



Share the Spirit

Monthly Publication of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church

May 2021



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United Women In Faith

Well, it has been a month now since our new name change and many of us are still having trouble getting UWF or UWIF to roll off our tongues as easily as UMW did. I thought I'd share a little more information from our international leadership about this name change to clarify why the change was made, writes Ann Robar, our local president.

In the 150 years since we began, our organization has had more than 25 names, each reflecting varying states of the church, society, and women's lived experiences. We've been "Ladies," "Woman's" and then "Women's" societies, associations, guilds, and circles.

"This is an exciting time for our organization!" said Harriett Jane Olson, CEO of United Women in Faith. "Looking back, we see the through lines for our organization—faith in God and commitment to women, children and youth—and how this has been expressed in different ways at different times, always calling women into action that changed the world.

Now we are again opening up new opportunities to continue to make that happen. Along with the new name we are rolling out an array of new and innovative programs and opportunities for women's spiritual growth, soul care, leadership development, and service and advocacy. We recommit to inclusivity, action, and impact as women of passion and power, united by God's love in our mission to help women, children, and youth. We are creating more opportunities for engagement through new programs and updates of long-standing programs that embody our core values," she said.

"Things change. People change. But God remains, and that continues to be the purpose behind everything that we do in this organization."



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Calendar Items

- May 2 - Craft Workshop - 9:30- noon
- May 3 — UMF Board Meeting - 9:30 am
- May 14 - Baby Shower for City of Refuge
Requested items are on the UMW/UMF
bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall
- May 16 - Craft Workshop - 9:30- noon
- May 23 - Timeless Treasurer Drop Off
10 am-11 am
- May 20 & 21 - UMW/UWF Assembly
Orlando or Virtual
- August 5-7 - Mission U - Sparks UMC
- August 13 - Special UWF Saturday event



United Women in Faith



Who Can We Be Together?
Building Communities
of Hope and Joy

Registration is now open for the Mission U 2022 Events

- June 3-5 at Monte Toyon in Aptos, CA
 - August 7 at Sparks UMC in Sparks, NV
- Register at mcusercontent.com

Scripture & Sermons For May

May 1 Communion Sunday

Color: white

Scripture: John 21:15-19

Title: The Question

May 8 Mother's Day

Color: white

Scripture: 1Kings 3:23-28

Title: A Mother's Love

May 15

Color: white

Scripture: John 13:31-35

Title: Love One Another

May 22

Color: white

Scripture: John 14:25-27

Title: Peace

May 29 Ascension Sunday

Color: white

Scripture: John 17:20-24

Sermon: Being One

CHURCH PICNIC, JUNE 18, 2022

Noon til 2 in Lampe Park

Watch for sign up in fellowship hall
More news to come.



**United
Women
in Faith**

2022 Reading Program Books

The 2022 Reading Program Books are currently available in our church library to check out. Complete the card with your name and try to return within two weeks so others can read the books. Chair Carol Coleman reports that if you read at least one book from each category you are eligible to be recognized by the district UWF. Books from the current year and four previous years are eligible. All books are on the upper shelves of the bookcase near the library window.

Ann Robar presents this month's book review of *One Dress. One Year: One Girl's Stand Against Human Trafficking* by Bethany Winz and Susanna Foth Aughtman.

When sixteen-year-old Bethany Winz learned about the millions of men, women, and children around the world trapped in slavery, her stomach churned. She decided she wanted to do something about it - to make a difference. Since victims of human trafficking lack freedom of choice, she decided to make and wear the same little black dress everyday for one year to raise awareness and money to help victims of trafficking.

She came up with ideas about how to accessorize her dress each day and took pictures of her outfit; posting it on a blog to increase awareness of the issue and raise money for agencies that were trying to eliminate trafficking. This book describes her journey through that year as one of hope, discipline, and sometimes disappointments. Each day of the year is chronicled and gives a reference to an agency that works in this field.

As Bethany worked to bring freedom to people worldwide, she discovered that she also needed freedom to believe that she was loved just as she was. The book demonstrates that each of us can make a difference and that sometimes the smallest gestures have lasting impact.

Thank you from Abbey's Crossing

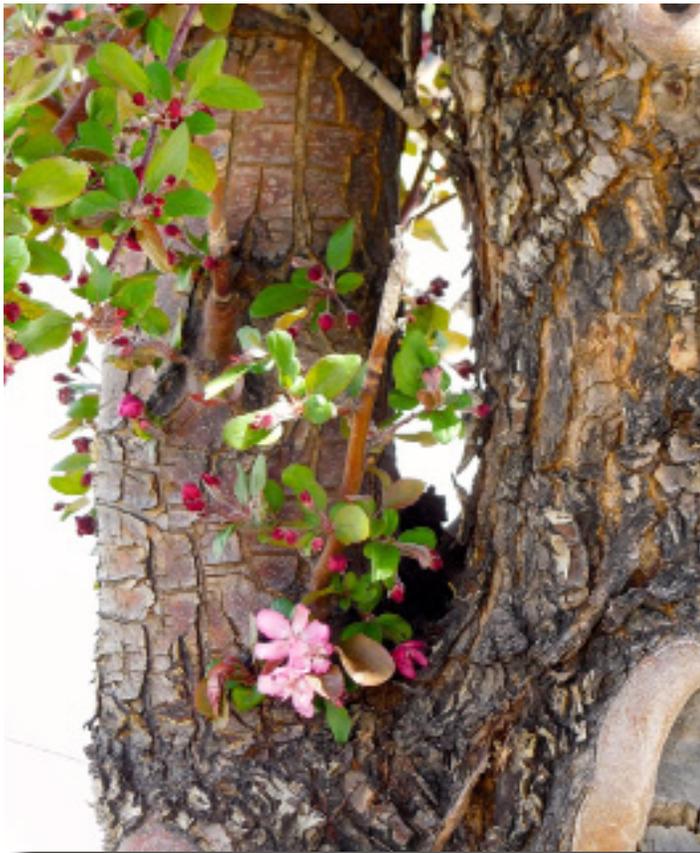
Thank you all for your generous contributions to Abbey's Crossing. Those items were delivered Tuesday April 12th to a most grateful staff at the Family Support Council.



