



Share the Spirit

Monthly Publication of the Carson Valley United Methodist Church November 2023



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Heavenly Holiday Faire - Thank You For Your Support!!

Crafting all year, baking, making candy, donating raffle baskets, staffing the Faire, food for lunch and donating silent auction items are just a few ways our church family made the Faire a success this year. The Faire is the United Women in Faith's only fundraising event of the year. Proceeds from the Heavenly Holiday Faire go to charities and mission serving women and children locally and around the world. Last year more than \$12,000 was raised for missions and charities. It will take a few weeks before the dust settles and we know how UWF did this year after paying its bills.

Thank you to everyone who contributed craft items, baked goods, cinnamon rolls, candy, Silent Auction items and raffle baskets. Special thanks go out to all who purchased and supported the Heavenly Holiday Faire this year. Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 2, 2024!



Craft Faire Carolers left to right: Tamara Brewer, Julie Franklin, Kathy Wicker, Sharon Hoelscher-Day, Ann Delahay, Jim Peterlin, Barbara Graham, Penny Puente and Nancy Deis.



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Photo Credits: Banner photo - Gull Lake on the June Lake Loop by Tracy Brown; Trunk or Treat and Craft Fair setup by Kathy Wicker; Craft Fair by Sharon Hoelscher-Day



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 November

Sunday November 5, 2023

"All Saints Sunday"

Scripture: Matthew 23:1-12

Sermon Scripture - Matthew 23:11 - The Greatest Among You will be your servant.

Theme: Cheers to the Servants

Sunday November 12, 2023

Beginning of Gratitude Month

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon Scripture - Matthew 25:13 - Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Theme: Keep awake for the day or the hour when the Lord comes!

Sunday November 19, 2023

Gratitude II

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon Scripture: Matthew 25:23 - His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Theme: Let us give thanks to the Lord in being good and trustworthy people

Sunday November 26, 2023

Gratitude III

Scripture Psalm 100

Sermon Scripture: Psalm 100:1-2 - Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Theme: Shout Thanks to the Lord!

Calendar Items

Saturday, Nov. 4 - Heavenly Holiday Faire
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Nov. 9 - UWF Potluck Luncheon & Meeting

Dec. 5 - 9:30 a.m. - UWF Board Meeting

Dec. 10 - Holiday Cookies for Shut-ins

Jan. 11 - UWF Potluck Luncheon & Meeting

The Advent Wreath

We light the Advent wreath as part of our worship on each of the four Sundays preceding Christmas. The word Advent means “Coming,” and this four-week season of Advent reminds us of a time when God’s people longed for the coming of a Savior.

The Advent wreath is a circle containing four candles, with a single white candle in the center. The circle is often decorated with evergreen branches to symbolize life without end.

Each of the four candles in the circle represents one of the weekly themes of Advent: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. The center candle represents Jesus Christ. We light the candles on the circle as the Sundays of Advent progress, and light the center candle on Christmas eve.

Three of the candles on the circle are purple, and one is rose-colored. Purple is the traditional color for royalty and rose is the color traditionally used for joy, as joy is the 3rd Sunday theme.

We hope you enjoy this beautiful tradition of the church as we look forward to the coming of Christmas.



The Chrismon Tree

“The glory of Lebanon will be yours; the cypress, pines, and boxwood together will beautify the place of my sanctuary.” (Isaiah 60:13)

The custom of decorating a tree for Christmas began in Germany. Martin Luther gazed upon the beauty of the stars one Christmas Eve, and he thought of the beauty of heaven and of Christ who brought heaven’s salvation to us. When he returned home, he set up a tree and decorated it with candles to symbolize the stars of heaven.

The tradition of a Chrismon Tree in the sanctuary of churches originated in a Lutheran church in 1957. Today our tree is decorated with symbols of Christ and his royalty. These decorations are called Chrismons. Typically colored white and gold, Chrismons represent the purity and the kingship of Christ.

God bless you as we celebrate Christmas together!

Church Christmas Decorations

Volunteers are needed on Friday December 1, at 9:30 a.m. to decorate the church for Christmas. We need men and women! Please call Nancy Raymond 775-720-6266.



