



The Vine

August 2022

United Methodist Church
1031 Iowa Ave. Los Banos, CA 93635
E-MAIL Address: umclosbanos@gmail.com
Phone (209) 826-4181
Address Service Requested

Worship Service In-person 9:30AM Sundays

Service is also online Website: www.umclb.net

Sunday School following Children's Moment in Worship Service

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30 AM-12:00 Noon.

Please call the Secretary if you need time in the office.

Messages are checked Monday-Thursday.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Suhn

Church Secretary: Lori Winters

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

3 rd	Gregg Rice	3 rd	Tom Rooney
3 rd	Bonnie Kraynick	8 th	Audrey Hepworth
8 th	Addison Toscano	8 th	Rex Betschart
20 th	Kindle Wallace	21 st	Ethan Knight
21 st	Wilma Ditter	24 th	Cindy Garrison Lattin
25 th	Karen Bonillas	26 th	Ross Betschar
28 th	Ellena Avara		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

2 nd	Ron & Lorrie Dybas
16 th	Carl & Jolanda Phillips
16 th	Dan & Lynn Martin

July contributions total: \$ 11,298.62

In-Person Services for July 3rd (38) 10th (42) 17th (33) 24th (34) 31st (50)

Vine Monthly Events for August

Important dates:

Tuesday, August 2 – Administrative Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom



Wednesday, August 10th - SPRC meeting by Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Monday August 22nd - N.O.W. Meeting 7p.m. on Zoom

Tuesday, August 30 – Finance Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m. by Zoom

Cub Scouts: Scouts will be returning to regular weekly meetings starting In August. We are moving our meetings to Thursday from 5:30-6:30. We are currently recruiting all kids (boys and girls) entering kindergarten through 5th grade. Our annual popcorn fundraiser is also starting in August! Thank you in advance for your support. Mackenzie Ferreira

Operation Christmas Child

Hi everyone, I'm Gideon and I'll be heading up Operation Christmas Child again this year. Operation Christmas Child is an organization run by Samaritans Purse. They collect shoeboxes filled with necessities and fun things and deliver them to children all over the world. All children who receive a shoebox also hear the Gospel and many will have the chance to connect with a local church for on-going follow up and discipleship.

Last year in our Merced/Mariposa counties 2800 boxes were collected. 159 of those were contributed by our church. Most of them were funded by our 2021 VBS offering, but our church family contributed filled boxes also.

I want to challenge our congregation to fill a box or 2 per family. It would be great if we could collect a good number of boxes this year also. I have a table in the fireside room with the shoeboxes and pamphlets that will have suggestions of what you can put in the boxes.

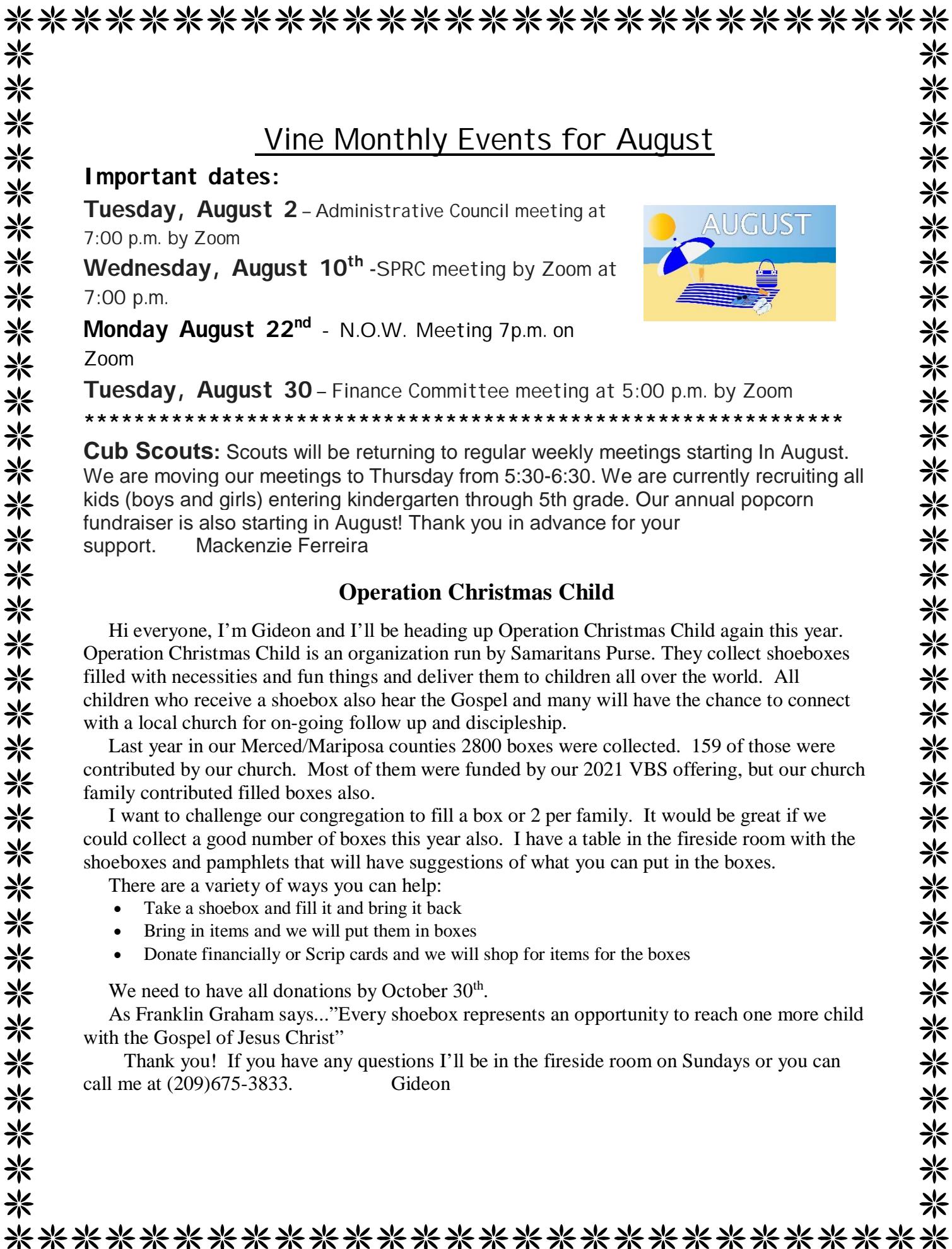
There are a variety of ways you can help:

