



Monthly Publication of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church

February 2025



## In This Issue

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| 2025 UWF Reading Program .....       | 3     |
| Craft Faire Kick-off .....           | 2     |
| Black History Month .....            | 5     |
| LA Fires Relief Fund .....           | 4     |
| Member Care Potluck .....            | 2     |
| Pastor's Message .....               | 5     |
| Scripture & Sermons - February ..... | 2     |
| Sierra Service Project .....         | 3     |
| Timeless Treasures .....             | 4     |
| Trustees.....                        | 1 & 4 |
| UWF February Meeting .....           | 4     |

## Trustees – The rest of the story

*By Al Baumruck, Trustee Chairperson*

We are beginning a new year, and our Church continues to grow, and age, and mature, and etc. etc.

We are blessed to be able to worship in a beautiful building on a great piece of property and we also have a wonderful parsonage where our Pastor and his family live. Maintenance, upkeep and improvements are facts of life, and the Trustees are so charged.

Here is a quick recap of projects for the last year:

- We have continually had problems with the heating and air conditioning system, partly due to the age of our building (28 years!!) This is and will be on-going.
- Our lighting throughout the building is being upgraded - well overdue.
- We have done some pew re-arranging in the Sanctuary and now have more room for bell activities and communion.
- The addition of side railing at the steps to help our “Wise Ones” get up and down is a pending project.
- For the youths, we have a functioning playground, and their wall mural is being completed outside the Sanctuary.
- We have had two clean-up days, to beatify our grounds, including removal of dead and unsightly vegetation, and have spread gravel as a landscaping upgrade.
- The brush in front of the containers is gone, and that area is available for overflow parking, or other uses to be determined.
- The memorial garden area has been cleaned and upgraded, and the dog park is a huge success.

*Continued on page 4*



## Carson Valley United Methodist Church

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Laura Bridwell

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## February 2025 Sermons and Themes

### *Worship Series Title: Where you are: Far Horizons*

February 2, 2025 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Color: Green

Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Theme: Formed by God

February 9, 2025 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Color: Green

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

Theme: The catch of the day

February 16, 2025 - 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Color: Green

Scripture: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Theme: Blessed are those who trust in the Lord

February 23, 2025 - 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Color: Green

Scripture: Luke 6:27-38

Theme: Do to others



Banner picture of the Carson River by Kathy Wicker, UWF photos of January meeting by Sharon Hoelscher-Day, Heart and prayer tree are AI generated images, and Sierra Service logo is from their web site.

## Craft Faire Kick-off

All are invited to the February 17 Craft Kick-off meeting at 9:30 a.m. for the November 1, 2025 Heavenly Holiday Faire. We will be organizing some of our supplies, storage areas and planning for the new year.

Craft workshops will start meeting the first and third Mondays of the month from 9:30-noon beginning in March. Timeless Treasures will be receiving items the third Monday of each month.

### **"WARM YOUR HEART"**

#### *Comfort Food For February*

Sign up for soup, chili or pie. The other sides provided by Member Care.

Sunday, February 2, following second service, 11:30

## 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.

## 2025 UWF Reading Program

Our church has increased the budget for our reading program! You can browse all the books in the 2025 program at <https://bookshop.org/shop/uwfaith>, some are in the Douglas County Library. Men and women of the church are encouraged to read at least one book from each of the five categories listed below. You can read any of the new books or any of the books from recent years that are in our church library. For more information contact Carol Coleman or Pam Forest. Here are new books in the UWF reading program:

### Education for Mission Category

- *The Witness Blanket* by Newman & Hudson (for kids too)
- *How to Reach the West Again: Six Essential Elements of a Missionary Encounter* by Timothy Keller

### Leadership Development

- *A Right Worthy Woman* by Ruth Watson
- *The Power of Together: Discover the Christian Life You've Been Missing* by Jim Putman
- *The Making of Biblical Womanhood: How the Subjugation of Women Became Gospel Truth* by Beth Allison Barr

