



# *The Vine*

## *November 2024*

United Methodist Church  
1031 Iowa Ave. Los Banos, CA 93635  
E-MAIL Address: [umclosbanos@gmail.com](mailto:umclosbanos@gmail.com)  
Phone (209) 826-4181

**Worship Service In-person 10:00AM Sundays**  
Service is also online Website: [www.umclb.net](http://www.umclb.net)  
**Sunday School following Children's Moment in Worship Service**  
**Pastor Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10:00am-2:00pm**  
**or call (510) 552-7240**  
**Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30 AM-12:00 Noon.**  
Please call the Secretary if you need time in the office.  
Messages are checked Monday-Thursday.  
**Pastor: Rev. Ivoni Maama**  
**Church Secretary: Lori Winters**  
<https://www.facebook.com/LosBanosUnitedMethodistChurch>



3 Morgan Ferreira  
9 Beth Miyamoto  
10 John M Wallace  
15 Roxanne Hew  
25 Debbie Tucker



13 Roy & Laura Scott

October contributions total: \$ 9,083.12  
In-Person Services for October 6<sup>th</sup> (49) 13<sup>th</sup> (33) 20<sup>th</sup> (43) 27<sup>th</sup> (45)

# Vine Monthly Events for November

## **Important dates:**

**Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>** - Administrative Council 7 p.m. Zoom

**Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup>** -  10:00 AM (every Wednesday) there will be a Prayer/upper room conference call, everyone is welcome to join and share any concerns. the number is **(720) 843-2603 Access Code: 8941334**

**Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup>** -Centering Prayer 7 PM Zoom, contact Pastor Ivoli for details.

**Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup>**-Bible reading in the church office starting at 6 PM every week.

**Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** – Trustee Meeting 6 PM

**Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>** - SPRC Meeting 7 PM Zoom

**Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>** – United Women of Faith Meeting 1 PM in the Fireside room. We will have a speaker, Sharon Dupris, she will be talking about hospice.

**Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** Fall Festival - Craft fair and Spaghetti Dinner

**Monday November 18<sup>th</sup>** – N.O.W. meeting 7:00PM Zoom

**Tuesday November 19<sup>th</sup> Craft Night**- 6 PM, we will be making pumpkin/succulent center peace's

**Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup>**- Finance Committee 6: 00 PM Zoom

**Bell Choir** is every Thursday at 4:30 PM

**If you need visitation** for yourself or someone else please contact Karen Bonillas, Melissa Jones, Susan Younce or Ivoli Maama



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Don't forget at 10:00 AM (Every Wednesday) there will be a Prayer/upper room conference call, everyone is welcome to join and share any concerns. the number is **(720) 843-2603 Access Code: 8941334**

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Please consider volunteering for future fundraising lunches, they make a difference. You can partner with other families to share in the work. We need help to make this work. Please feel free to contact the office or Pastor Ivoli with any questions.

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The- United Women of Faith monthly meeting is November 14th at 1 PM in the Fireside room, Sharon Dupris from Hospice will be speaking.

save the date

December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6PM has been set for our Womens Christmas party, more info to come.

**All women are welcome.**

November 16<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Fall Festival and Craft Fair, We need voluntiers to help with set up clean up and preparing dinner. If you or somone you know would like to be a vendor for the Craft fair, please let me know so I can get you the application. We realy need Vendors so please share this information with any crafty friend you may have. Hoping and praying to be able to do this yearly and that it will be a great secsess for all.

Thanks

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Bible Reading Group every Thursday. We are reading the book of Luke. We will be meeting in the church office at 6PM. There will also be a Bible Study for the Advent Season starting the week of December 15th and lasting six weeks. If you cannot come in person, you can join us through Zoom. Contact Pastor Ivoli for details.

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- Centering Prayer is back at 7 PM, Zoom - contact Pastor Ivoli for details.

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## ONLINE GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Do you want to support our church financially, but are among the millions of Americans who no longer like to write checks? We have an easy way for you to donate to our church and its missions online, through a company called Vanco. Payments can be made by direct transfer from a checking or savings account, or by charging a credit card or debit card.

There are two ways to get set up:

- Download their free app onto your smartphone (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement) or
- Click the Donate On-Line link on the church website ([www.umclb.net](http://www.umclb.net))

Questions? Please contact Gregg Rice at (209) 761-2737 or [jgrice717@att.net](mailto:jgrice717@att.net) .



**THE LOS BANOS UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**



**FALL FESTIVAL AND CRAFT FAIR**

*Saturday, November 16, 2024*

*Craft Fair 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

*Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. [Takeouts available]*

*Raffle Prize Drawing 7:00 p.m. [Need not be present to win]*

*Menu: Spaghetti and Meat Balls, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert and Drink  
[Vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available]*

*Dinner Ticket Prices: \$15.00 for Adults, \$8.00 for Children Under 12*

*Location: Memorial Fellowship Hall at LB United Methodist Church  
1031 Iowa Street, Los Banos (209) 826-4181*

For dinner tickets, please call the church office (209-826-4181) or Gregg Rice (209-761-2737).

