



The Messenger

Corona United Methodist Church
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May 2021

Pastor's Paragraph

*"God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God
and God remains in them" 1 John 4:16b*

Dear Friends,

Spring has arrived, summer is around the corner and love is in the air!

Our "Living the Life" worship series is focusing on the letters of John, particularly 1 John. The words resonate with us in many ways. We hear them at weddings, see them written in cards, and they are often cited on Mother's Day.

God is, by nature, loving and kind. God loved us before we were even aware or able to love God in return. What an amazing gift! *"Love one another as I have loved you"* (John 15:12). Jesus' words are simple, direct and clear. Love takes precedence.

Loving this way sounds easy, but we all know it isn't easy. Not because love is limited, but because we are. Humans have limits. We all have flaws, faults and hurt feelings that we don't know how to resolve. These hurts fill us with fear. We can become selfish and demanding. We tend to isolate ourselves. We lose our trust in people, institutions and even ... God.

There's only one antidote: truth. Jesus said to those who believed in him, *"You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teaching. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free"* (John 8:31-32).

We need to admit we have flaws, faults and hurt feelings. We need to admit we need forgiveness. Start with yourself. Yes, you need to be honest and then forgive yourself. Then go to God. Be honest and ask for forgiveness. Only then will you be ready to go to others to admit the truth and ask for forgiveness.

This may take time. Be gentle. God's voice is quiet. We have to listen carefully. But God's love is unconditional. To say it another way, God loves you ... in spite of ... even when ... after you You get the idea.

The strength to be set free, to heal comes from God's grace, which pardons and heals. Open your heart and mind to Jesus. When you forgive, you'll be set free. And you'll discover love where you least expect it.

By God's love,
Pastor Eric



May BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

5/5 Jan N 5/8 Carolin B & Christine L & Robert (Rob) F
5/9 Sally C & Diane E 5/18 Jim B 5/26 Kiefer S 5/31 Barbara C



Celebrating Volunteer Corner

Thank you, Margaret Turner! Please join Pastor Eric and the Church Council, as we say thank you to Margaret. Margaret is a wonderful leader who guides us, surely and steadily. She has surely been tested as the Council president during a year filled with challenges from the pandemic. We are grateful for Margaret's calm, her quiet demeanor and the way she puts a positive spin on whatever issue we may face. We all are blessed to have her as part of our church family.

(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 margaretturner4@aol.com.



Jesus makes our lives
together better in every way



Dear Members and Friends,

“The goal I pursue is the prize of God’s upward call in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:14

On March 22, 2020, our Church Council decided to cease public worship, limit meetings to two people and follow the practices and guidelines set by our Bishop and government.

We continue to follow Safe @ Home guidelines. We know this goes against the care and compassion we want to personally offer one another and our neighbors. However, it’s necessary to help protect lives. We hold to John Wesley’s number one rule: Do No Harm.

We are finding ways to invite, connect and engage. Last year, our online attendance was 229 people per service. That’s excellent when you consider we only have 202 members!

Now we find ourselves in a new season. Vaccination is available and we encourage it. Even if you are uncertain, please get vaccinated for the sake of others.

We are working on plans to re-open. We hope to be able to offer walk-through communion with a drive-in option. We’re working on plans for small groups to meet. We’re in discussion with the district on how and when we might re-open for indoor worship. Please be in prayer and volunteer to help when we call.

We plan to continue online services. They allow people to connect who wouldn’t normally be able to attend.

We appreciate your patience. We need your support – your prayers, presence, giving, service and witness. Together in love, we can seek to better know Jesus.

Blessings and good health to all,

Pastor Eric Schmidt

Margaret Turner, Church Council Chair

Brian Park, Lay Leader



Honor your mother with a donation to your Corona United Methodist Church this year.

You can do so by sending a donation check or by Zelle. Contact your bank and enter the payee email address: coronaumc@aol.com

INFORMATION FROM YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance and Stewardship Wayne Vinyard wvinyard46@gmail.com

March 2021 Offering \$25,175.99

April Giving: \$17,412.19

~\$26,000 per month is the amount required to pay all salaries and bills for the church.

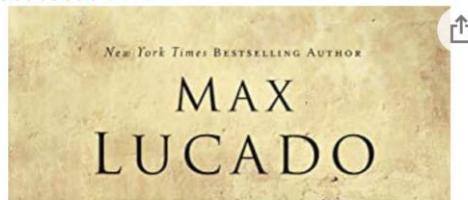
If you have any question, please contact Wayne

Volunteer Needed: We need a volunteer to be trained as a backup to Cat for performing twice a month payroll processing. No experience necessary except a willingness to help out for times Cat is on vacation or sick.

