



Monthly Publication of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church

October 2025

## “Share The Spirit”

## Mark Your Calendar - Heavenly Holiday Market

November First - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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Our local United Women in Faith use the profits generated by the November Heavenly Holiday Market to support more than 20 local charities and missions that focus on women and children. Last year more than \$17,000 was raised for missions and charities. It is UWF's only fundraiser of the year.

There are many opportunities to get involved. October is the last push for completing crafts to sell at the Heavenly Holiday Market. Baking, making candy, donating raffle baskets, food for lunch and silent auction items are just a few of the ways you can help to make the Faire a success. Watch for sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall or contact Market Chair, Sharon Calvert. Invite your friends and neighbors!

Local charities include: Abbey's Crossing, Alpine Kids, Austin House, Awaken, Inc., Backpack Buddies, Boys & Girls Club-Carson Valley, Carson Valley Community Food Closet, China Springs Youth Camp, City of Refuge, Family Support Council, Kids & Horses, Partnership of Community Resources, Project Santa Claus, Project School Days, Suicide Prevention Network, & Xquisite.

UWF also supported our Church Outreach to Local Families in Need and National & International Charities: Gum Moon Residence, Mary Elizabeth Inn, UMW Missionaries, Earth Angels, Heifer International, UMCOR - United Methodist Committee on Relief.



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## Scripture & Sermons For October

### Worship Series: Choosing Faith

#### October 5, 2025 - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 17:5-10

Sermon Scripture: Luke 17:6

The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

Theme: Faith that brings change

#### October 12, 2025 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 17:11-19

Sermon Scripture: Luke 17:19

Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Theme: Healing Faith

#### October 19, 2025 - Children's Sabbath (Honoring the Confirmed Students)

Matthew 18:1-5

Sermon Scripture: Matthew 18:3

"Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Theme: Child-like Faith (The Greatest in the Kingdom)

#### October 26, 2025 - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 18:9-14

Sermon Scripture: Luke 18:14

"I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Theme: Humble Faith



The banner photo by Latu Paea of a 2024 Trunk or Treat entry is here to encourage us to create spectacular entries for the 2025 event in the church parking lot. October 31, starting at 4:30 p.m.



## 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.





## Member Care

A big thank you to the people who brought all the side dishes and desserts for the **Car Show, Salad Potluck**.

The people who bring their cars just love the food that follows, and the time to talk with church members.

Our next Potluck will be November 16, 2025 following the late service at 11:45. **The Fall Harvest Potluck** with turkey, ham and rolls provided by the Member Care Team.

Sign up for your favorite fall side dish or dessert. Deadline for sign up is November 9, 2025

## Calling All Bakers, Cookie Creators, Marmalade Makers, and Relish Royals

All women of the church are automatically members of United Women of Faith and we are so grateful for the donated baked goods that The Corner Bakery (part of the November Craft Faire of 2024) received.

ALL baked goods are to be at the church by NOON on Friday, October 31. ALL items must be shelf and sale ready — wrapped in clear wrap, labeled as to what is, including any “warnings” that might cause an allergy (nut, coconut, etc.) Gluten-free and sugar-free items are especially needed. Feel free to decorate your creations with stickers, ribbon, etc. No need for you to set the price; the bakery staff will do that.

Please, no cream pies or anything that needs refrigeration. (The kitchen staff won’t allow us to go in the kitchen!) Don’t forget, we need the Famous Cinnamon Rolls on Saturday morning.

## Plenty of Advance Notice

*Sunday, December 7, 2025 6 p.m. Bell Concert in the Sanctuary*

*Saturday, December 13, 2025 6 p.m. Tahoe Symphony and Chorale performing The Messiah in the Sanctuary*

*Sunday, December 14, 2025 6 p.m. Christmas Cantata in the Sanctuary*

## 2026 UWF Reading Program

You can start reading for the 2026 United Women in Faith Reading program. To complete the program read at least one book from each of the five categories: Education for Mission Category, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth. You can read any of the new books or any of the books from the last 4 years in our church library.

New books will in the library in January.

### Book Report by Linda Malconian

*The Sun Does Shine* is the true story of Anthony Ray Hinton, a man who was wrongfully convicted of murder in Alabama and spent nearly 30 years on death row before being proven innocent. Hinton describes the injustice he faced, including racism, poor legal representation, and a flawed justice system that refused to listen to the truth. Despite his suffering, he never gave up hope.

With the support of his mother, his best friend Lester, and later lawyer Bryan Stevenson from the Equal Justice Initiative, Hinton kept his faith in God and found strength to forgive those who wronged him. The book is not just about his personal struggle but also a powerful reminder of how unfair the criminal justice system can be. The book shows the importance of hope, faith, forgiveness, and fighting for justice.

