



The Messenger

Corona United Methodist Church
2880 California Avenue, Corona, CA 92881
951-737-5225 coronaumc@aol.com www.coronaumc.com

October 2019

Our Attendance

September 01, 2019 September 29, 2019

10am: 99 10am:

September 08, 2019

10am: 110

September 15, 2019

10am: 105

September 22, 2019

10am: 84

October Birthdays!



BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH

10/1 Christopher S.

10/3 Pat H.

10/6 Tom S.

10/10 Aaron H.

10/15 Loretta S.

10/17 Cheryl T.

10/23 Janie A.

10/28 Linda M.

10/31 Sal M.

Happy
Birthday

Our Church Staff

Eric Schmidt, Pastor

umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com

Jeanne Cadiente, Pianist/Organist

Cat Nunez, Administrative Asst.

Susan Park, Family Ministries

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

8:30am to 12:30pm



Pastor's Paragraph

*"... from this point on we won't recognize people by human standards.
Even though we used to know Christ by human standards,
that isn't how we know him now."*

2 Corinthians 5:16 (CEB)

Open hearts, open minds, open doors.

Most of us know this tag line, a famous slogan used by the United Methodist Church for years. It captured the openness of those who were part of the church. The words uniquely reflect our heritage, our Wesleyan DNA.

It goes hand-in-hand with John Wesley's famous statement, "As to all opinions that do not strike at the root of Christianity, we think and let think."

The two statements are connected. They have a common source: God. We believe in a catholic (or universal) spirit. We see God's Spirit present in everyone, everything, every place and every moment. Best of all, the Holy Spirit is never in conflict with itself. The Spirit's presence transforms conflict and division, even when we can't see the way forward.

We can't make peace, bring justice or reconcile others to God on our own. It takes divine grace. We need Jesus. Only Jesus has the power to love us in any circumstance. Only Jesus can pardon us for the wrongs we do, intentionally and with premeditation. Only Jesus can reconcile our relationship with God, healing people, communities and creation itself.

What we have to do is admit we aren't God. That's the first step to truly accepting and receiving God's love. We have to give up being in control and let God take the wheel. That's God's part. We have to accept the imperfect and broken people in our lives because we, too, are broken and imperfect. That's our part.

By grace, we can accept others for who and what they are in God's eyes – beloved children, without trying to change them into our image.

By grace, we can love our neighbors with open hearts and open minds, without using human standards of right and wrong to judge and condemn.

By grace, we can open our doors in practical and meaningful ways to those who are often left outside the church because of their race, language, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

My prayer is for Corona UMC to embrace this vision of openness, compassion and inclusivity. It's God's blessing, waiting to be given.

Open our eyes, Lord

Pastor Eric

Prayer Corner

Home Bound Members

Roger and Mary Lou Brown, Doris Collins and, Mary Ann Ebert,
Diane Foster (Ernie's wife), Georgianna Kelly, Pat Pisani,
Byron and Yvonne Powell, Shirley Smiley, Judy Stevenson, John and Boots Walker



Have you answered the Bishop's Challenge?

Bishop Grant Hagiya asked us a question:

What do we see Corona UMC doing to meet the needs of our community in the future?

It takes all of us to answer the question. Young or old, white or non-white, gay or straight, Republican or Democrat, male or female, member or non-member, all of us are needed. Without any one of us or any group, our answer will be incomplete.

We want to hear your voice. It's important. We have been gathering through August and September in homes, at church and Pilgrim Pines campground. We prayed. We shared our stories. We learned from one another. The Holy Spirit is with us every step of the way, guiding, prompting and encouraging us. That's what holy conferencing is.

Sadly, we've only met with one-third of our congregation. Two out of every three people aren't part of our conversations about what we see. We aren't making any decisions this fall. We are looking with new eyes, listening with fresh ears, and opening our hearts and minds to see where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

It's not too late! You have two more opportunities to be part of this historic time of learning. First, you're going to get a letter in the mail. Please read it, pray and reply. Second, come to our workshop on Saturday, October 5th from 10:00 am to noon at the church for another time of holy conferencing.

**Don't be afraid.
Tell us what you see.
We'll all be made better.
Trust in Jesus.**

The background of the right-hand page is a vertical rectangular panel with a decorative border of stylized, hanging leaves in shades of purple and blue. The central text is in various colors (blue, red, black) and fonts, providing information about a prayer group meeting.

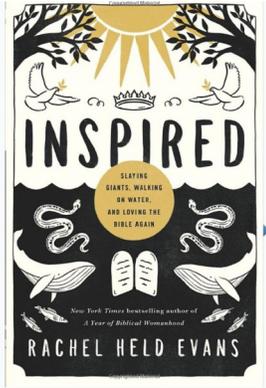
Corona UMC Women's Prayer Group
Pray with us!

