



The Messenger

Corona United Methodist Church
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February 2021

Pastor's Paragraph

Jesus said, "*Follow me!*" Matthew 4:19

Beloved,

I'm going to try a new direction with my paragraph as we begin a new year together. I'm going to speak to what's going on in our community of faith.

And the elephant in the room is COVID-19. All of us are affected by it. There isn't a person in our congregation who doesn't have a family member or a friend who's affected by the virus. This includes adults and children. A number of our loved ones have died from the disease.

The impact of COVID-19 is complete. There's almost no aspect of our lives, as persons in a community, that's not affected. Our grief is deep and it's personal. The needs of those around us are overwhelming.

What can we do?

Like you, I feel limited in my abilities. I'm concerned about going into public as I'm in the high-risk category, as many of us are. Yet I feel convicted in my heart by Jesus' call to love others freely, willingly and sacrificially. We are called to be active, not complacent.

What can we do? I suggest we listen and respond.

The first thing we can do is listen. Call someone who's struggling and listen to them. Hear what they are saying. Try to understand what they are feeling and how they are impacted emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. To do so we must be silent, letting the other person speak. Our presence is the most important thing we can offer.

Then the next thing we can do is respond. I'm sure there are people who have needs they don't know how to meet. While we can't go into someone's home, we can be creative about how we can help. And, even if the need is something you can't meet, others may be able to help. With permission, share the needs. Our Member Care team and I are available to help.

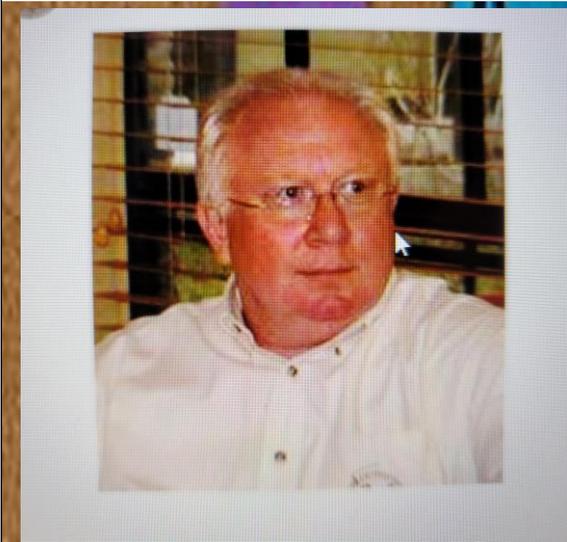
Connecting to each other and to our neighbors in this way puts us clearly on the path Jesus calls us to follow. I invite you to walk that path in the way Jesus calls you to. Your life, and the lives of others, will be better when you do.

Placing my hope in Jesus,
Pastor Eric



February BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

2/7 Rhyan G. 2/9 Barbara A. & Cameron P. 2/10 Herman S. 2/12 Joey C.
 2/15 Katie Z. 2/16 Mary Lou A. & Brian E. 2/17 Steven B. & Rufus R. 2/19 Lisa M.
 2/21 Martha H. 2/23 Patricia B. 2/25 Rosemary K.



Volunteer Corner

Thank you, Wayne Vinyard! Please join Pastor Eric, the Council, the United Methodist Men and the Finance & Stewardship team as we say thank you to Wayne. We love Wayne's energy, enthusiasm and great attitude. Wayne is definitely a roll-up-your-sleeves kind of worker and we greatly appreciate his willingness to share his time, skills, experience and passion with us. He does so with the help of his wife Ann, who is a wonderful volunteer in her own way. Thank you Wayne for serving as chair for our Finance & Stewardship team and for all the other ways you care for us. We are made better by Wayne and Ann.

(Want to recognize an unsung volunteer? Send us a picture and paragraph. We're grateful to all who serve.)

Remote Office Hours

The church building and office are closed, but the church is alive and well. And so are the staff! You may not be aware, but the staff are keeping regular office hours as they work remotely. We are working virtually for our safety and yours. The normal office hours for the church office are 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, Monday-Thursday. Cat regularly checks voicemail at the church (951-727-5225) and the email address, CoronaUMC@gmail.com. Pastor Eric is available at umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com and the Church Council president, Margaret Turner, is available at margareturner4@aol.com.

New Church Email Address

We have a new address! For email, that is. After struggling with some limits over the past couple of years, we are changing the primary church email address to CoronaUMC@gmail.com. It gives us a LOT more options and extras to help streamline what we do. Please use this address when contacting the office. We will keep the AOL account as a secondary account for a limited time.

