Summers,

Technical Services Director

Max Muhlenbrock,

Custodian

Julia Summers,

Events Coordinator