- Take a shoebox and fill it and bring it back
- Bring in items and we will put them in boxes
- Donate financially or Scrip cards and we will shop for items for the boxes

We need to have all donations by October 30th.

As Franklin Graham says..."Every shoebox represents an opportunity to reach one more child with the Gospel of Jesus Christ"

Thank you! If you have any questions I'll be in the fireside room on Sundays or you can call me at (209)675-3833. Gideon



From the Pastor

When we think about spiritual life, we have to think about growth. When we think about any form of life, life is all about growth. Growth is evidence of life. You plant a seed in the ground and it grows to a full-sized plant. That's the nature of life. You have a small puppy in your house and it grows to be a big dog. You have a baby in your house and it grows to be an adult. That's the way life works. Where there's life, there's growth. Where there's growth, there's life.

To be a Christian is to become children of God, and that means to be born again as a new creation. This new life in Christ intends to grow into maturity.

Spiritual growth is a privilege and it is also a responsibility. And the goal of spiritual development is to become like Christ.

It is a command for us to grow. Second Peter 3:18 says, "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

The objective in the church is to grow up into Christlikeness. I think that all of the ministry and everything in the life of the church have to be focused on this ultimate goal of spiritual growth. The means of that is the Scripture. First Peter 2:2 says, "Desire the pure milk of the Word that you may grow by it." Just as a baby desires milk in order to grow, you desire the milk of the Word which is your food so that you also can grow.

My wish for brothers and sisters at Los Banos is to grow by studying, reading, memorizing the Word of God. And so I invite all of our congregations to small group Bible study planned to start from September.

In Christ,
Pastor Peter Suhn

**Administrative Council Highlights –
July 5, 2022**

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, July 5, 2022 with seven people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Self-Introductions.** Each of the Ad Council members briefly described their history and roles within the Los Banos UMC. New Pastor Peter Suhn said he was honored to be serving our church and he recognized that transitions are often difficult. He grew up in Korea, achieving several college degrees and serving as a college professor for 12 years before being called by God to become a minister. He earned a Masters of Divinity degree at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, and served for several years in Korean United Methodist Churches in the San Francisco Bay Area and the past two years at the Fresno Korean United Methodist Church. He looks forward to sharing people's joys and challenges, and helping guide our church family in their spiritual journeys.
- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** Manna Ministries will be on hiatus for July and August, and NOW will consider how to reconstitute and reinvigorate the program. The next NOW meeting will be July 18.
- **Trustees.** The wiring harness on the riding mower is fried, and the starter has gone out, so we have not been able to mow the church lawn for a few weeks while waiting for the needed parts. A new toilet was installed in the men's restroom in the classroom wing, and the drain in the women's restroom was unclogged. We have not yet made any progress on the additional security camera to cover the parking lot, and four of the six cameras have lost connection to the internet so can't be viewed remotely.

The lease on the office copier is up on October 1, and we will get a new machine with similar features, under a new five-year lease that costs about \$14.00 less per month.

