



The Vine

May 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!

1 st	Germaine Wiley	2 nd	Naomi Pendus
3 rd	Martha Hardy	13 th	Carter Cardenas
14 th	Cathie Lopez	14 th	Jody Battle
14 th	Ted Kraynick	15 th	Kerri Michel
20 th	Taetum Cardenas	20 th	Jayda Cardenas
23 rd	Olivia Patrick	25 th	Brian Hepworth
26 th	Susan Ramsey	29 th	Steve Battle
30 th	Jacob Barton	31 st	Susanna Hepworth

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

28th Brian & Susanna Hepworth

April contributions total: \$ 11,224.00
Attendance for April 3rd (46) 10th (55) 17th (60) 24th (36)

Dear Los Banos UMC Family,

We have concluded the month of April with many things observed - from the crucifixion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to His resurrection! I would like to extend my gratitude to all those who attended our Stations of the Cross Interactive Walkthrough and our Easter Sunday Service. The interactive activity could not have been made possible without the help of our Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair, Susan Ramsey. The picture below on the left is of one of the stations - a wooden cross with tiny crosses placed in the wire mesh around it. This image symbolizes *God With Us* - God with us in the midst of the crosses we carry in our own lives. It is Christ who bears our sin, our struggles, and our pain all on the cross. But the story of solidarity does not end in death. The story continues in the resurrection! The picture below on the right is the same wooden cross, except now it is filled with flowers. It is these flowers that symbolize the resurrection of Christ, showing us that death does not have the final say. The resurrection is God's "yes," to forgiveness, healing, repentance, transformation, liberation, and love! As we go through the month of May, I invite us to ask the question, "What does it mean for me to live into the resurrection?" In our own lives, can we echo the words of Mary Magdalene, "I have seen the risen Lord."



I pray that you all can find hope during this month. Please let the church know how you can be supported. If you need a visit, a phone-call, or Pastoral Care, do not hesitate to let us 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 – April 5, 2022

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 with nine people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** Susan Ramsey reported that Pastor Henry was being transferred to the Dixon United Methodist Church, effective July 1. The SPRC will be working with the Finance Committee and Trustees to make the transition as smooth as possible. She noted that decisions on transfers were never taken lightly by the District Superintendents and staff, and always involved much prayerful consideration. She hoped that we can eventually return to having a full-time pastor. She also advised that she will have major back surgery on June 6, so hopes to have the process completed before then.
- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** The March NOW meeting covered Manna Ministries, Amanda's upcoming maternity leave, visitations with church constituents, and Christian education, including VBS. Work is being done on a budget for Manna and to increase the number of volunteers. Tawny will take some time off from Sunday school teaching, so Roxanne will cover the next two months. Henry will see if Shannan or others may be able to assist. The two Life Groups are going well, and a youth confirmation ceremony will be held in church in June. Henry will be on vacation from April 28 through May 2, and will also be away from June 10 through June 13 for the Annual Conference Session in Sacramento, so guest speakers will be required for those two Sundays. He mentioned that he will be officially commissioned at the Annual Conference. Henry and Bud are working on a new informational brochure about our church.
- **Trustees.** The roof leaks were repaired in March. The security cameras seem to be working well at present. There was discussion about installing a camera for the parking lot, to cover some overnight camping behind the trash dumpster, but there is no nearby electrical power. The next meeting of the Trustees is April 12.
- **UMW.** UMW is to meet on April 12 for a prayer and self-denial session. Setup for the rummage sale will be May 16-18, with the sale taking place May 19-21. UMW will likely participate again in the National Day of Prayer on May 5.
- **Financial Report.** The church's income for March was \$10,149.43, while paid expenses were \$11,748.99. This left a checkbook balance at \$3,134.73, but we owed about \$3,400 to the Conference for pension plan contributions, and have yet to pay any apportionments in 2022.
- **Fellowship Hall Warming Center.** The warming center proposal is on hold for now, as there were many unanswered questions, and the warmer springtime weather has alleviated the immediate need for a warming center.
- **People in Need; Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Kimery Knight and her whole family; Wilma Ditter; Jean Bright; Guadalupe Martinez; and Susan Ramsey.
- **Pastor's Report.** Henry shared his plans for Easter week: a procession on Palm Sunday, a Good Friday evening interactive walk-through presentation of the Stations of the Cross, and Easter Sunday service followed by a children's Easter egg hunt. The youth confirmation class will end with a Sunday morning ceremony in June. The final women's Life Group session will be April 7, and there are four more meetings of the Friday afternoon parent/teacher Life Group.



