

# Share The Spirit



Monthly Publication of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church

March 2026



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## Lenten Bible Study

We have begun our Lenten bible study reading in Old and New Testament scriptures, as well as utilizing the book written by Adam Hamilton titled *Why Did Jesus Have To Die?* This bible study is only for six weeks, and by the time this month's newsletter is released, we will already be in the third or fourth week of the study curriculum. We have a total of 35 people signed up either to be with us in person or online via YouTube.

The reader for this bible study is incredibly worded, describing different theories, thoughts, reflections, and testimonies that shape the book's intentionality. Many theories help us understand the death of Jesus in diverse contexts and from different perspectives. When we read scripture, the challenge is to understand the situation at hand. This opens the theological discussion of exploring different angles for interpreting our own perception of scripture. Even though there are many ways to explain the reasons for Jesus' death, we must all come to a common agreement that Jesus was the Son of God, and He died for the sins of the world.

The Lenten Bible study will cover one of three planned Bible studies for this year. Yes, there is still an opportunity to join in this reflective bible study. If you have not experienced our Lenten Bible study or want to draw closer to Christ through scripture, I invite you to fellowship with us these few weeks on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel. By the way, Donuts and Coffee will be provided throughout the Bible Study as one of the creative means to keep us focused on the Word of God.

God Bless You All.

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## March UWF Meeting

The United Women in Faith (UWF) will meet on Thursday, March 12 in the Carson Valley United Methodist Church, Education Room. The monthly potluck luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m., and the program on Women of the Bible begins at 12:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome

The final collection date for Abbey's Crossing will take place at this meeting.



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Photos this month come from  
Julie Franklin, Sharon Hoelscher-  
Day and Kathy Wicker.



## Prayer Tree

God answers prayers, everyone needs a prayer said for them. A prayer of praise, a prayer of need or a prayer for comfort.

There is a prayer tree in the back of the sanctuary with several

names and organizations that are in need of prayer. Please stop by and take a prayer slip and pray for that person during the week.

## Scripture & Sermons For March

### Journey's End / A New Start

March 1, 2026 - Second Sunday in Lent

John 3:1-17

Sermon Scripture - John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Theme: So that you may have eternal life

March 8, 2026 - Third Sunday in Lent

John 4:5-29 (read) John 4:5-42 (lectionary)

Sermon Scripture - John 4:13-14 Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 4:14 but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

Theme: Life Giving Water

March 15, 2026 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

John 9:1-11

Sermon Scripture - John 9:11

He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.

Theme: The man called Jesus

March 22, 2026 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

John 11:17-45

Sermon Scripture - John 11:34 He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”

Theme: Lord, come and see

March 29, 2025 - Sixth Sunday in Lent  
(Passion/Palm Sunday)

Matthew 21:1-11 (palm) & Matthew 26:14-27 (passion)

Sermon Scripture - Matthew 21:3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.”

Theme: For the Lord

## Love Your Neighbor Dinner Was A Great Success!

Many thanks to all of you who supported our First Annual Love Your Neighbor Spaghetti Dinner. We raised a record breaking \$2,335 for our

Community Needs Fund. This fund is there for community members who come to us in search of financial assistance for rent, utility bills, propane, gas and bus money. It was wonderful to see more than 100 people at this event, and to work with such amazing volunteers.

Al Baumruck and Julie Franklin served as co-chairs and are hoping to plan another fundraising BBQ in September. The goal is to host 2 events per year to support the Community Needs Fund. Please check out our website ([carsonvalleyumc.com](http://carsonvalleyumc.com)) and Facebook page for the fun photos!



## 2026 UWF Reading Program

All women of UWF are encouraged to read! Women or men can start reading now to complete the requirements for a 2026 reading certificate. All UWF books are located on the UWF bookshelf in the conference room at church. Books from 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 suggested reading lists are available and will count for credit in 2026. We are currently in the process of selecting books to purchase from the 2026 reading list. The 2026 books been available since February for checkout. To earn a reading certificate for 2026, one book from each of the following categories must be read:

Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. Contact Pam Forest with any questions.

