



# Share the Spirit

Monthly Publication of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church

March 2023



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## UWF Reading Program

Our local United Women in Faith will again sponsor its Reading Program. New books are now available in our church library. Please contact Carol Coleman, the reading program coordinator, if you have any questions.

### Education for Mission:

*“I am a Man”*: Chief Standing Bear’s Journey for Justice

Susan Angeline Collins: *With a Hallelujah Heart*

### Leadership Development

*A Knock At Midnight: A Story of Hope, Justice and Freedom*

*Miosotis Flores Never Forgets*

*Spiritual Leadership*

### Nurturing for Community

*Firekeeper’s Daughter*

*Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World*

### Social Action

*Cousins: Connected Through Slavery, a Black Woman and a White Woman Discover Their Past – and Each Other*

*Black Was The Ink*

### Spiritual Growth

*The Big Deal Of Taking Small Steps To Move Closer To God*

*What Is God Like?*

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## Carson Valley United Methodist Church

Pastor - Tony Hoefner  
Office Manager - Len Frueh  
Email: cvumclen@gmail.com



<http://www.carsonvalleyumc.com/>

Web Master - Darla Brown  
Email: darlatim@me.com



Carson Valley United Methodist Church  
Email: cvumclen@gmail.com



### Share the Spirit

Editor - Cecile Brown  
Email: cezil@mac.com



Bell Choir Director - Kathy Chipman Wicker  
Musical Accompanist - Christi Blahnik  
Choir Director - Tammy Owens

Photo Credits: Masthead Photo - Canada Geese by Tony Hoefner - they seem to be permanent residents in the Carson Valley now. Bet they didn't bargain for this! The photo of the choir by Kathy Wicker almost made the front page. Other photos in this issue by Kathy and Sharon Hoelscher-Day.

## Calendar Items

Feb. 28, 2023 - UWF Board Meeting - 9:30 a.m.

March 9, 2023 - UWF Luncheon Meeting - 11:30 a.m.

April 3 - Craft Workshop - 9:30 am - noon

April 4 - UWF Board Meeting - 9:30 a.m.

April 13 - UWF Luncheon Meeting - 11:30 a.m.

## Scripture & Sermons For March

### March 5

#### Second Sunday of Lent

Color: purple

Scripture: John 19:38-42

Title: *Secret Disciples*

### March 12

#### Third Sunday of Lent

Color: purple

Scripture: Romans 5:1-5

Title: *Peace with God*

### March 19

#### Fourth Sunday of Lent

Color: purple

Scripture: 1Samuel 1-7

Title: *Beautiful People*

### March 26

#### Fifth Sunday of Lent

Color: purple

Scripture: john 10:1-10

Title: *Shepherds and Sheep*





## UWF Reading Program

Continued from page 1

The following books are in our Douglas County library and can also be read for UWF credit:

*The Book Woman Of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson

*Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

*White Fragility: Why it's so Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Robin Dangle

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## March UWF Luncheon Meeting

Do you want to know what all this snow will do to our water supply in the Valley? The Carson River is our lifeline connecting our communities. Come listen to Ed James, General Manager for Carson Water Sub-conservancy District who will present the Future of Water for Carson Valley at our March 9 general meeting.

We will also be collecting for Abby's Crossing during March and April, with a collection bin in the Fellowship Hall. Items can also be brought to our April 13 meeting. Look for Heifer choices that will be posted on our UWF bulletin board by the end of February. Our City of Refuge Baby Shower will be held May 11 at our general meeting. We will vote for our Heifer choice during the May business meeting.

The United Women in Faith potluck luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 9th in the Education Room at 11:30 am. The program will be held at 12:15 p.m. and we encourage anyone interested to attend. The business meeting that follows the program. Hope to see you there!

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## 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.



## Miosotos Flores Never Forgets

Ann Robar reports that this book, was written by Hilda Eunice Burgos for middle school students, but she found it worth reading as well. An average student, sixth grader Miosotis feels less remarkable than the rest of her family: big sister Amarilis is a straight-A first-year student at the University of Pennsylvania, where their Papi is a physics professor, and her older brother, Jacinto, is a track prodigy with a great SAT score.

What dog lover Miosotis excels at is helping their neighbor Gina and her wife with all the dogs she fosters for a rescue organization. Miosotis loves dogs so much she makes a deal with her father: She'll get A's in science and Spanish and nothing less than a B in her other classes in exchange for her own pup. As she attempts to raise her grades (with help from her siblings and best friends, Zoe and Olivia), she starts to question the deal along with other things: her father's obsession with grades, her Abuela's anti-Black comments, and, most of all, her sister's increasingly alarming and unhealthy relationship with her wealthy, white fiancé, Rich.

The author explores colorism through Miosotis' multi generational Dominican American family. The story admirably handles themes of recognizing abuse of humans and dogs in an accessible, thoughtful way. It weaves in concepts about taking responsibility and accountability for ones actions or inactions.

It is a realistic middle grade book about the impact of domestic violence, identity, racism and culture with a sweet protagonist who's obsessed with dogs and who, along the way, learns how to help those you love.