Interested in being a Vendor for the Craft Fair? Vendor space \$25, for more information call the church office or email at

[umclosbanos@gmail.com](mailto:umclosbanos@gmail.com)

For a \$10.00 donation, one lucky person will win a \$1,000 gift card that is good for admission to Disneyland, Disney's California Adventure, a Disney Cruise Line voyage, or any of Disney's other products or services.

The drawing will take place at our Fall Festival Dinner on Saturday, November 16. (You need not be present to win.)

We have printed a total of only 350 tickets, so the odds of winning will be one in 350 or better.

Dear Family of Los Banos United Methodist Church:

Psalm 34:1. "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

Praise be to God for all things in life. As we are now at the end of October and about to approach the new month of November, I wanted to thank you for your prayers and support. Our District Superintendent, Mary Maaga, was very pleased and happy with our Charge Conference. I thank Lori Winters and Susan Ramsey for preparing all the reports. Thanks to all the Chair of the Committees and Committees members for their service from 2021-2024, to all the new committee members, and those continuing to serve from 2024-2027.

Please join us on these prayer calls and bible study if available.

Conference Prayer Call Wednesday 10 am

Centering Prayer Wednesday 7 pm

Bible Study Book of John Thursday 6 pm

Feeding the Homeless 2nd & 4th Sunday After Church

- Please note that we will have a Bible Study for the Advent Season starting the week of December 15th and lasting six weeks. Let me know if you are available for this bible study.

- New Membership Class TBA for next year

- One-on-one Devotion via Conference Call: Please let me know if you are available and what day and time of the week you would like to do it.

- Home visitations—Please let me know if you want me to visit your home or anyone at the hospital or Home Care facilities.

- Please pray for the pastor and all the family of Los Banos UMC at noon every day. We have only two months left this year. I pray that God blesses each of you and all that you do. Let's center ourselves and gather our family together. God has been faithful and so good to us all our lives. Let's find out how we can show God we appreciate His everlasting love and blessings. Pray that God gives you the desires of your heart so that you can help His ministry on earth, at our church, neighborhood, and communities. God

has a plan for each of us, and you and I are Gods tools and instruments. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Love and Prayers

Pastor Iponi

## Administrative Council Highlights – October 1, 2024

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 with seven people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** Bud stated that the NOW Committee met on September 16, and covered the following topics. Hans Younce and Jim Jones have been doing a lot of tree trimming and general cleanup on the church property. Ivoni and Foa will begin regularly providing food and drink to homeless people in our community on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Bud still has hopes of re-establishing a men's group.
- **Trustees.** The tasks planned for a work day on Saturday, October 19 were discussed. The bathroom drain in the parsonage still needs attention, and the lawn sprinklers work only partially.
- **United Women in Faith.** Laura Scott said the women's group would gather on October 10 for an "Apple Meeting" at which all women were asked to bring something homemade from apples. They were also asked to come with a list of as many apple recipes as they could think of without resorting to the Internet. Their November 14 meeting will feature a talk on hospice services, and the annual Christmas party will be held on December 12 in the Four Seasons' recreation room.
- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** Susan reported that the parsonage repairs had been completed. At the Charge Conference after church on October 6, with the District Superintendent presiding, one of the main agenda items is approval of Ivoni's 2025 compensation package. It will unfortunately include only a 2.6% cost of living increase.
- **Financial Report.** Our General Fund income in September was \$14,053.95, which was \$1,223.07 more than the paid expenses of \$12,830.88. The very successful rummage sale in early September made \$2,499.00 for the church and \$2,500.00 for the United Women in Faith. All invoices were current, and the checkbook balance was up slightly, to \$16,500.26.
- **Planning for Fall Festival Event.** The preliminary plans for the return of the Fall Festival on Saturday, November 16 were described, with a craft fair in the morning, and a spaghetti dinner and prize raffles in the evening. There will be two raffles: one for numerous items, and one for a big Disney prize, with a limited number of tickets costing \$10.00 each.
- **Upcoming Events.** Brief mention was made of the following upcoming events:
  - a. Charge Conference – October 6
  - b. Church work day – October 19
  - c. Fall Festival Craft Fair, Dinner, Raffle – Saturday, November 16
- **Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Guadalupe, Susan Ramsey, Charlene Martin, and Melinda Wall.
- **Pastor's Report.** Ivoni has submitted a grant application for a new sound system for the sanctuary. There are District Union funds available to buy appliances, and perhaps the United Women in Faith can apply for some kitchen items. She felt that things were going quite well, but she has concerns over Sunday school and the youth program. She wants to start "Bring a Friend" Sundays and will soon lead a pet blessing on the church grounds. Ivoni will be away from October 10-13 to be a leader at a Walk to Emmaus weekend in Madera. She has submitted the paperwork to apply to be commissioned as an elder, and will be interviewed on October 17.