**"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them."
Matthew 18:20**

Every 2nd Saturday of the Month
Starting October 12, 2019 9:00-10:00 AM
At DENNY'S on Compton Ave. Corona
Contacts: SUSAN PARK 951-312-7971
ESS SCHMIDT 714-310-9785

**"And pray in the Spirit in all occasions with all kinds of prayers and request. Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."
Ephesians 6:18**

The Bad Girls of the Bible



Please join the Bad Girls of the Bible at church on Thursday October 3 from 5:30 to 7:00. We'll be talking, learning and praying together as we read Chapter 3 War Stories and Chapter 4 Wisdom Stories. We look forward to seeing you! Questions?? Contact Karen Eagans 951-313-1017.

Faith in Motion

In August, Faith in Motion donated a large number of school supplies to Raney Intermediate; they were very thankful and said most of the student needs were met in that area. We will be collecting water and granola bars in October for the AVID and Academic Literacy classes please watch the bulletin for those dates. Also tutors are needed in the Literacy class, great rewards.

We are collecting gift cards, \$10-\$20, for the Inspire Life Skills Training program that teaches homeless and foster youth who have aged out of the system to learn the basic skills helping them to have a productive life; Stater Bros., Ralph's, Target, Walmart and Arco are good choices.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Linda McGranahan. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Mission & Outreach

We had another successful Hygiene Kit drive in September. Thank you to Kathy Andersen and the Faith Journey ladies who assembled most of the kits. Also a large donation of flip flops was given and they will be used well. These will go directly to Calexico to help with the need there. Thank you all for supporting this important mission. Our next mission will be collecting hygiene items for the Veterans; we will share those needs soon. Sally Carlson, chair

Corona United Methodist Women Book Readers Club

Book Club was back to a regular meeting on September 12 after a summer break. Lunch was provided by Margaret Turner and Diane Encino.

We had all read The Same Sky by Amanda Eyre Ward. There were eight of our group present and we all just loved this book!

The book tells the story of two women. Alice is a forty year old Texas barbecue owner who has the perfect life, except she and her husband long for a child and are unable to conceive. The second woman is a fearless thirteen year old named Carla who is being raised by her grandmother in Honduras along with her four year old twin brothers. Their mother is sending money home from Texas where she's trying to make a better life for her family. She has been able to bring one of her young twin sons to Texas to live with her.

When Carla's grandmother dies, Carla decides to take her fate into her own hands and embarks on a dangerous journey across the border with her young brother who was the twin left behind.

Two powerful journeys intersecting at a pivotal moment in time; Alice and Carla's lives will be forever and profoundly changed. Heartbreaking, emotional, and arresting, this novel is about finding the courage to trail blaze your own path in life with faith, hope and love, no matter the struggle or the tragedy.

Carla's personal tale of poverty and immigration is pertinent to our current events. And, spoiler alert, the book has a good ending.

There are many books available in the church library; this is just one of them. I hope you will check out the selection of books in the narthex and inside the church office and decide to check one out for your reading pleasure.

◀ September		October 2019					November ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 9am-Faith Journey	2 7:30a-Weds Morning Bible Study 10:30am-S.T.E.P 5pm-Girl Scouts	3 5:30pm-Bad Girls 7pm-Choir 7pm-Boy Scouts	4	5 7:30am-Walking Group 8am-All Church Cleanup	
6 8:45am-Adult Christian Ed 10am-Communion	7	8 9am-Faith Journey 6pm-Trustees 7pm-Finance	9 7:30a-Weds Morning Bible Study 5pm-Girl Scouts 6:30pm-U.M.W. Board @ Faxon's	10 Noon-Book Club 7pm-Choir 7pm-Boy Scouts	11	12 7:30am-Walking Group 8:30am-U.M.M. Breakfast	
13 8:45am-Adult Christian Ed 10am-Worship	14 Columbus Day 6pm-Children&Youth Ministries	15 9am-Faith Journey 5:30pm-SPRC 7pm-Church Council	16 Boss's Day 7:30a-Weds Morning Bible Study 5pm-Girl Scouts	17 10am-Seams of Faith 11:30am-Potluck Luncheon 7pm-Choir 7pm-Boy Scouts	18 7pm- Scouts Raingutter Regatta	19 7:30am-Walking Group	
20 8:45am-Adult Christian Ed 10am-Worship	21	22 9am-Faith Journey	23 7:30a-Weds Morning Bible Study 5pm-Girl Scouts	24 7pm-Choir 7pm-Boy Scouts	25 11am-Packing Lunches@Seettlement House	26 7:30am-Walking Group	
27 8:45am-Adult Christian Ed 10am-Worship	28	29 9am-Faith Journey	30 7:30a-Weds Morning Bible Study 5pm-Girl Scouts	31 Halloween 7pm-Choir 7pm-Boy Scouts			