Fall Harvest Potluck

The Member Care fall potluck is Sunday, November 19, following the 10:30 service.

TURKEY, HAM, ROLLS & DRINKS will be provided. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert.

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, November 12.

UWF Reading Program

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

The United Women in Faith Reading Program books are divided into five categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. Books are available for people of all ages and reading levels. Eligible years: For 2023, books from the 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021-2022 and 2023 Reading Program lists are all eligible for Reading Program reporting credit, if you have not previously read them.

UWIF encourages you to read five books each year, one book from each category, selections from the current reading lists, and regular reading of Response Magazine or Faith Talks podcasts.

Book Review For November

Susan Angeline Collins: *With a Hallelujah Heart* by Janis Bennington Van Buren is a historical book of the life and missionary career of Susan Collins. This delves into a world of hardship, challenges and fulfillment. This book explores the life of African American Susan Angeline Collins. I was inspired by her faith, pioneering attitude, missionary successes, unfailing courage, and belief in everyone's right to an education.

Susan was born in 1851 in Illinois and died in 1940 in Iowa. As a young girl she felt God calling her to be a missionary in Africa. She had to study, get an education and talk to other missionaries before she was able to be accepted for the opportunity to serve her Lord in Africa. There were so many obstacles and challenges getting there, but Susan (though small) was very strong in mind and body. While many other missionaries died of malaria and other diseases, Susan was able to suffer through without complaining!

She started a school and orphanage and by herself took care of many young children. She not only fed, clothed and taught them about God, but loved them as her own children.

She was in the Congo Delta Region and Angola for 33 years. Susan was a diminutive bundle of energy who achieved recognition as a stalwart missionary, leader, teacher, nurse, construction manager and surrogate mother to "her girls."



November Potluck Luncheon

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

Our speaker on November 9 will be Herman Fillmore. He is the Cultural/Language Resources Director for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. He will bring another guest, Melba Rakow, who is a member of the Washoe Tribe: she has lived in Carson Valley since she was born in the 1940s. Mr. Fillmore will discuss the present day concerns of the Washoe Tribe as well as some historical background. He will provide a question and answer time for us at the end of his presentation. I believe Melba will be willing to answer questions also. Hope to see everyone on November 9!

UWF will also have our World Thank Offering collection during our November General Meeting on November 9. If you want to bring a check write it to Carson Valley United Methodist Women. Monies go to missions in the United States and throughout the world supported through our UMF national office. Thank you for caring about women and children here and around the world!



This photo speaks for itself and needs no caption. Suffice it to say that it was taken by Kathy Wicker at Craft Faire set up.



Trunk or Treat - A “Ghoul-ish” Success

“I couldn’t have done this without the help of all the church family. The Douglas County Sheriff’s Posse had so much fun, they want to participate next year. The kids and families had a ball. Thank you to everyone that made our first Trunk or Treat a huge success.” – Laura Bridwell. Left: Dave and Tanya Drew with inflated pumpkin. Center top: Nancy Deis - “Please Don’t Feed The Animals” Center bottom: Douglas County Sheriff’s Posse. Right: Mike and Christi Mazza had another inflatable entry!

Events For November & December

Saturday, November 18: Turkey Bingo Fund raiser 6 to 9 p.m. at Turtle Rock Park on Highway 89 between Woodfords and Markleeville. Proceeds benefit the Teen Program.

Saturday, November 25: Movie and Brunch of popcorn, hot dogs and nachos at CVUMC from 10 a.m. until Noon. The movie will be announced. This free event is open to the public. We ask that you RSVP to ensure there is plenty of food. Movie - TBA.

Wednesday, December 6: Christmas Caroling and a Soup and Salad Dinner at CVUMC from 6 to 8 p.m. This event is open to the public. Santa Claus will be there for pictures. All youth will receive a free book. Please RSVP to ensure we have plenty of food.

Coordinating Director, Edie Veatch – Alpine Kids’ Ministry



Left: Nancy talks with the famous “Puppy” about possible overcrowding issues in Heaven. There are none.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

As Thanksgiving approaches my thoughts turn to love of family and friends and I count my blessings for all we are given and all we are able to give.