### Nurturing for Community

- *Start with Hello* by Shannan Martin
- *Meeting God in Paul: Reflections For The Season of Lent* by Rowan Williams
- *The First Advent in Palestine* by Kelley Nikondeha

### Social Action

- *The Sun does Shine* by Anthony Ray Hinton
- *Viral Justice* by Ruha Benjamin

### Spiritual Growth

- *Miracles And Other Reasonable Things* by Sarah Bessey
- *The Gift of the Unexpected* by Jillian Benfield
- *Forgiving What You Can't Forget* by Lysa Terkeurst
- *Spiritual Practices for Soul Care: 40 Ways to Deepen Your Faith* by Barbara Peacock
- *Words of Love: A Healing Journey With The Ten Commandments* by Eugenia Gamble
- *Whistlestop Tales: Around The World in 10 Bible Stories* by Kandiah & Kandiah (for kids too)

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## Sierra Service Project Meeting

*Do you know a youth that would like a week-long service experience this summer?*

There will be an informational meeting on February 5 at 4:30 in the Education Room to learn about our planned Sierra Service Project trip August 5-12. Parents and/or grandparents of a youth who is going into 7th grade or higher (7th-12th grades) are invited with no obligation to find out if this is of interest. The youth does not have to attend CVUMC or any church. All are welcome. The motto of SSP is "Build faith and strengthen communities through service to others." You can get more information at the SSP website: [sierraserviceproject.org](http://sierraserviceproject.org). We will be serving in Del Norte County, California. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Deis at [ndeis@comcast.org](mailto:ndeis@comcast.org).





## Trustees

*Continued from page 1*

These are the highlights. There are nine Trustees, each serving a 3-year tour. We nine meet at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month, along with the Pastor and the office manager. We all watch for stuff around the church that needs to be addressed. We also have a great asset in Len Frueh, our office manager, who knows the building and is alert to the needs of both properties and is pro-active in keeping them in good repair.

We have numerous groups using your main building almost every day, and these groups do have some impact on our building. Allowing these non-profit organizations to meet here is part of our mission and reputation in the valley. If you see something that needs attention, or if you would like to be part of our committee and/or of our other committees, let us know, or let the office manager know.

## LA Fires Relief Fund

We at CVUMC are collecting donations to support the LA Fires Relief Fund through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR has been in existence for decades and is known for being one of the first responders to disasters such as Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Floods and Fires. Money that is sent is not used for any Administrative expenses, but is used at the site of the disaster to directly help the people.

We will be collecting donations for the next several weeks. Please make your checks out to CVUMC and write in the Memo line LA Fires or UMCOR. Likewise, if you are donating cash, please mark on the envelope LA Fires or UMCOR. Once we have received all the donations, we will send one check to UMCOR.

Thank you for caring, Len

## Timeless Treasures Collecting Starts

Please bring your boutique-quality treasures to the church education room on the 3rd Monday of each month between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. The first collection day will be Monday, February 17.

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.



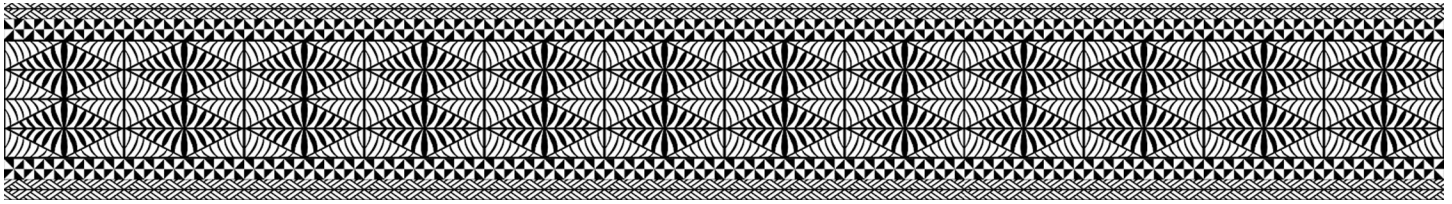
## February UWF Meeting

Celebrate Valentine's Day early with the United Women in Faith on Thursday, February 13 in the education room. The monthly potluck luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and the program at 12:15 p.m. "Human Trafficking" will be presented by Jeff Johnson of the Douglas County Sheriff's Department.