Alternative Christmas 2020

Our gifts to the poor of the world

Thank you to everyone who generously participated in Alternative Christmas this year.
We collected \$3,610, divided up among several causes:



- \$ 935 Mozart Adevu, our missionary in Ghana
 - 1,345 Basic Essentials for Students of UMC Africa University
Providing essentials for 269 students for 1 week
 - 470 Safe Communities Project, Zimbabwe
Providing care for 1 day for 94 children
 - 580 Babyfold at Old Mutare Children's Home, Zimbabwe
Providing care for 116 babies for 1 day
 - 25 UMCOR Agricultural Missions farm animals
 - 255 UMCOR Disaster Relief and Programs of Assistance
- ~Linda Faxon and Diane Encino

Corona UMC Outreach

We would like to thank all the Outreach committee members who helped with Outreach during this difficult year of 2020. Thank you to the congregation for helping us with support for our Ghana missionary Mozart Adevu, the 100 Welcome Kits for homeless in Los Angeles, collection of school supplies to Parkridge Elementary School and support with Christmas gifts for 2 Parkridge families. Many of our congregation have taken food to Settlement House during this year as we know the need is great. Always call ahead before you go as their hours have changed.

Now we look forward to 2021 which likely will be another year of projects. Thanks to all who agreed to serve on the 2021 committee: Joe Almasy, Christine Lum, Paula Munoz, Doreen Paul, Jennifer Runnings, Lee Ann Seeling, David Banks & Carolin Burrell. We are happy to serve as co-chairs with this committee. If anyone in the congregation has ideas for community outreach or would like to help this committee, please give us a call. We know our work together is what Jesus asked us to do. "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing... Truly I tell you just as you did it to one of the least of these you did it to me." Matthew 25:34-40

Linda McGranahan (951-858-4572 & Cheryl Lum (217-766-7114)

Settlement House

Corona-Norco Settlement House is open again to accept food donations in their parking lot. Drop off between 10:00-4:00. They need rice, beans, canned fruit/vegetables, canned pasta, granola bars and water. Low-income families can pick up food between 4pm and 5:30 pm Monday - Friday. The address is 507 South Vicentia Ave., Corona, CA 92882.

Outreach

Celebration of the Life of Pat Harns



We celebrate the life of Patricia Stephens Harns (Pat), who passed away on January 4, 2021. She had long-term health issues but tested positive for COVID-19 prior to her death. The family urges us to be cautious and careful in this time.

Pat was born October 3, 1930 in Fort Smith, AK and grew up in Tahlequah, OK. In 1952, she left the area to teach home economics at Rock Springs Junior High School in Wyoming. That's where she met Jim Harns. They were married in 1955 in Puerto Rico.

We all know Pat for her enthusiasm, passion, laughter and her keen mind and wit. An accomplished painter, Pat was very involved in church and community in Salt Lake City, UT. When they moved to Corona, CA, she became a faithful member of the United Methodist Church and was active in the community in Corona. For years, Pat hosted a women's book club. Pat's keen mind and interest in matters of faith made her a beloved participant in the Adult Christian Education class at Corona United Methodist. In recent years, she and Jim hosted a monthly Bible study in their home, which grew from five participants to fourteen.

Pat loved spending time with her friends at church. We will miss her very much. There are no services set at this time.

Want to recognize a loved one who has died? We would love to celebrate their life with you. Send us a picture and paragraph. We're adding this new feature to honor those who are near and dear to our Corona UMC family, particularly those who die of COVID-19 related illness.

Celebration of the Life of Beulah Hensien



We celebrate the life of Beulah Hensien, who passed away December 16, 2020.

Beulah was born in Tower Hill, a small farming community in Illinois. As a young adult she worked at the Henry Ford Plant in Michigan on B-52 Bombers at the beginning of World War II. She was one of the Rosie the Riveter's that worked on the hydraulic systems in the wings. A few years later, she was urged by her younger sister Betty to move to California because the wages were higher. After the war, she met Edward, her husband of 58 years. They had 2 children, Judy and James. Beulah had 4 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Beulah had a wonderful and healthy life. We will always cherish our memories and feel blessed to have had her all these years. We know she is at peace and in the Arms of our Lord and Savior.

Many of us remember Beulah's gentle smile, which was always present on Sunday mornings. She was gracious, elegant and soft-spoken, but always made everyone feel welcome. Beulah will be missed.

There was a viewing and graveside service for family on Friday, January 22nd at Rose Hills mortuary and cemetery.

The Zimprich Family would like to thank all of you for your kind thoughts, prayers and beautiful cards for Beulah. Your thoughtfulness and support are truly appreciated. Blessings to you all, Judy

Corona United Methodist Women Book Readers Club

Our Book Club was recognized by the East District Reading Program for reading in 2020 the most recognized plan books in our entire district!