One of the new books for this year is *Good Enough* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Social media and advertising tells us we can be “perfect,” but we need help living as imperfect people. Some things you can fix, some you can’t, and that’s ok - live imperfectly amid the chaos. Bowler, mom with stage 4 cancer, and co-author Richie offer 40 devotions on life as it is - beautiful, meaningful, difficult, and challenging. With gentle humor and compassion, they’ll help you reflect upon living in the now.



## Please Don't Feed The Animals

Yes, we now have Horses on the property behind the Church. The owner has asked that we not feed them. - Thank you, *Len Frueh*

*Just a Reminder - a reprint from February.*



## Abbey's Crossing

The United Women in Faith is collection supplies for Abbey's Crossing again this winter. Abbey's Crossing is a confidential shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. It is run by Family Support Council of Douglas County.

There is a list of needs on the UWF bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. The March 12 UWF meeting is the final collection date for Abbey's Crossing items. Contact Beverly Griffith Williams with any questions.



## United Women in Faith Assembly in May

United Women in Faith is excited to announce that registration is now open for Assembly 2026, an unforgettable gathering of Christian women committed to putting faith into action. The event will be held May 15–17, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana, and is expected to draw thousands of women from across the country and the world.

Assembly 2026 is a once-every-four-years gathering of women committed to faith, empowerment, and making a difference. Picture a weekend that uplifts your soul, strengthens your faith, and brings you together with an unstoppable sisterhood.

With the theme “Dream it! Believe it! Do it!” Assembly 2026 will ignite hope and momentum as women come together for worship, sisterhood, workshops, and action. It’s a space for spiritual renewal and bold imagination — where dreams are born and faith becomes movement.

For more information or registration, visit <https://assembly.uwfaith.org/website/82390/home/>

## Where do Prayer Shawls Come From?

The answer is simple – they come from knitters and crocheters like you (or someone you know). There are a group of us that meet twice a month on Fridays at 9:30. We meet at Jan Pohlman's house.

We are always looking for new members. We often have yarn you can use and simple patterns to follow if you want. You don't need to be an expert! Thinking of joining us? Contact Jan at 775-782-8982 or speak with Jan or Nancy Deis when you see us at church.

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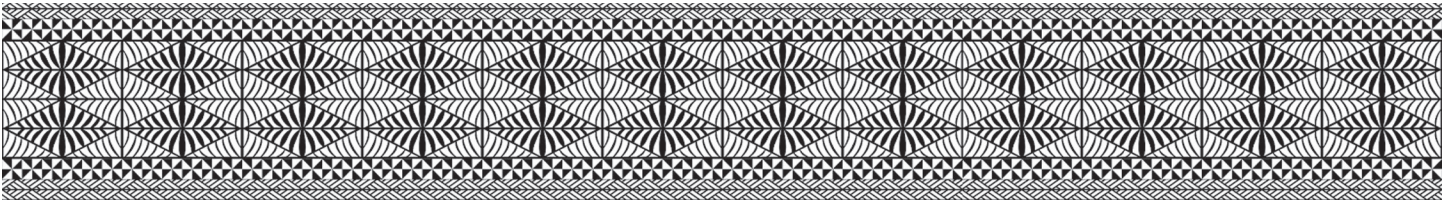
## Where Do Craft Faire Proceeds Go? - Part 1

People sometimes ask, “Why do United Women in Faith members work so hard to raise money with their craft faire?” Good question! All of the profits from the UWF Heavenly Holiday Craft Faire (the first Saturday of November) are given away to local, national and international charities and missions that focus on women and children. Each month we will highlight one or two of the organizations that receive funds from our local UWF.

Since 1858 and the struggles of the early Chinese railroad laborers, the UMC started and still sponsors the Gum Moon Women's Residence and Asian Women's Resource Center in San Francisco. Gum Moon provides housing, life skills training and support for immigrant women and children in transition, facing domestic violence and poverty. Located in the heart of Chinatown, Gum Moon has serviced mainly the local Chinese community, but is open to all regardless of race, ethnicity, and creed.

