

## ***PASTOR'S PAGE***

Christmas is in the air with Christmas carols being played in retail stores and on the radio, Christmas ornaments adorning houses. Christmas decorations and stockings are hanging everywhere, but the heart for most houses and office buildings is the Christmas tree. The smell from live trees fills the house with a beautiful aroma as gifts are laid so neatly under it bringing joy to all who see it, especially little children.

When it comes time to select a Christmas tree everybody wants the perfect tree on which to hang Christmas lights and beautiful ornaments. When it is adorned with the right decorations the Christmas tree is the most beautiful of all decorations. But, it's hard to find the perfect tree; the one that is the right size, height, and width.

Christmas just isn't Christmas without a Christmas tree. But, you know, as beautiful as some Christmas trees are, as immaculate as some of the brand name artificial trees are, you will not find a perfect Christmas tree. I don't care how much you pay for it or what you put on it, it will have a deficiency somewhere.

Maybe that's because we are looking at the wrong tree when it comes to the perfection. The perfect Christmas tree that I'm talking about this morning is not found in any store, or on any lot. It's not in Rockefeller Center or on the White House lawn.

There is a perfect Christmas tree, and the only place to find it is on a hill far away in a place called Calvary.

It's two pieces of wood in the form of a cross. It didn't have lights on it, but, it did hold the Light of the world! That's what makes it the perfect tree. The official Christmas season kickoff took place in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago, and the first Christmas tree lighting was birthed on Golgotha's Hill.

We can face tomorrow because of what Jesus came to do on this tree. I love this tree, the perfect Christmas tree.

*Glen*

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Fred & Louise  
Curran  
Berdina Anderson

Mike Delaney  
John Williams

Aiko Ryan  
Joyce Gibson

Please include in your prayers those with special needs, those receiving medical care, the home-bound, caregivers, service men and women, our CA/NV Conference, and the churches of the Great Northern District. *(If you would like your name added for special prayers, please let us know at the office or contact the pastor.)*

## **A moment in History**

This information is in the history cabinet in the History Room. It is in regards to the windows in the History Room.

Handcrafted art glass work done by Brad Hanson, Fairfield, California, 1985.

Windows are appraised at \$200 per square feet for 20 square feet. (\$4,000).

The following information was furnished by the artist Brad Hanson, Fairfield, California regarding the make

of the two stained glass windows installed during the church's 135th Anniversary Celebration, May 1985. The glass used was Fischer Glass, mouth blown and very rare.

1. German Lead Crystal—Reamy Full antique around Dove.
2. Purple Pearl, Rare Purple Rose Streaky. (Only 1 sheet found)
3. "I.H.S." Mouth blown lead crystal from "Fischer Glass Works" West Germany.
4. Flame is Red Green Variegated Mouth Blown lead crystal.
5. Background is streaky Pearl with 4 color Pearlization. (Very rare and had not been available in area before.)
6. Dove white clear streaky
7. Black Glass from German Import West Germany.

**Bonnie Shelton**

## **United Women in Faith**

Our CANV Annual Celebration held at our church on Oct. 19, 2024, was a great success. Many thanks go out to the Conference Team for all the planning during the year and a special "Thank you" to our members, Terry Raley & Bonnie Shelton for back up kitchen help, Doug Raley for audio/video support, Carol Schellenger for worship leader, Lisa Weir for piano music, Cindy Raley for cleanup and Pastor Glen for leading us in communion. Was proud that we had the most attendance from any one church. Thanks to all who attended.

Get your baking pans out and be ready to fill our Bazaar tables with delicious goodies and our craft tables with your homemade items. Get your wallets ready too, as we have some beautiful handmade quilts for sale!! Flyers have been sent out, but please share

information with your friends and neighbors. We'll also have a special table from Samaritan Village filled with handcrafted items from Africa. We support this organization and I'm sure you'll be delighted with their selection of items. All the funds they raise will go to support the orphanage and medical clinic. Joan will be on hand to take cash, checks and charge cards. Fall Bazaar is Sat. Nov 2 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Breakfast will be served from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM for \$5.00 and lunch is from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM for \$8.00. You can't beat the prices for all the yummy food offered. We still need volunteers to work the event. Please contact Pam to sign up.

Our next planning meeting is Wed., Nov. 20 at 10:00 AM. We'll be discussing our Installation of Officers on Sat., Dec. 14, at 11:00 AM. The office of Vice-President for 2025 is still open. If interested in the position, please talk to Lorna Stutz or Carol Aldrich who were in charge of nominations.

Upcoming dates in Nov. and Dec. include; Fall Bazaar, Nov. 2 - 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Veteran's Day Celebration, Nov. 11, Miriam Circle, Wed. Nov. 13 - 2:00 PM, Planning Meeting, Wed. Nov. 20 - 10:00 AM, Miriam Circle Xmas Lunch and gift exchange, Wed. Dec. 11 - 12 noon, General Meeting/ Officer Installation, Sat. Dec. 14 - 11:00 AM.