Don't Let Us Down

The Member Care Team invites you to Dress up for Mother's Day.

Don't let us down! Dress up! Wear your fancy bonnets and your Sunday's best. On Sunday May 8, dress in your Sunday best attire for church.



A study in contrast by Kathy Wicker. We are all glad to see Kathy out with her camera again. She captured the blooms of this tree in front of the church at just the right moment.

Heifer Project 2022 Selection

UMW/UMF's voted to send \$600 to Heifer International for The Blue Flames Project in Senegal which provides bio-digester systems to women and their families that creates renewal energy to stoves in their houses. This frees women and children from having to spend hours daily foraging for fuel to burn. It helps sustain remaining forests and other vegetation, preventing erosion, and it helps the climate.

UWF May Potluck Luncheon and Baby Shower

We will be hosting the City of Refuge Annual Shower Saturday May 14. Hopefully women who are unable to come to Thursday meetings will join with us for the day.

The Speaker, Nena Lenard, will tell us about their organization. We will host two, possibly three adults and Shayla, Nena's 7 year old daughter, for luncheon and the shower.

There will be a new baby girl born in June and otherwise both boy and girl baby items are needed. Details are on the UWF bulletin board in the Fellowship hall. Hope to see you there!!

Items for the Shower can be left in the container at the front of the Church or brought the day of the shower. **Thank you for wrapping gifts!**



Above: Alpine Kids turned out in force for the fund raising car wash in the church parking lot. The Alpine Kids Ministry members are required to wear their purple shirts at all events, and there they are, wearing them, doing a great job cleaning cars and earning money to fund future outings in and around the community.

Right: Edie Veach and her granddaughter Morgana LeFae Veatch. Is Morgana driving now? Are those car keys in her hand? Yikes! But I say that whenever a new driver hits the road.



That's What I'm Talkin' About

About Moms

I'm sure some readers have seen the title of this article and skipped over it. Sometimes, people grow up without a Norman Rockwell sort of good-as-apple-pie-mom with perfect children. But that is not what this article is about. In fact, I wonder if that mom really exists outside of our nostalgic memories.

Sometimes moms have to get down and dirty. One of my early memories of Mom was when I had measles—that totally debilitating ailment that nearly everyone used to get. I don't remember much, but I recall being stuck in bed; it was dark all the time; me being about as sick as a person can be; and mom cleaning me up. I remember not wanting her to leave....

Sometimes moms teach about big things in small ways. Ever see a mouse in a mouse trap? It's another one of my early memories with Mom. I don't think she intended for me to impose my curiosity at just the wrong moment, but I did just that. Two things I learned: mice are not cute, and death is real. We might think that death is something that everybody intuitively understands from birth, but I'm pretty sure we all needed to be taught that *Tom and Jerry* cartoons are not the way it works.

Sometimes moms make hard decisions. In a fading memory I see the little trailer we had lived in, and we are driving away from it for the last time. Mom was leaving an abusive husband and was rescuing us from an abusive dad. That was back in the day when women didn't do such things. Society and even the church told moms to stick with the abuse. But Mom knew better, and she had backbone, and she had faith. She had three kids and a “long hard row to hoe” as they say—but we made it.

Sometimes moms teach about contentment. Those were simpler times, and perhaps it was easier to be happy with just a little. Do you recall those aluminum Christmas trees, with a lamp underneath, shining through colored glass? There wasn't much else under the tree, but we thought we were living high.

Sometimes moms get what they've been so unselfishly giving. I remember the evening that Mom and Jim, the guy next door—he loved all of us—told us they would be getting married. Jim became Dad in every way. I remember Mom smiling a lot more and life got better for all of us. Even then, Mom never quit working to make a better life. In fact, I guess we were early 60's trend setters—among the first two-income families, working their way up into middle-class America.

Well, that's enough reminiscing. I'm sure that if you asked my mom, she would remember these things differently. It's funny how some of our memories become bigger than life, and some fade into obscurity.

Why write about moms? May is the month we honor mothers, and I wanted to give a few examples of why we might do so. If you have had a good mom, then give thanks for your blessings. If you haven't been blessed with a good mom, then you be the kind of parent you missed out on. Most of all, trust that God loves you more than any mother could. In fact, God's love may be where good moms get their ability to get down and dirty; their wisdom to teach big things; their gumption to make tough decisions; their easy contentment; and their determined commitment. Finally, God's love is required for what I recon is the hardest thing about being a mom: watching from the sidelines—their task never finished, but seemingly accomplished—as children move on to become wards of the living God alone.

The prophet Hosea wrote God's thoughts about mother's love:

“...it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them up in my arms;
but they did not know that I healed them.
I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them.” Hosea 11:3-4

Motherhood—great blessing of God's love for all; great responsibility for those who accept God's love; great reward for those whose love never gives up.

Be the church, --pastor tony

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

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