Bring your donated items for Abbey's Crossing. See the "needs list" on the UWF bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Come for Food and Christian Fellowship! All are welcome! No reservation or RSVP needed.



*Kathy Wicker Installed officers for 2025. Ann Santos lead session on prayer and self denial with Bible pictographs.*



Greetings to you all Carson Valley United Methodist Church, as we arrive in the second month of this year, we are anticipating what God has planned for us these coming days. Our worship series is titled - Where You Are: Far Horizons in which I invite you all to ask, “Who are we becoming?” or “Is this where we want to be?” As a church, we want to live out our mission as God’s people to the fullest potential to follow Jesus, thrive in the community, and heal the world. Country music singer Jimmy Dean once said: I can’t change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to reach my final destination. One of the most difficult things to reflect on as a follower of Jesus Christ is directing your own life to be aligned with the standards of God.

Jesus preaches in one of the scriptures this month to love your enemies and to do good to those who hate you. This is an example of Christ’s standards that call on us to live in grace as his stewards in an unforgiving world. At the same time, we look to his example of love and compassion to live prosperously. Our intentions as United Methodists are to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. For in Jesus, there is forgiveness, love, peace, healing, and wholeness, which is essential in a world that is comfortable in its brokenness. The aspect of the body of Christ is to become the transformative light that gives hope to our communities and beyond.

Are we where we want to be as a church? Are there areas in our church community that we need to reconnect or restructure to be aligned with our church conference mission statement? Is there something we can do, to steer the direction of our community to draw closer to God? This is where we are in this month’s worship series, identifying the obvious and what is distant that we need to work towards. During this month I have some long-term goals and short-term goals for our church community to draw us closer to God through the Holy Spirit as United Methodists. Our staff and volunteers are working hard in our office to ensure that the church is moving smoothly in the correct direction. With your prayers and support, may we continue to live in a Spirit-filled direction to grow into our calling as the body of Christ.

*God Bless You, Pastor Latu Paea*


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## Black History Month

Church-Family, it is my greatest honor and privilege to celebrate February as Black History Month. As United Methodists, we embrace the diversity of culture within our churches and beyond. We will celebrate historical figures and moments that have contributed to the black community in our church, nation, and beyond. We praise God for the black community who are a pivotal part of our multicultural identity as Christ’s church. Not only are we celebrating black history month as God’s people, but we are also acknowledging the struggles alongside injustices that have occurred historically and currently within the black community. I encourage you my church-family to celebrate not only the journey for our black brothers and sisters but also remember the challenges it took to bring freedom for all humans to live with one another in peace within our nation.

As United Methodists, we have a rich history of black preachers and circuit riders who have taken the gospel throughout the country in harsh weather conditions. We were also one of the first churches to open our doors to freed black slaves to become part of the church, eventually, becoming movers and shakers for our church conference universally. Today, we have black theologians of all sorts in biblical and theological authorship that contribute to the church’s relevancy through time. As I would say: Faith has no color, meaning we are all God’s children conceived from a womb and now we are finding new ways to see the light of God within one another. Join me in our worship services for this month as we celebrate community at Carson Valley United Methodist Church. *Pastor Latu Paea*

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

  
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## Inside



“Warm Your Heart” with soup and chili at the February  
Member Care potluck See page 3



United Women in Faith officers installed for 2025 and  
February program - Human Trafficking See page 4



Sierra Service Project info meeting See page 3