## Chili Lunch Donations

Help us cook up some comfort by donating chili ingredients and drinks for our famous Chili Lunch served at our UWF Heavenly Holiday Market.

Sign up sheets will be posted on the UWF bulletin board by October 1st. Questions? Contact Suzy Schell Wennhold, Chili Lunch Coordinator.



**Friday, October 31, 2025**  
**4:30-6:00 pm**

## From our Youth/Sunday School

A simple prayer to read with children:

*From the book "Children's book of  
Table Blessings" by E. Kendig*

Father in heaven

Jesus told us how you care  
for the birds in the sky  
and the flowers in the fields.

You love us even more and give us everything  
we need.

Thank you for the food that feeds our bodies  
and the love that feeds our spirits.

Amen

*Laura Bridwell Engel*



*This sort of thing goes on every Monday until November 1; crafters work like mad making rare and unusual items for the annual UWF Heavenly Holiday Market.*

## Get Crafty This FALL!

The Heavenly Holiday Market craft workshops will be every Monday in October from 9:30-noon. Even if you don't consider yourself "crafty" there is something for everyone to make. Try something new! Supplies are also available if you have projects you want to make at home.

All craft items should be delivered to the church by Monday, October 27 or before. If you have questions or new craft ideas, contact Nancy Raymond or Kevin Heckart.

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

## Busy UWF Ladies Have Time For A Meeting

The United Women in Faith (UWF) will meet on Thursday, October 9 in the Carson Valley United Methodist Church, Education Room. The monthly potluck luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at 12:15 p.m. by Jennifer Burke & Cynthia DeSomer, Family Support Council. There will also be an update on the Heavenly Holiday Market.

The Family Support Council, Project School Days, and Suicide Prevention Network are just three of the more than 20 charities that the United Women in Faith supports financially from the profits of our holiday craft market each year.

Come for Food & Christian Fellowship! All are welcome! No reservation or RSVP needed.



*Sunday School parking lot chalk art!*

# Heavenly Holiday Market

**NOVEMBER 1, 2025**  
**9 AM - 4 PM**

**Carson Valley United Methodist Church**  
**1375 Centerville Lane, Gardnerville**

**Crafts-Jewelry-Candyland**  
**Raffle Baskets-Bake Sale**  
**Silent Auction-Kid's**  
**Market-Timeless Treasures**

**Storytime with Santa 10:30 am**

**Chili Lunch**  
**11:30 am - 1 pm \$7**

**Proceeds benefit women's  
and children's charities.**



## Confirmation Class for Youth

The purpose of this confirmation class is to prepare our youth to respond to God's grace and to take up the responsibilities of Christian discipleship. This preparation is not just information, but foundational for a christian life.

The class covers what it means to be a Christian, what we believe as a church, how we are to live our lives, our church history and heritage, and of course a study of the Old and New Testament.

Youth Confirmation class started September 17, and is continuing until October 15. The class is held during the first part of Youth Group, leaving enough time for the kids to participate in Youth Group Games.

*Confirmation will be on October 19 during the Worship Service.* The class is led by Pastor Latu, Nancy Deis and Laura Bridwell Engel.

## Wanted: Candy!

The Heavenly Holiday Market is right around the corner!

If you plan to donate sweets to CandyLand, please sign up on the UWF bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. We need to know who is bringing what so we can make proper signage.

Be sure to label your goodies, e.g. toffee, rocky road fudge, caramels, penuche, etc, and whether they are sugar free, have nuts, etc. You may suggest a price and festively package your own, or we can do it for you. Put your name on your containers if you want them back.

All donations **MUST** be at the CandyLand booth by NOON on FRIDAY, October 31. We cannot accept anything on Saturday, November 1.

## Raffle and Silent Auction Items

### Themed Baskets

It's Craft Market time again! We are collecting items for the themed raffle baskets and any donations would be appreciated. Items can fit any theme you wish. We will have a big variety and items will fit somewhere!

There will be a collection tote in the Narthex for donations. Thank you so much for your support. Contact Jan Pohlman or Linda Kozak with questions.

### Silent Auction

Silent Auction items are also needed by Monday, October 27. Silent Auction Donations can be "Experiences," TimeShare weeks, Wild horse excursion, dinners, concert tickets, or items valued over \$50. Please contact Nancy Deis or Sharon Hoelscher Day with any questions or to donate an item.



## The New Mini Church

What started out as a primitive style quarter birthday bank where church members deposited celebrations and remembrances, has gotten a new incarnation as a miniature replica of our church building. This lovely miniature, complete with reflections in the windows was made by the very talented Ken and Mary Stoll.