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## Alpine Kids

### Family Outing

Friday, March 10th: Round Table Pizza Gardnerville 5 - 6:30 p.m. CVIC Hall Minden. At 7:00 David Jacobs-Strains and Bob Beach will play Country Blues. We have 50 seats available.

### Teen Cooking

Monday, March 13th: After school. We will be making Sweet and Sour Chicken and Pot Stickers. Call Edie (775) 781-1416 so transportation can be arranged.





## Movie Night Concert

Our March Movie Night Saturday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m., will be something very special. We will be watching a Concert Featuring Tommy Emmanuel, Guitarist extraordinaire.

“The real-time exuberance Tommy brings to every note of every song he plays is palpable and infectious. His fans are in love with his unbound talent as a guitarist of multitudes, his ability to play three parts at once, always with pure heart and real soul. He is a true virtuoso. But he seems as delighted always with the magic of the music as the audience, if not more, and his joy illuminates everything.”

The Concert is just one hour and 20 minutes long, so we will not be keeping you out very late. Our fresh popped world-famous popcorn and surprise treats will add to this fun



*Up until a few days ago you could see the earth once more. Kathy Wicker got out and about between storms to snap this photo of a ranch fence line*

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## February UWF Meeting Program Featured Xquisite



*Left to right are: Suzy Schell Wennhold, Brenda Sandquist (Founder and Exec. Dir. of Xquisite), Marcy Voss and Debra Sisco from Xquisite, a non-profit agency serving human trafficking victims*

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## Craft Workshops Resume in April

Craft workshops will start again in April on the first and third Monday mornings. Contact Nancy Raymond at 775-720-6266 if you have questions or ideas for new craft projects.



# That's What I'm Talkin' About

## Snow

*Snow, Snow, go away! Come again some other day!* Now, just let me peek outside and see if my incantation worked.... Still a blizzard. Hmmm, I may need to get in better with God. What can I do...?

I know what I'll do to please God! I'll give something up for Lent. Yes, we are currently in the Lenten season of self-denial—40 days of preparation for the celebration of Easter. Let's see now...self-denial.... Aha! I have decided to give up shoveling snow! By golly, if God has blessed my driveway with snow, then who am I to presumptuously scrape it off?

As time goes by, it turns out there is a bit of a downside to fasting from snow shoveling. My driveway is on the north side of the house, so snow doesn't melt off. As the days go by, snow just turns to ice. More snow falls; more ice forms; it gets thicker and harder. Eventually, full-blown glacier formation has begun. Perhaps it will slide down the driveway and finally calve into icebergs in the street....

OK, I'm being facetious, and I really haven't given up snow shoveling. But as I was doing my daily snow removal this morning, I was grumbling to myself about snow and realized that I need to be thankful.

I don't want to be ungrateful like the people following Moses in the days of sojourn through the wilderness (see Numbers 11). They complained about eating the manna that God provided and they demanded something else. This rebellion angered God, so God brought quail to the people—so many that the quail covered the ground two cubits (three feet) deep. Everyone became sick of eating the quail and the biggest complainers died.

What does that have to do with us? For the past couple of years, it seems to me that a lot of press has been made about our lack of precipitation in the mountains. The worsening drought has been causing a lot of hand wringing throughout the land. What if God heard all that anxiety coming from the western U.S. and is now giving us our snow 15\* cubits deep? If so, I'd better be grateful instead of grumbling—sending up prayers of thanksgiving instead of cursing snow.

That kind of thanksgiving requires a spiritual discipline that all of us can practice during this season of Lent—the discipline of *Gratitude*. Now, it doesn't count to simply be thankful when things are going good (yes be thankful then, but there's more to it). Be thankful in hard situations also. It requires effort to be thankful in trying times—when your back hurts from shoveling snow...and then it snows again...and again....

This Lenten season, I recommend that we prime the pump of thankfulness by reading Paul's letter to the Philippians. In that letter, Paul wrote from prison, yet his letter overflows with thanksgiving. And he inspires us to be *grateful*.

Well, I'd better get back out there. It really has piled up.... *Snow, snow, here to stay! Thank you God, every day!*

*Be the church, --pastor tony*



\***cu·bit** /'kyōbət/


*noun: cubit; plural noun: cubits; noun: long cubit; plural noun: long cubits are ancient measures of length, approximately equal to the length of a forearm. A cubit was typically about 18 inches or 44 cm, though there was a long cubit of about 21 inches or 52 cm. Thus 15 cubits would be approximately 22.5 feet deep or 26' 3" if a long cubit. If there is this much snow in the pastor's driveway we really feel sorry for him. His gratitude does him great credit.*



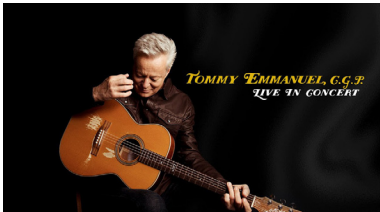
**Worship Schedule**  
*Sundays*  
 Worship 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.  
 Fellowship time follows morning services  
 Loving child care provided

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 Gardnerville, NV  
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Carson Valley  
 United Methodist Church  
 1375 Centerville Lane  
 Gardnerville, NV 89410  
 Phone: 775-782-4600  
 Fax: 775-782-1230  
 www.carsonvalleyumc.com



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