Remember to set your clocks back an hour on Sat. night, Nov. 2 for daylight savings time.

Pam.....President  
Myra.....Vice President  
Marilyn.....Secretary  
Carol.....Treasurer

## **Miriam Circle**

Dear Ladies, thanks to the brave souls who braved the rain and cold wind to attend our Miriam Circle. They were treated to chocolate from Switzerland by Marlene Barber, a lesson on gratitude read by

everyone present, a reading by Marsha Sylvester-Jose, and Pumpkin Delight by Bonnie Shelton. We missed those who were unable to attend.

Our next meeting will be on our Christmas Luncheon by Pam Fuhrman on December 11th at 12:00 PM. Our gift exchange this year will be tea towels. Join us for a good beginning to the Christmas season.

Yours in Christ, **Bonnie Shelton**

## **Finance Committee**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Opportunity Drawing General Fund Fundraiser. The winners were drawn on the October 6th during the potluck hosted by the Finance Committee and with full attendance. Congratulations to Lisa Weir, Taber Dullea, Don Blackard, Norm & Dawn Mitchell who were our winners! With all of your efforts we were able to raise \$1,070 after expenses to go into our general fund. surrounding communities.

## **November Library News**

The Week of November 17th is National Bible Week

Checkout bibles in our library

- Beautifully illustrated children's Bibles
- Teen Study Bibles with illustrations
  - The Good News Bible
  - The Berkeley Version
  - Revised Standard Version
    - The Living Bible
    - The Maxwell Bible
  - The New International Bible

**Marsha Sylvester-Jose, Church Librarian**

(John 11:40) Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

## *Dates and events: November*

<b>Saturday, December 2</b>	5:00 p.m.-- Parade
<b>Sunday, December 3</b>	10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service
<b>Tuesday, December 5</b>	3:00—Bible Study
<b>Saturday, December 9</b>	7:45--- Men's Breakfast 11:00--- UWF Installation Mtg. 9-12--- Play Rehearsal
<b>Sunday, December 10</b>	10:00 --Worship svc. Children's Christmas Play 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service
<b>Tuesday, December 12</b>	3:00—Bible Study
<b>Wednesday, December 13</b>	12:00--- Miriam Circle in Pioneer Hall
<b>Sunday, December 17</b>	10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service
<b>Tuesday, December 21</b>	3:00—Bible Study 5:30--Combined Finance/ Admin Mtg. 6:30-8:30—YSARC Mtg.
<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service 6:00p.m. Christmas Eve Service
<b>Monday, December 25</b>	Christmas Day
<b>Sunday, December 31</b>	10:00 --Worship svc. 10:15 --Sunday school + Youth group 1:00-- Hmong service



*December*

*Happy Birthday*

12/1	Alyssa Able	12/16	Ronna Eaton
12/2	Pamela Comstock	12/16	Leland Eiben
12/7	Janet Herald	12/18	Ellen Tiffany
12/8	Veronica Lara	12/20	Bill Medbery
12/8	Joyce Gibson	12/21	Amiya Gale Meadows
12/10	Jody Davis	12/21	Betty Erford
12/11	Ray Anderson	12/22	Henry Steele
12/11	Jordan Diego	12/23	Chrestina Davis
12/12	Trina Smith	12/24	Thomas Holmes Jr.
12/12	Laura King	12/25	Kristine Fritz
12/12	Todd Carr	12/25	Aiko Ryan
12/13	Taber Dullea	12/25	Kevin Kirkpatrick
12/14	Chris Anthony	12/26	Nathaniel Anthony
12/15	Chyanna Yang Thao	12/26	James Davis
12/16	Warner Pask	12/28	Gladys Harris

H A P P Y

*Anniversary*

12/29	Mike & Carolyn Steele		
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The 12-month birthday list is posted on the bulletin board in the church office. For additions/corrections, please call (530)743-3007.

**Writing Group**

The subject for December 30th is “A Christmas Wish”. What have you wished for in the past and have any of these wishes been granted? Whether it be world peace or something more personal, write about how you feel on this subject. If you're not comfortable with this, write on another subject; just write. Writing opens a deep thought process that you didn't even know you had. Happy writing.

**Myra Wade**

## **View from The Pew**

November brought us a joyful month as we had the pleasure of honoring those who had served our country and listening to Juliet Kennedy sing a heartfelt song with words from a soldier's point of view. Next an exciting time with the “rain or shine” participants lining up for the Veterans Day Parade, while our Outreach Committee handed out complimentary coffee, hot chocolate and donuts. It was a wet but memorable and gratifying day; our cold hands and damp feet were forgotten as people smiled and thanked us.

