



The Vine

March 2022



United Methodist Church
1031 Iowa Ave. Los Banos, CA 93635
E-MAIL Address: umclb@att.net or umclosbanos@gmail.com
Phone (209) 826-4181
Address Service Requested

Worship Service **9:30 AM**

Infant and Pre-school Care **9:30 AM**

Sunday School: **9:40 AM**

(Following Children's Moment in Worship Service)

Church Office Hours: Mon - Thurs. 8:30 AM–11:30 AM

Pastor: Henry Pablo III

Church Secretary: Cassie Wolf-Miyamoto

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

5th Tom Kaljian

5th Olivia Hew

6th Ron Dybas

13th Stacy Betschart

13th Susan Younce

14th Michael Bonillas

29th Kevin Ferreira

30th Liam Walsh

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

18th Gregg & Juli Rice

February contributions total: \$ 6,543.00 (without last Sunday of the Month)

Attendance for February 6th (50) 13th (50) 20th (43) 27th (00)



February 24, 2022

Dear Los Banos UMC Family,

The season of *Lent* has been described as a season of reflection and self-examination for the followers of Jesus. Furthermore, Lent has been described as a season of *fasting*, which traditionally is the act of willfully abstaining from eating food in order to focus on one's relationship with God. **The important part of fasting, whether it be refraining from food or something else, is that it is an act of making space for God in our lives.**

One of the ways we can make space for God is through being in community and fellowship with one another. Beginning in the first week of March we are planning to start two **Life Groups for Women and Teachers/Parents with Children (Pre-K to 12)**. **The mission of this ministry is to create a space for individuals to explore how the amazing grace of God is changing their hearts, their lives, and their relationships with other people.** There will be six sessions, and each session will be an hour long. Each session will consist of a check-in portion and a Bible Study/Discussion portion. It will be an opportunity for you to deepen your faith in God through getting to know the church community. If you are interested in being a part of these life groups, please contact the church (209) 826-4181 or email us at henrypablo.serve@gmail.com for more information.

As always, I hope that you are all doing well. Please let us know how the church can support you as we continue through this year. If you are in need of a visit, a phone-call, or Pastoral Care, do not hesitate to let me know and we can schedule a time to meet. You can contact us at (209) 826-4181 or email us at umclosbanos@gmail.com.

Much Peace,
Pastor Henry





Administrative Council Highlights – February 1, 2022

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 with eight people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Update on Proposed Los Banos Warming Center in Fellowship Hall.** The District and Conference approved the proposed two-day trial run to use our Fellowship Hall as an overnight warming center. We distributed flyers informing neighborhood residents of the plan; some were in favor and some were not. Our insurance carrier will extend coverage only if men are housed separately from women and children. That might involve using the NA/AA room, but there are many concerns about that. Henry said he would do some further work on the plan and bring the proposal back to the Ad Council at a future meeting.

Ongoing problems with homeless people and their belongings on church property were discussed at length. We are trying to get the City Police and Code Enforcement Officer to help in controlling the situation. Henry has gotten suggestions from some of his colleagues. This topic will be brought back later to the Ad Council.

- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** Amanda will take some time off from Manna duties. Manna is still waiting for the promised donation from the hospital, so the bank account is basically depleted. Amount from Hospital should come in March. Henry will work on a grant application for money that the District has available. Manna has not been serving many people lately, and there have also been very few volunteers. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 21, and an effort will be made to revitalize and reorganize Manna, and establish a sharing of duties between the participating churches, so we aren't always responsible.

Vacation Bible School is tentatively set for the week of June 20 through June 24. Tawny is teaching children's church during the month of February. Scout Sunday is coming up on February 13.