Carson Valley Food Closet got its start in 1989 through the efforts of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church and our former pastor, Pete Nelson. The Food Closet serves thousands of meals each year. Families or individuals in need can get a food voucher from their case manager at Douglas County or Washoe Tribal Social Services once a month for food staples and once a week for bread, milk and eggs.

This month Kabaka Ndala Alphonsine, a United Methodist Missionary in Tanzania was selected to receive funds from our local UWF group to support her work with women and children and the United Methodist preschool for orphans in Dar es Salaam. Kabaka and her minister husband have been missionaries in Tanzania since 1992.



### Journey's End/New Start

Peace be with you all in the name of Jesus Christ. We are forgiven. I pray that this new month of March has brought you in prayerfully with the renewing presence of the Holy Spirit. May I comfort you in the words of Psalm 95:1, which says, "Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation."

We are in the midst of the Lenten liturgical season, a time of deep reflection and devotion as we follow the journey of Christ to the cross and, so, onto the resurrection. Through Christ's death and resurrection, this is our salvific hope that honors our identity in Jesus: our call as God's church is to proclaim the gospel of Christ to the world in our mission and ministries as it was fulfilled on Calvary.

I often reflect on the words of author and pastor Rev. Adam Hamilton, who says: "The crucifixion is first and foremost a Word or message from God. The Word has the power to save, to deliver, to rescue, to redeem, to forgive, to heal, to inspire, and to love." In today's time, people look for words of inspiration or affirmations to prepare their journey in life to deal with the challenges in time while celebrating the fruitful accomplishments within their sacred circles. As disciples of Christ, our greatest hope in defining our journey in life is remembering the word of God spoken through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. When we look at images of Christ's crucifixion, we see God reminding us of our covenant as the church to inspire, love, heal, deliver, and forgive on our journey.

Our worship for this month is Journey's End and a New Start. The objective of the worship theme is to read and reflect on scripture as a journey with Christ's last day on earth to the cross and to the tomb. There are various symbols within this journey, but it has a sacred teaching that encourages us to know Christ and to help make Christ known in our lives, communities, and the world. I pray that the season of Lent has brought renewal to your journey as a disciple, as we close the old chapters of our personal journey with Jesus' crucifixion and begin a new journey in his resurrection

Hamilton, Adam. *Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion*. United States: Abingdon Press, 2025. Pg. 5

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*We have been waiting for this! Kathy Wicker captured the beginnings of a beautiful storm. We had missed this weather through dry January and half of February. We Thank You Lord!*



### United Women in Faith Craft Workshops begin in March!

Mark your calendar for the first and third Mondays from 9:30 - noon for the 2026 Craft Workshops. The first workshop will be Monday, March 2 in the Education Room.

Everyone is welcome! All levels of skill and talent! Craft supplies are provided so just bring yourself and any ideas you might have for new crafts.

## New UWF Officers



### President Tamara Brewer

Tamara was born in Los Angeles California, but moved with her family when she was 11 years old to Pacifica, California.

She and her husband Richard will celebrate their 45th anniversary in September. Richard and Tamara moved to Vallejo, CA where they had a daughter, Monica and a son Steven. In 2017, after Richard retired from federal service with the Coast Guard, they moved to Gardnerville Nevada.

At first they attended Smith Valley UMC where Richard grew up, but eventually came to Carson Valley United Methodist Church, where they felt welcomed by the community and Pastor Tony's preaching from the Bible. They felt the Holy Spirit through the service so decided this would be their church.

Tamara grew up in a family that was always helping and serving our Lord. She was a leader in Girl Scouts, parent/teacher boards, PTA, and she worked and served at Christian retreats. In the Methodist Church she served as a local pastor for Smith Valley UMC for a year, and led Bible studies at Carson Valley UMC, as well as liturgist for Sunday services, and a choir member.