Vine Monthly Events for May

Important dates:

May 3rd - Admin. Meeting 7pm on Zoom

May 8th - **Happy Mother's Day !**

May 16th - 18th - **UMW Rummage Sale set up - 9am to 3pm**

May 19th - 21st - **UMW Rummage Sale Open!**

May 21st - **UMW Rummage Sale clean up at noon until done.**

May 23rd - N.O.W. Meeting 7pm on Zoom

May 31st - Finance Meeting 3:30pm on Zoom

May 31st - **Memorial Day** - Office closed.

Note: Rummage Sale May 19th to the 21st . With set up May 16th to the 18th. Lots of good stuff! Set up times: 9am to when done. Thursday time: 8am to 4:30pm, Friday time: 8am to 3:30pm Saturday time: 8am to noon. Clean up - May21st at noon.

Mark your calendar!

Cub Scouts: We are preparing for graduations and bridgings', which will happen at the end of May. Scouts also just completed a campout and are working on finishing their rank requirements. This month's service project is making self-care bags for the homeless. We are also looking forward to Day camp in July. Mackenzie Ferreira

VBS – The dates are in! Mark your calendar! June 20 – 24th. Time: from 9am to noon for campers.

Here is a list of items needed : Gallons of Milk and/or Choc. Milk

Gallons of Juice

Individually wrapped muffins/pastries

Hot Dogs

Hot Dog Buns

Condiments

Individual Bags of Chips

Cookies

Fruit

Sodas

Waters

Cups

\$10 Gift cards

(list also printed on separate sheet to take to the store with you or you can purchase script for stores and VBS Staff will shop for items.) Thank you for your support of this vital ministry.

Theme is Treasured.

Pray for another successful year of celebrating children

And our Lord!



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!

SCRIP TIP OF THE MONTH

Mother's Day is coming up soon – on May 8 – and we can help if you are looking for a convenient way to buy something she will like, with the added advantage of helping our church.

We always stock gift cards for **Bath and Body Works** in \$10.00 and \$25.00 denominations, and also have \$25.00 cards for **Bed, Bath and Beyond**. Other popular retailers for which we always have gift cards on hand include **Jo-Ann Fabrics, Macy's, TJ Maxx/Marshall's, Target, Walmart** and **Starbuck's**, to name just a few.

How about taking her out to dinner at **Applebee's, Chili's, Denny's, Olive Garden, Outback Steakhouse** or even **Denny's**? We have all of these available for immediate purchase also.

Other suggestions for those who are technologically inclined include **Amazon, iTunes** and **Shutterfly**.

There are hundreds of other restaurants, stores, and mail order firms in the scrip program. You can see the full listing at www.shopwithscrip.com. We normally order on Sunday afternoons, and delivery to Los Banos is usually the following Tuesday. If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please contact Gregg or Juli Rice at (209) 826-1027 or (209) 761-2737, or by e-mail to grice@inreach.com.

By the way, payment can be made by cash or check, or by Zelle or Venmo.

Visitations

Wilma Ditter is in Pacifica Senior Living: 3420 R St. Rm. #226

Merced, CA 95348 You just have to sign in and show Vaccination card if you have one when you get there and there are no exact hours so stop by when you are in Merced.

Jean Bright is in New Bethany Memory Care: 1441 Berkeley
Rm# C102

These ladies love to see your bright faces.

New Young Married Adult Life Group is meeting on Friday evenings at 5pm in classroom 2. This group is ongoing as well. Times move so contact Pastor Henry if you need information.



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.




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May 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am * Church Service 4pm Manna Ministries	2	3 Admin. Meeting 7pm on Zoom	4	5	6	7
8 9:30am Church Service 4pm Manna Ministries Happy Mother's Day!	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 9:30am Church Service 4pm Manna Ministries	16 Set up— Rummage Sale 9am to 3pm	17 Set up Rummage Sale 9am to 3pm	18 Set Up Rummage Sale 9am to 3pm	19 Rummage Sale Beginning day Open @ 3:30pm	20 Rummage Sale 8am to 3:30pm	21 Rummage Sale 8am to noon Clean up noon until done.
22 9:30am Church Service 4pm Manna Ministries	23 N.O.W. meet- ing @ 7pm on Zoom	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30am Church Service 4pm Manna Ministries	30	31  Memorial Day	(also on the 31st) Finance Meeting 3:30pm on Zoom			