The money collected in the bank each week goes to support children's ministries in our community and around the world. There has been an increase in the deposit of "folding money" into the bank, and it was getting harder and harder to get it back out and send it on its way to those ministries - Ken and Mary to the rescue! *Photo by Kathy Wicker*

## Faith and Love in Jesus

### 2 Timothy 1:13

*Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus*

In January 2019, I attended my first semester at the Pacific School of Religion seminary in Berkeley, enrolled in the Master of Divinity program. I was new to the progressive theology taught in many of the classes I attended, but I was also challenged to unlearn some of the calcified narratives instilled in me as a child.

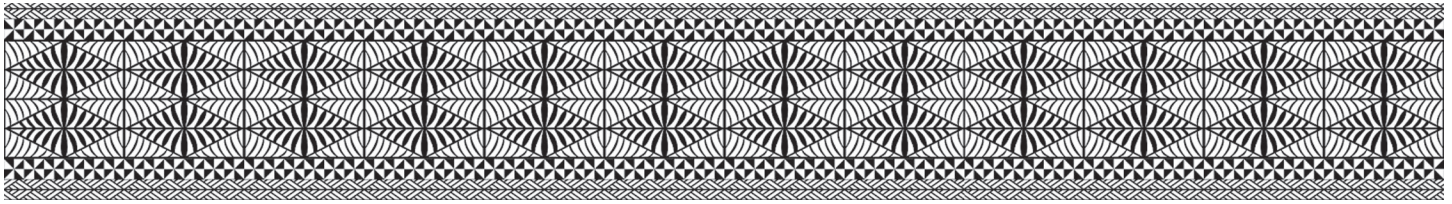
Despite my upbringing in San Francisco, where certain family members warned me to avoid a specific group of people labeled as "sinful" and "disgusting," my experience at PSR challenged these notions. As I adjusted to campus life and progressive theology, I discovered that my dorm neighbors—who matched the group I was taught to avoid—were among the most supportive people I met as a student..

I made a very difficult decision as a PSR student. I got to know them very well. I shared food, coffee, and participated in study groups, as well as enjoyed early morning breakfasts before class during my three-year study. I learned to unlearn the hate towards other people who were different from me. I also learned to revisit the love of Christ for the outcast or for people who were seen as disgusting and sinful.

Timothy teaches us that if we are to be Christ-like, it must be a standard in how we apply ourselves in a complex world. The gospels record specifically of Jesus interacting with tax collectors, sinners, and unclean people. Jesus advocating and interacting with the outcasts of his community became part of his new community.

This is what we are called to do as Christians: to love the world as God has made it and to transform it through the grace of Christ with love and mercy. Even though we may have differing opinions or beliefs, the love of Christ brings us to a common place of holy ground. Our differences should not be the substance that divides us as human beings; it is a tool to work together in unity as God's people. May you be called to show faith and love as Christ exemplified in His ministry on earth.

In Jesus Christ, Amen — Latu



With this month's worship series, titled "Choosing Faith," will be making our way back to the gospel readings for the remainder of the year. We are observing the stories of Jesus from his teachings, preachings, and healings in the gospel of Luke to prepare our journey towards the Advent season. We have many things to celebrate in the month of October because we have experienced a surplus of events in our church community that have strengthened our fellowship as siblings, and strengthened our knowledge of God's Word in our bible studies.

As we look at our journey as United Methodists over the last nine months, we are convinced that faith is the substance that has kept us in community. Former Methodist Bishop Francis Asbury defined faith as a "prayer-hearing, soul-converting, soul-sanctifying, soul-restoring, soul-comforting God." As United Methodists, we uphold the sacred practices of worship, the Word, and service as testimony to our faith. We share the message of faith in diverse ways through our outreach and global ministries.

Faith is not limited by gender, age, ethnicity, or sexuality. It is a substance connected to God working within us, or a personal response to God's grace through Jesus Christ. On our journey as God's people, we encounter a complex range of experiences. Life can test our sanity and hinder our relationship with God with fear, trauma, and ungodly behaviors. In our nation today, we face one of the highest levels of unwanted violence on school campuses and in public areas. As Christians, we look beyond our understanding to a greater source for relief.

However, Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Luke that we must have a humble faith, creating space for God to guide us into prosperity. Theologian Karl Barth reminds us to rely on the Holy Spirit to overcome the world's injustices and wickedness. Faith is a transformative substance, capable of bringing change to even the darkest places, as exemplified by Jesus Christ's response to cruelty during his time.

As we continue to follow Jesus, thrive in community, and heal the world, may we be reminded that faith in Christ alone is the substance of fulfilling our mission to the community and the world.

*Pastor Latu Paea*



*Deer in the parking lot by Kathy Wicker. He read the banner and is now waiting for the Holiday Market to open.*



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

Carson Valley  
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## Inside



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Bakers and Marmalade Makers wanted - see page 3



Also on page 3 is an ask for chili ingredient donations.



Food for the body, Food for the soul — See “Faith and Love in Jesus” on page 6