Attending Mission U two years ago, inspired her to serve in the District United Women in Faith as a Spiritual Nurture and now as President of the Carson Valley UWF.

## Devotion March 2026

Remember to say your prayers

Matthew 26:36-46

I would be the first to say that I do not have the most perfect prayer life, but I have discovered its benefits in my own personal journey. I remember attending Sia'atoutai Theological College in Tonga from 2014 to 2017, where I studied in the Bachelor of Divinity program. During my studies, my mother had been diagnosed with a severe form of neuropathy that infected her spinal cord's communication to her legs, temporarily paralyzing her from the waist down.

During the summer of 2016, I received a phone call from relatives in Tonga about what had occurred to my mother, which brought me grief and concern during my studies. My relatives had told me that my mother will undergo surgery on her spinal cord and will require rehabilitation after her recovery. I was very concerned whether my mother was going to survive, because she has a history of high blood pressure and diabetes. One late evening, I was walking on campus, reflecting on my worries about my mother, when the head tutor saw me pass by his office and called me in.

My uncle had notified the head tutor of what had happened to my mother, and he carefully counseled me on my next steps. The head tutor gave me the option of returning to the United States to be with my mother or proceed in honoring her by finishing my education. His words awakened me to reflect on what I could do from afar, for it would be a form of healing for my mother and myself if I completed my studies. Indeed, he recommended that I lean on prayer in this time of anticipation because there are times in life where God reminds us to come to him in Jesus to lighten our burden.

In Matthew 26:36-46, Jesus prays constantly in the Garden of Gethsemane. He knows that his time of death and suffering is near, but he retreats to God to bring him relief for the pain he is going to endure. Jesus' passion encourages us to come to God in prayer when life brings its most formidable challenges, for only in the divine presence of the Almighty we may see beyond our limitations. In this time of Lent, remember to say your prayers not only in the dark times in life but also in the joyful times.

Be well friends.



*Malia, Anna and Losa pose in front of the Narthex cross in their beautiful waistbands called "Kiekie." Together with two others they performed the Tongan hymn "Hiki Hoku Le'o" ("Raise Your Voice and Praise Almighty") at both services on February 15. The Kiekie are made from coconut fiber that has been bleached in the ocean and worn as a sign of respect at church services, and other formal events.*

## New Webmaster

Julie Franklin is once again the webmaster for CVUMC. Julie created the website in approximately 2018, and is excited to be stepping back into it after several years away. Many thanks to Darla Brown for being the webmaster for the last several years!

Please take a moment and check out our website! There are many great events, pictures and so much more! Find us at [carsonvalleyumc.com](http://carsonvalleyumc.com).

## UWF Calendar Items

- March 2 - Craft workshop - 9:30-noon
- March 3 - UWF Board Meeting - 9:30 a.m.
- Information Assembly 2026 in Indianapolis is now available on the UWF website.
- March 12 - UWF Luncheon Meeting - 11:30-1 p.m.
- March 16 - Craft workshop - 9:30-noon
- March 16 Timeless Treasures Donations
- March 31 - UWF Board Meeting - 9:30 a.m.
- April 9 - UWF Luncheon Meeting - 11:30-1 p.m.



*President Tamara Brewer and VP Barbara Graham greet speakers from Carson Valley Health Heart Rehab - Maria Knight RN and Barrett Lichau, physiologist at the February UWF meeting.*


## Timeless Treasures

Please bring your boutique-quality treasures to the church education room on the third Monday of each month between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. The first collection day will be Monday, March 16.

This is the perfect time to donate any Christmas (and other) items you no longer want! Timeless Treasures isn't a rummage sale. If you think someone would like receiving an item as a gift, it probably will be perfect for us. No clothing, please.

Thank you all for your help! Your donations are the reason Timeless Treasures will be successful. Contact Alison Grey, Marsha Gallegos, or Brenda Hulphers with any questions.

**Worship Schedule**  
**Sundays**  
 Worship 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.  
 Fellowship time follows morning services  
 Loving child care provided


  
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