



# ***The Vine***

## ***June 2021***

United Methodist Church  
1031 Iowa Ave. Los Banos, CA 93635  
E-MAIL Address: [umclb@att.net](mailto:umclb@att.net)  
Phone (209) 826-4181  
*Address Service Requested*

**Worship Service In-person 9:30AM Sundays**  
**Website:**[www.umclb.net](http://www.umclb.net) **Service also online**  
**Church Office Hours: 8:30am – 11:30am M-Th.**  
**and phone line checked daily.**  
**Pastor: Rev. Jim Garrison**  
**Church Secretary: Cassie Wolf-Miyamoto**


### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!**

7 <sup>th</sup>	Deb Milnes	7 <sup>th</sup>	Matt Patrick
7 <sup>th</sup>	Carl Phillips	12 <sup>th</sup>	Mychaela Narcisso
13 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Moon	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Frances Hall
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Danny Foxworthy	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Steve Rebelo
29 <sup>th</sup>	Eileen Sorensen	29 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Cobarruvias

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jim & Kathy Garrison
16 <sup>th</sup>	Larry & Germaine Wiley
26 <sup>th</sup>	Steve & Cassie Miyamoto
27 <sup>th</sup>	Don & Carley Van Someren

May contributions total: \$ 9,377.00 (total before last Sunday of the month)
Online Attendance for May 2 <sup>nd</sup> (24) 9 <sup>th</sup> (32) 16 <sup>th</sup> (24) 23 <sup>rd</sup> (16) 30 <sup>th</sup> not included
In- Person Services for May 2 <sup>nd</sup> (23) 9 <sup>th</sup> (44) 16 <sup>th</sup> (51) 23 <sup>rd</sup> (33) 30 <sup>th</sup> not included

A decorative border of blue birds, possibly swallows, arranged in a rectangular frame around the text. The birds are facing outwards from the center of the page.

June 2021 Vine

From the Pastor,

Our news media has lately been filled with stories of hatred. Acts of violence against persons of Asian descent have increased. Targeted violence against Jewish people has increased. Unequal treatment of black people by some law enforcement has been exposed. It isn't new news. Unfortunately, humans have divided against one another throughout history. Even Christians have tortured and killed other Christians for variations of belief. Of course, this is all wrong and sinful. As Christians we do not need to check every time a new flavor of hate pops up to see if we are against it. Hate is always wrong, whether it is based on race, economics, religion, gender, politics, or which football team we prefer. Beating up people with clubs, or with words, is always wrong. We don't need a list of people that we are not supposed to hate, because we already have a short list of people to love: one another and everyone else. Our guide is God who loved the whole world so much that he sent Jesus to be the savior of all.

Jesus said that the kingdom of God is like a little bit of yeast in a batch of dough. Even though it may be small, it steadily grows and influences the nature of the whole loaf of bread. As Christians we are called to be that kind of transforming agent. Wherever we go, whatever conversation we join, whomever we meet, we are called to influence that situation in the direction of love. Praise God that we have the Holy Spirit living in us empowering and transforming us to live out the overarching fruit of the Spirit, which is love.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim".

Jim

Pastor Jim Garrison

## Administrative Council Highlights – May 4, 2021

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 with seven people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** The NOW team met on April 19, covering these items: Manna is still serving takeout meals only, but hoping to resume inside food service again. Pastor Jim and Susan Ramsey have taken communion to a number of shut-ins recently. The VBS leaders have begun to meet with those who will be helping this summer. Tawny hopes to be able to start in-person Sunday School sessions in June. Jim wants to improve the quality of our Sunday livestreams, but needs some help in selecting new AV equipment. Setup for the Rummage Sale will begin on June 14. There is more merchandise than usual, partly because of no sale last year, and also because of a whole lot of donations. We will need to figure out what to do with leftover items. We will try to boost sales by advertising on social media.
- **Trustees.** Genesis Painting has begun work on refurbishing the pews. Paper has been placed under all pews on the east side of the sanctuary to catch sawdust from sanding. They will power sand all pews, but do hand sanding whenever meetings are going on in the Fireside Room. They are having some trouble getting enough shellac, apparently due to weather problems in Texas, but they have completed the first coat on several pews in the front left (east) side of the church. No work has been done yet on the parsonage fence.
- **UMW.** UMW plans to meet in person on May 11 in the Fellowship Hall, and is gearing up for the rummage, June 17 through 19.
- **Financial Report.** The church's finances were still in pretty good shape, although collections for April were quite low: just \$8,882.31. Paid expenses were \$9,601.62, but we didn't make the usual \$500.00 monthly tithe payment to the Conference. Also, we still owe about \$2,500.00 to the pension fund, as the Conference continues to have billing

problems. The April 30 checkbook balance was \$8,393.04.

- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** The SPRC is not meeting in May, but will get together by Zoom on June 9. All SPRC members are contacting their designated church staff person monthly.
- **People in Need; Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Jean Willis, SanDee Rooney, Tom Kaljian, Wilma Ditter, Frances Hall and Steve Miyamoto. We still need someone to take over the prayer chain.
- **Upcoming Events.** Jim and Cassie mentioned two upcoming events: (1) a faith-based community outreach meeting on May 5 organized by the Merced County DA to identify local services for victims of abuse and human trafficking; and (2) the National Day of Prayer, May 6. UMW and the St. John's Lutheran Women will provide Subway sandwiches for all participants. Jim will take part in the event in Dos Palos.
- **Pastor's Report.** This year's Annual Conference Session will be in Sacramento, October 28 through 31. Jim will be giving guitar lessons to Danny Foxworthy and maybe Ethan and Riley, and helping make some fence repairs at Kimery's house. He has been helping plan for VBS, and has received inquiries from NA and other groups about future use of our facilities. He will tell Father Noah about the Rummage Sale and VBS in terms of their impacts on St. Alban's Church's use of the Fellowship Hall. Jim and Kathy recently spent a couple of days in Roseville with daughter Cindy and her family, which will be increasing by one with a second baby due in late September.

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***Please see Vine Events section  
for Scrip tip of the month!***

## Vine Monthly Events June

Important dates:

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** - Admin. Council meeting- on Zoom @ 7PM

**June 9<sup>th</sup>** - SPRC Meeting - on Zoom @ 7PM

**June 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> UMW set up for Rummage Sale (8am -4pm)**

**June 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> UMW Rummage Sale Open! (see below for times)**

**June 19<sup>th</sup> - Helpers needed to take down Rummage Sale (12:30)**

**June 20<sup>th</sup> - Decorating for VBS in Fellowship Hall**

**June 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> VBS (9am to noon all week)**

**June 21<sup>st</sup> - N.O.W. Meeting 7pm on Zoom**

**June 26<sup>th</sup> - Helpers needed to take down VBS decorations.**

**June 29<sup>th</sup> - Finance Committee Meeting @ 3:30pm**

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**Claire Jensen-** With a saddened heart we bid Claire good-bye.

Her service was May 21<sup>st</sup>, and it was genuinely nice. Thanks to the UMW women who helped and all those who gave desserts. We will miss her smiles and beautiful flowers on the alter.

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**Note: Boy Scouts** - For worldwide Scouts Trash Day scouts collected 9 bags of garbage around their communities. Pinewood Derby races conducted at church; boys had a glorious time. Scouts also visited with first responders and government officials in May to learn about how to become leaders as well as learn first aid techniques. The scout's current year ends in June with an awards and graduation ceremony. The outside grounds of the church are working out nicely for scout meetings on Wednesdays and events. Thanks!

**Scouts continued** - We are recruiting new scouts. If you have a son or grandson interested or know someone who is, please have them contact Mackenzie at 209-826-9941. We are holding several summer activities for boys in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. All are welcome to attend.

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**VBS** is coming up quickly!

This month: June 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> (9am to noon all week)  
Still could use helpers with crafts, snacks, and money counting. Crafts and snack are already decided – just need persons to help hand items to

campers and help leaders of these stations with campers. Items still needed (see list- on back of bulletin or on email sent with service)  
Registration forms are in the Narthex and outside the office door. If you plan to help, please fill out a counselor/staff form or if you have a camper who wants to attend. Space is limited sign up soon!!!!

Mask wearing will be parents' choice not mandatory. As staff, masks will be voluntary, several of the staff are already vaccinated. Most events are outside.

CDs of our VBS music will be available for \$10 at the end of each day. The closing program will be on Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:40am on the front lawn. Then crews can take people around to see the stations and have cookies (individually wrapped) right after.

Offering will go to Operation Christmas Child this year.

If you have questions, wish to volunteer, or have items to donate from the list previously mentioned, please contact the church office (209)826-4181 or Shannan Doubek (209) 587-3730 or Kerri Michel (209) 675-6374. Thank you for helping!



**UMW Rummage Sale-** A lot of good stuff has come in for this once-a-year sale! **Come help put it all out for display - June 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 4pm.** Come see what you could use! June 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>!

**Hours on the 17<sup>th</sup> are 3pm to 7pm** this is the first day to pick up something from the sale and support the church, win-win!!

**Hours on 18<sup>th</sup>, Friday, 8am to 3pm.** Tell all your friends- useful items at an incredibly low price!

**Hours on 19<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, 8am to noon.** Then help clean up the rummage and set up the Hall for VBS. Strong helpers needed!!!!

This is a great way to get gifts or usable items and tools for someone you care about while supporting the church too!!!

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**E-Giving** – Did you know? There are now 8 families in our church using Vanco Give Plus to donate to the church securely and conveniently online! Accounts and payments can easily be set up and initiated on a laptop or desktop computer, or by using a mobile phone, using the free Give Plus app. The other easy way is to go to our website: [www.umclb.net](http://www.umclb.net) , there is a link for this purpose there. If you have questions, please see Gregg Rice or Bud Ramsey. Thank you!