Please contact Cat at the church office ((951) 737-5225).



Mildred Gibson celebrated her 99th birthday on April 27. She was visited by family and CUMC friends. Mildred moved to Corona in 1960 and attended CUMC for many years since. Happy Birthday Mildred!



Put your faith in action! Join The Bad Girls of the Bible as we study the book of James.

Study starts Thursday May 13 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Contact Karen Eagans at kkeagans@aol.com for information and your Zoom invite.

Thank you,

Karen Eagans

Linda McGranahan named “Quiet Disciple”



Linda McGranahan was given a “Quiet Disciple” award at the East District United Methodist Women’s meeting on April 24, 2021.

Linda is a leader in the church and in UMW, but also does many deeds of kindness and mercy behind the scenes that are not known by others.

She has a quiet way of calling and checking on church members to give words of encouragement. She is a long-time a member of this church and knows many of the members quite well. She has been known to offer help in any way needed, such as giving rides, making food, or sending cards. She always remembers to thank others for what they have done and has a warm smile

Linda is co-chair of the church Mission and Outreach Committee, and co-chair of our local unit UMW Social Action.

She is the chief jam and jelly maker for the Holiday Bazaar, in which pomegranate jelly is the top money maker for UMW missions.

She participates in the UMW community-building group Faith Journey, the Seams of Faith UMW sewing group, the UMW Faith in Motion group, the UMW Bad Girls of the Bible study group, and UMW Executive Council. Come to think of it, she is in all of the UMW circles!

At any church breakfast, lunch, or dinner, she will be there in the kitchen, helping to serve the food and clean up afterwards.

She had a disabled child and is especially understanding and caring toward special needs people. We are so happy that Linda is a part of our church and our UMW unit.

Cheryl and Christine Lum are at Parkridge Elementary School



UMW Faith in Motion

The Ladies of the UMW Faith in Motion group provided help for a needy family in an unexpected way last week.

A request for a twin over full bed size bunkbed appeared on the Riverside County Faith in Motion E Mail. It was for a family in Azusa, and we usually respond only to requests from our community, so I deleted that message and went on to the next E Mail.

Apparently, God had other ideas. Just a minute later, Margaret posted an E Mail saying that she had a "Twin over Full" bunkbed to give away. I retrieved the requesting E Mail and responded that Corona UMW could help. I wasn't sure that was a good idea, because Azusa is far away, and I had no idea how we would transport such a large item to the family that needed it.

An hour later, another E Mail appeared. A church in Monrovia, (Near Azusa, 40 miles away) had stepped up and volunteered to drive to Corona pick up the bed, and transport it to Azusa! Now I knew for sure that God wanted us to get a bunkbed to that family!

As promised, the people from Fellowship Church in Monrovia appeared in their truck at Margaret Turner's house Saturday, April 17 and picked up the donations our UMW had collected for them. We sent -

A twin over full bunkbed (with attractive child-friendly patterned mattresses)
New full and twin sheet sets, 2 comforters, a pillow and several pillowcases, 1 twin and 1 full mattress cover
1 bag full of extra sheets and bedding

I call it "God's Surprise".

Linda Faxon

May 2021

◀ April

June ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Church Clean-up @8 am
2 Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @11am via Zoom Nikki	3	4 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F	5 Cinco De Mayo SPRC @ 10am via Zoom Jan Nichols	6 Bible Study @9am via Zoom Linda F. Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	7	8
9 Mother's Day Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @11am via Zoom Nikki	10	11 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F Trustees @6pm via Zoom Tom & Steve	12 UMW Exec @2:30 via Zoom Linda Faxon	13 Bible Study @9am via Zoom Linda F. Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	14	15 Armed Forces Day
16 Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @11am via Zoom Nikki	17	18 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F Finance Committee @5:30pm via Zoom Wayne Church Council @7pm via Zoom Margaret	19	20 Bible Study @9am via Zoom Linda F. Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	21	22
23 Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @11am via Zoom Nikki	24	25 Faith Journey @9am via Email Linda F	26	27 Bible Study @9am via Zoom Linda F. Bad Girls of the Bible @6:30 pm via Zoom Karen Eagans Scouts BSA @7pm via Zoom Mr. Carey	28	29
30 Prayer Group @9:30am via Zoom Nikki Worship Online Coffee Hour @11am via Zoom Nikki	31 Memorial Day					