We are blessed in our church to have dedicated members who give of their time and talents all year to the Craft Faire and have fun doing do.

I am grateful to serve as chairman of this of this awesome group of volunteers , the ladies who are able each year to bring fresh ideas to the craft workshops, those who bake, make candy, work on crafts, hang signs, get gifts for the Silent Auction, make baskets, sing at lunch and those who make and work both for lunch and cinnamon rolls. I don't want to forget Santa and the elves and the ladies in our Kid's Market. It is great to see the children in our church.

Everyone loves to shop in Timeless Treasures and thanks to the ladies that make that happen. They work most of the year sorting and pricing the goodies that you shop for.

Thanks to everyone who works the day of the faire. You are so needed and many thanks for coming and helping out. I know you get tired, especially the day we pack up, but you do it without complaining and with enthusiasm to get it done and get home to do what has awaited you all week. Thanks to all the men who help move all our 'Stuff in" from the Conexes and then have take it all back when we pack up.

I want to thank all the ladies who chair the different areas of the faire. As Len says, "... they are a well oiled machine and they help make it all happen. To all who did tasks, big or small, please continue to help when asked as we look forward to the 2024 Craft Faire. I couldn't help, but add that. May your blessings be many this Thanksgiving as you share your love and good times with friends and family.

It is with a heart full of love that I report that our Craft Faire was a tremendous success. We do not have a final count at this time, but I can tell you that we made more than \$15,000 that will be given to charities that support women and children. Many other events were going on the day of the Faire. We had great publicity and a fabulous flyer that brought in a steady stream of shoppers. Thank you all. *Sharon Calvert*



We are about to arrive on the doorstep of the Advent season, and we are excited to enjoy the season of Christmas accompanied by the different holidays celebrated around our communities. As Methodists, we have journeyed from January to June and transitioned to a new pastoral leadership on July 2, 2023. We have had quite a journey. Things are slightly different, but the theological perspective still stands in Carson Valley United Methodist Church – uphold our ecclesial objective to make disciples of Christ and transform the world. We still stand today with our call to the world as a church to maintain our open hearts, open minds, and open doors to all who come to Christ.

Last month we focused on the theme titled “For the Long Haul.” Our objective was to learn that our faith journey is not a sprint but a marathon. We are drawing closer to the closing weeks of this year, but we still have “lots” to celebrate. Our journey to Advent is filled with many church events, manifesting God’s blessings for our church family. This month, we experience the season of two things, “Saints and Gratitude.”

Furthermore, the first part of this month of our Christian season calendar is All Saints Sunday – a Sunday on which we celebrate the saints in our church today, yesterday, and the saints of the future (our children). We are the “hidden gem” and have a hospitable reputation that is distinguishably special from other churches in the Valley.

All Saints also recognizes the saints in the past who were “pushers and the shakers” of the church in upholding the weekly tasks of Carson Valley U.M.C. We celebrate their names this month and bring recognition to our current saints who are “You” that make our home church special. Who has been your saint during your walk with God? What are the names that are no longer with us that helped build the church we enjoy today? May God bless us with their memories as we say their names.

Moreover, the second part of this month is a theme that will begin on Sunday of November 12, 2023, and extend to November 26, 2023 – the theme is titled Gratitude. We know that November is also the month of the Thanksgiving Holiday which highlights a traditional American history of celebration of harvest of the past year. For us as Christians we give thanks to God for his provision in sewing blessings to our homes and church. We share in testimony, preaching, singing, and community as we thank the Lord for all blessings that flow.

Church family, as you celebrate the saints in our lives and your gratitude to the living God, let us not forget to pray for each other and pray for those who do not have much during the coming holiday season. Let us not forget that there are other human beings who will wake up to being unsheltered, unfed, uncared for, and unwanted as you and I witness from afar.

May God bless you all during this month and may you all have a joyous “All Saints” Sunday and Thanksgiving Thursday. The Lord be with you all. Amen. — *Latu*



Candy Land Ladies: Glenda McClelland, Susan Lombardi, Lois Wylie, and Ann Santos.



Baked Goodies: Pam Forest, Carol Lucas, Maxan Hylton, and Penny Puente.

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

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