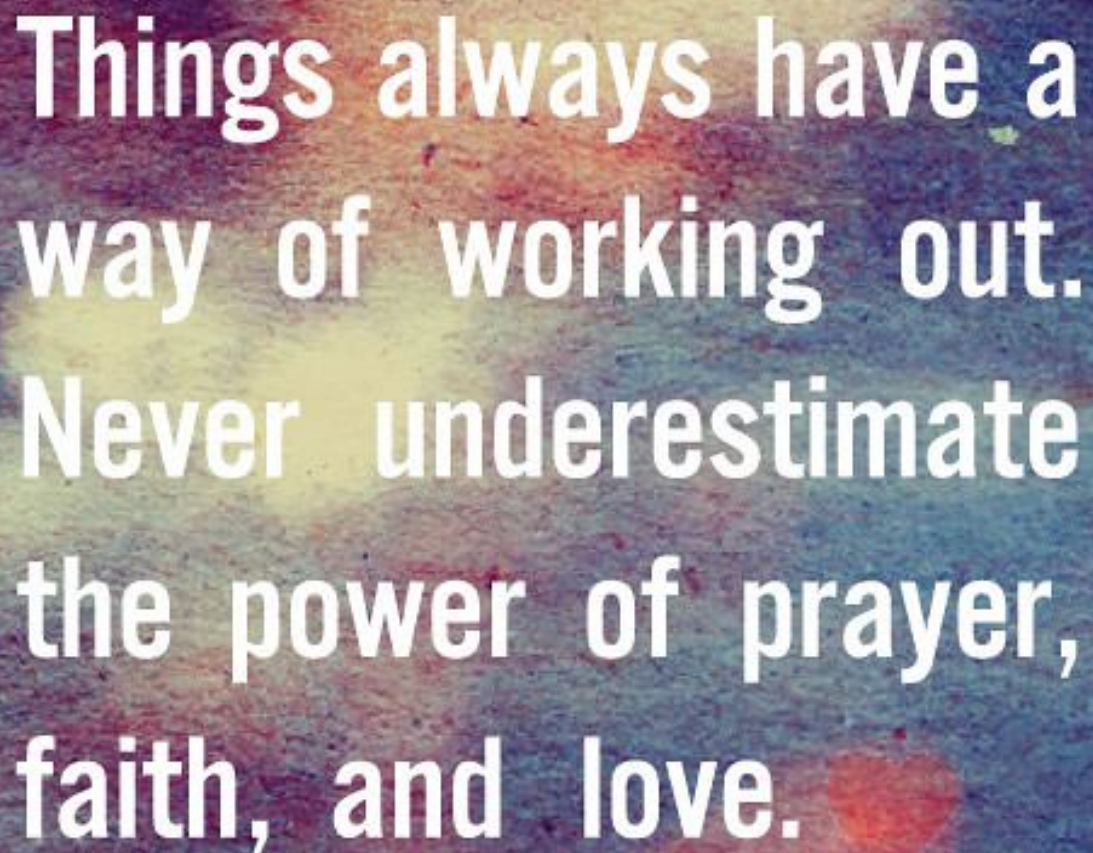
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### ***SCRIP TIP OF THE MONTH***

If you need a gift for a graduate or for Father's Day, please check out the wide array of gift cards we have on hand for immediate sale, or can order. **Especially for our VBS helpers, we have \$10 cards for most fast-food places in town, plus Denny's, Domino's, and Starbucks.** We can print paper certificates for many items that are not on hand. Check the list of participating retailers at [www.ShopWithScrip.com](http://www.ShopWithScrip.com). Please contact Gregg or Juli Rice by phone at (209) 826-1027 or (209) 761-2737, or by e-mail at [grice@inreach.com](mailto:grice@inreach.com).

If you need help or wish to have prayers, please contact the church office at 209-826-4181, phone line is checked daily, or call the secretary or Pastor using the numbers provided in your church directory.

**Still looking for prayer chain coordinator!**



Things always have a  
way of working out.  
Never underestimate  
the power of prayer,  
faith, and love. ❤️

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# June 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Ad Council Meeting on Zoom 7pm</i>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 <i>SPRC Meeting @ 7pm on Zoom</i>	10	11	12
13	14 <i>UMW Rummage Sale Set up 8am—4pm</i>	15 <i>UMW Rummage Sale Set up 8am—4pm</i>	16 <i>UMW Rummage Sale Set up 8:30am—4pm</i>	17 <i>UMW Rummage Sale— 3PM to 7PM</i>	18 <i>UMW Rummage Sale—8AM to 3PM</i>	19 <i>UMW Rummage Sale— 8AM to 12:00 noon (clean up)</i>
20 <i>VBS Set up Fellowship Hall</i>	21 <i>VBS 9am-Noon NOW Meeting On Zoom 7pm</i>	22 <i>VBS 9am—noon</i>	23 <i>VBS 9am—noon</i>	24 <i>VBS 9am—noon</i>	25 <i>VBS 9am—noon Closing—11:45</i>	26 <i>VBS-clean up</i>
27 <i>Appreciation Sunday</i>	28	29 <i>Finance Meeting 3:30pm</i>	30			