- **Trustees.** The parsonage fence repair has been completed. Some roof leaks have been successfully fixed at the church. The new security camera near the kitchen door of the Fellowship Hall has been installed, but the internet connection needs to be upgraded before we can monitor the site. The termite-infested wooden pole behind the classroom wing has been removed. A locking mechanism has been purchased and will soon be on the bin, and Cassie has asked the waste company about a green yard waste can.
- **Financial Report.** The church's income for January was \$10,256.07, paid expenses were \$10,570.45, and the checkbook balance on January 31 was \$3,018.64.
- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** The SPRC is updating job descriptions for all of our employees, to better reflect the work that each of them actually does.
- **People in Need; Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Susan Ramsey, Cathie Lopez, the Walsh family, Wilma Ditter, Amanda, and the family of Bonnie and Ted for a recent death in the family.
- **Pastor's Report.** Henry said he was working on the annual statistical report to the Conference for the Dos Palos church; Cassie and Gregg were taking care of the reporting for Los Banos. He was also preparing for an interview on February 17, which was a required step for him to be ordained as an Elder. He advised that he would be out of town for a couple of days, on February 13 and 14. He thanked all who had covered for him on January 23 – especially Juli Rice, who gave the message – when he unexpectedly needed to miss church.





Vine Monthly Events for March

Important dates:

March 1st — Admin. Meeting 7pm on Zoom

March 17th — **Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

March 21st — N.O.W. Meeting 7pm on Zoom

Note: Boy Scouts: The pack had a busy month in February. We held our annual Pinewood Derby Race and invited another pack of scouts from Turlock to join us. We raced 14 cars and handed trophies to the winners. A scout is reverent. We celebrated Scout Sunday with the congregation. Scouts participated in reading scripture and connecting the scout law to scripture. Our February service project is collecting pet food donations for the local animal shelter. In March we will be taking a hike and working on first aid skills. Mackenzie Ferreira.

Confirmation Classes are continuing Youth are encouraged to attend. Pastor Henry does the class from 2pm to 3pm on Sundays.

Want to know more come and see!

Coordinator of Prayer Chain and Congregation Check-in Coordinator positions have been filled! Thank you so much **Laura Scott** for volunteering!

Your dedication to this congregation in their hour of need is greatly appreciated.

Manna Ministries is organized and ready of volunteers. All positions and times are listed on the information board in the Fireside room.

In order for Manna to run smoothly each Sunday evening 5 to 6 volunteers are needed. But you do not need to stay the whole time. Please see the information board if you can help. This is an excellent way to serve the Lord and the community. Thank you.

New Women's Bible Study beginning soon in the Fireside Room
Thursdays from 11am to noon. Exact beginning date to be announced in
March. Also, young families Bible Study to start soon.



If you need help or wish to have prayers, please contact the church office at 209-826-4181, phone line is checked daily, or call the secretary using the numbers provided in your church directory.

Church Directories are out! If you did not get one and want one please see the church Secretary: Cassie. Thank you!

10 WAYS TO LOVE

1. **Listen without interrupting.** (Proverbs 18)
2. **Speak without accusing.** (James 1:19)
3. **Give without sparing.** (Proverbs 21:26)
4. **Pray without ceasing.** (Colossians 1:9)
5. **Answer without arguing.** (Proverbs 17:1)
6. **Share without pretending.** (Ephesians 4:15)
7. **Enjoy without complaint.** (Philippians 2:14)
8. **Trust without wavering.** (1 Corinthians 13:7)
9. **Forgive without punishing.** (Colossians 3:13)
10. **Promise without forgetting.** (Proverbs 13:12)

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March 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Ad Council Meeting @ 7pm on Zoom</i>	2	3	4	5
6 9:30am <i>Church Service</i> 4pm Manna Ministries	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 9:30am <i>Church Service</i> 4pm Manna Ministries	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20 9:30am <i>Church Service</i> 4pm Manna Ministries	21 <i>N.O.W. meeting @ 7pm on Zoom</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:30am <i>Church Service</i> 4pm Manna Ministries	28	29	30	31 <i>Cesar Chavez Day</i>		