Congratulations to each of you who participated in 2020!

Eleven (11) of our Book Club Members read a total of 53 books. Six more church members also read books from our church library for a grand total of 17 people reading 64 books.

We were first out of a total of 12 churches! Not by a close count, but in most cases we read 3 or 4 times more books. Wow! Be sure to sign out a book from our library when you are seeking something educational and/or fun to read.

Thanks for participating in our CUMC Reading Program. Happy reading in 2021!!

~Margaret Turner, Book Club Coordinator

Corona United Methodist Women Book Readers Club

The Book Club read *Gum Moon: A Novel of San Francisco Chinatown* by Jeffrey L. Staley for our choice in January 2021. We met via Zoom for our discussion.

The story takes place at the turn of the century 1900 in San Francisco. It is about the culture and customs of the Chinese inhabitants specifically concerning the poverty they endured in the city. It presents the money making schemes of the less than honorable underbelly of the culture and the treatment of young girls, even children, by their parents and the people who took advantage of the poor.

Gum Moon (Cantonese for Gold Door or Golden Gate) is the remarkable coming of age story of a Chinese-American girl, Mei Chun Lai, who is sold by her parents in 1898 at the age of three to a cruel brothel keeper. A sympathetic prostitute befriends Chun, but two years later, at the height of a plague quarantine, Chun is thrust into a bewildering new world.

A young Methodist woman rescues her and places her in a Methodist Home for abused and trafficked girls. The Home is destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire, but Chun (aka Maud) survives.

In an attempt to raise funds to rebuild the Home, Maud and a group of seven other Chinese children embark on a six month cross-country train trip on which they performed by singing Christian and patriotic songs. Performing for President Theodore Roosevelt in the White House is the highlight of the journey. Along the way they were hosted and fed by many Methodist Churches and Methodist women volunteers. They ate lots of fried chicken!

When the main chaperone, the matron of the Home in San Francisco, suffers an emotional breakdown, thirteen year-old Maud must find within herself the strength and resolve to lead the band of children home. There are various people who assist her and they do get back home safely.

The novel is based on events in the life of the author's wife's grandmother.

Parts of the story are hard to read, but there are good people all along the way and the outcome is worth the read.

~Margaret Turner, Book Club Coordinator

Volunteers Needed for Our Online Campus!



Corona UMC has an amazing online presence. In the last 28 days, we touched 3,300 people online. This is a great opportunity to connect and develop new ways to share the good news.

If you have skills or are willing to learn some, we need help in these areas:

- Social media – we need people to “meet & greet” others online before, during and after the services
- Preparing worship slides – Donna will train you!
- Video editing – Aaron is a master and will show you the ropes

We’ll provide training. Send a note to Donna, Aaron or Pastor Eric if you are interested and available, even if it’s just once a month.

How Are You Engaged?

You may not realize it but serving is the way we all can make disciples. Together we invite, connect and engage. Acquaintances we meet on the porch (Invite). Friends are made in the living room (Connect). Family is in the kitchen, preparing the food for our soul (Engage).

We need some help in the kitchen!

We’re looking for people who are willing to roll up their sleeves and engage. All you have to do is be willing to help when asked, ask questions and care for others. It’s a blessing to have so many capable people in our church.

We have a place reserved for you. Come and join us! You’ll be glad when you do.

Please let us know if your ministry team or group has an activity for the calendar.

February 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Groundhog Day Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F	3 Weds. Bible Study @8am via Zoom Pastor Eric SPRC @ 10am via Zoom Jan Nichols	4 Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	5	6 Church Clean-up @8 am
7 Super Bowl Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @ 11am via Zoom Nikki Children's Fellowship @11:30 via Zoom	8	9 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F Trustees @6pm via Zoom Tom & Steve	10 Weds. Bible Study @8am via Zoom Pastor Eric UMW Exec @2:30 via Zoom Linda Faxon	11 Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey UMW Book Club @ 10 via Zoom Linda	12	13
14 Valentine's Day Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @ 11am via Zoom Nikki	15 Presidents Day Office Closed	16 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F Finance Committee @5:30pm via Zoom Wayne Church Council @7pm via Zoom Margaret	17 Ash Wednesday Weds. Bible Study @8am via Zoom Pastor Eric Ash Wednesday Service Online @ 7 pm Lent Starts	18 Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	19	20
21 Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @ 11am via Zoom Nikki	22	23 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F	24 Weds. Bible Study @8am via Zoom Pastor Eric Homemade Soup & Soul @ 6pm via Zoom Pastor Eric	25 Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	26	27
28 Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @ 11am via Zoom Nikki						