For those who have never been to Game Night, you're missing out on enjoying an evening of fun and fellowship. A whoop of delight as the dice fall just right in the game of Farkle, a twinkle in an eye as a strategy works and a high number tile is placed just right in Mexican Train, a smile of satisfaction in mastering the observations of the card game 31. Is there food? Well, of course there is!



Then there was Thanksgiving, and I hope everyone was thankful and grateful for their blessings on this day of gathering together.

Now the wonderful month of December is here and you will soon see our church decorated in red, green, blue and silver to celebrate the birth of our Savior. The large Christmas tree in the sanctuary will be decorated and the final touch will be the happy participation of us all, as each person hangs an ornament. So many important events this month; here is a list of a few of them.

Dec 1st - Hanging of the Greens

Dec 7th - Christmas Parade

Dec 15th - Children's Pageant

Dec 24th - Christmas Eve Service

Have a Christmas full of love, joy and faith. Be thankful that God brought Jesus into our lives. Merry Christmas to all, and remember, "Each day comes bearing its own gifts. Untie the ribbon!"

**Myra Wade~ Lay Leader**

## **Youth & Children**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come! What a wonderful advent season! The children and youth will be in the Marysville Christmas parade on December 7. They will help prepare our float at the pastor's home on Friday, December 6.

This year's theme is The Nutcracker. Even nutcrackers celebrate the birth of Jesus! Thank you for donating candy and coming to see our young people share the true meaning of Christmas!

AND on Sunday, December 15 our youth and children will present the Christmas play. All children and grandchildren are encouraged to come to Sunday School to prepare for this. Rehearsal is Saturday, December 14 at 10 am. We want everyone to know the "True Meaning of CHRISTMAS." We can always use volunteers, so please contact Charlene Bole (916-747-8502) or Patrick Smith (530-434-1979) if you have questions or want more information.

REMINDER: December 29, 2024 is the fifth Sunday. Children will stay in the worship service with their family.

## **Outreach**

The white Christmas tree by the stairs is collecting canned food for C.A.N. They are in need of all canned goods. We here at outreach need cloves and socks. Your generosity is so appreciated.

**Lorna Stutz**

## **C.A.N.**

C.A.N. is not accepting clothing at this time, EXCEPT, we are very much in need of men's clothing and blankets. Thank you for your ongoing support.

## **Helping Our Church**

***Our gratitude to all those helping our church  
last month and all who volunteer throughout the  
year:***

**Bell Ringer:** Justin McCumber

**Usher/Greeter:** Brent and Alison Hasteley

**Liturgist:** Marcus Bole

**Music Leaders:** Lisa Weir, Taber Dullea

**Praise Team** – Lisa Weir

**Chancel Choir Director:** Taber Dullea

**Musicians:** Rob Hilton, Taber Dullea,  
Terry Raley and Lisa Weir, Mike Steele

**Sound Board Techs:**

Curtis Sylvester-José, Rob Hilton

**PowerPoint Techs:** Doug Raley, Terry Raley

**Sunday School Sup'ts:** Charlene Bole

**Youth Group Leader:** Patrick Smith

**Altar Stewards:** Trina Smith & Liz Ralph

**Sanctuary Steward:** Cindy Raley, Myra Wade

**Communion Stewards:** Marcia Davis, Trina Smith,  
Lenna Mullins

**Church Treasurers:** Beth Hiatt-Knight and Debbie Hopking

**Counters:** Bonnie Archuleta, Cheryl Bottum,  
Lenna Mullins, Marilyn Center, Lorna Stutz

**Financial Secretary:** Beth Hiatt-Knight

**Librarian:** Marsha Sylvester-José

**Volunteers:** Bonnie Archuleta,  
Carol Aldrich, Bonnie Shelton, Lorna Stutz, Myra Wade,  
Jody Davis & Lenna Mullins

***A special "Thank You" to the hosts of our  
Potluck and Coffee Fellowship.***

**WE THANK THESE BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SUPPORT**  
*This space is available for businesses to advertise in the Circuit Rider newsletter and on our website. A donation of \$125 is asked to defray printing and mailing costs. Please contact the church office.*



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# December 2024

## **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MARYSVILLE**

*Pastor: Rev. Glen Raley,*

Hmong Language Pastor: Cheng Yang

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Web - [www.marysville-firstumc.org/](http://www.marysville-firstumc.org/)

Facebook – [fb.me/MarysvilleFirstUMC](https://fb.me/MarysvilleFirstUMC)



### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

★ **FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH –**

★ 10:00 a.m. *Worship and Communion Service*

★ **ALL OTHER SUNDAYS:**

10 a.m. - *Worship Service*

**EVERY SUNDAY - 1:30 p.m. - Hmong Language Worship**