- **UMW.** The women aren't meeting over the summer. President Karen Bonillas is stepping down, and Laura Scott will take over in September. A rummage sale is planned for October. The denomination has officially changed the name of UMW to United Women in Faith.
- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** Henry left a few days earlier than originally planned, and Peter arrived on June 29. The moving company was paid \$2,350.00 on that day, and we will be reimbursed for 80% of the cost. Cassie's last day as Church Secretary is July 7, and a candidate for the position will be interviewed on July 6. Small group meetings with the Pastor and his wife are being set up.
- **Financial Report.** Total income for June was \$11,995.46, paid expenses were \$14,127.61, and the June 30 checkbook balance was \$3,239.48. All regular bills and pension plan contributions have been paid in full, but we have made no 2022 apportionment / tithe payments yet.
- **People in Need; Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Ted and Bonnie Kraynick's daughter; Shannan, Kerri and Jericho; Susan Ramsey; the Betschart family; Amanda; Guadalupe; Laura Scott and her husband.
- **Pastor's Report.** Peter thanked the congregation for the warm welcome he and his wife have received. He commented on the large size of the parsonage, and their appreciation of the extra cleaning and sanitation work done before they moved in.

He stated he is trying to determine how best to reach out and care for the church family, and is looking forward to starting Bible studies for youth and adults. We will also work on improving Sunday morning sharing of joys and concerns. Peter said he would prefer to receive written requests, which will be instituted.

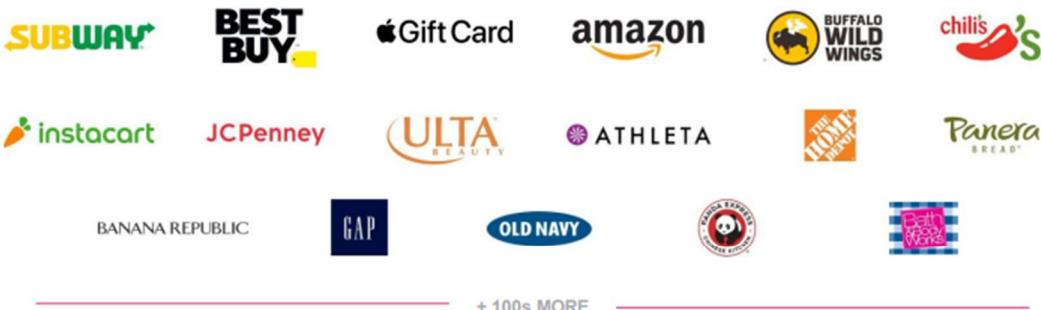
Our Scrip company allows individuals to order their own gift cards and paper certificates online or through their mobile app. You then can pay directly through your own bank account. You can also use credit/debit cards to pay, for a slight extra fee. The proceeds are tied in with our church, so the earnings come to our scrip program regardless.



Choose from 750+ popular brands to get everything you and your family need this fall.

The Back-to-School Shopping Guide is packed with inspiration, brands, and tools to help you fundraise for the cause that matters most to you.

Check out the 2022 shopping guide at RaiseRight.com/resources/BTSGuide



How to Order and Help Support our Church



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Get inspired with the 2022 shopping guide at RaiseRight.com/resources/BTSGuide



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Hi, my name is Lori and I am the new Church Secretary. I am very happy to be working with everyone here and hope to get to know all of you better with time. One of the things I like to do is try new recipes so I thought from time to time I would share a new one with you.

Quick And Easy Mediterranean Salad Recipe

Annette Reeder - The Biblical Nutritionist

5 from 1 vote

PREP TIME 15 mins, COOK TIME 20 mins, SERVINGS 4, CALORIES 698

EQUIPMENT

- Pressure cooker, rice cooker, stovetop
- Immersion blender

INGREDIENTS

- 5 cups cooked quinoa (2 1/2 cups uncooked quinoa + 5 cups water)
 - 1-1/2 cups Northern beans
 - 1/2 - 1 cup peppers, chopped (red, yellow, orange, and/or green)
 - 1/2 - 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved or quartered (sun-dried tomatoes are also a great option)
 - 1/2 - 1 cup cucumber, chopped (leave out seeds)
 - 1/2 - 1 cup olives, sliced

Sauce

- 1 cup fresh basil (or 2 tablespoons basil paste)
- 1/3 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1/2 cup nuts (any nut of choice)
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese (omit if doing the Daniel Fast)
- Salt and pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

The only cooking that's required is cooking the quinoa. Start this first (typically with 2 cups of water per cup of quinoa), and wash, chop and slice your veggies so they're ready for the cooked quinoa once it's finished - which has a cook time of only about 20 minutes.

How To Make The Sauce

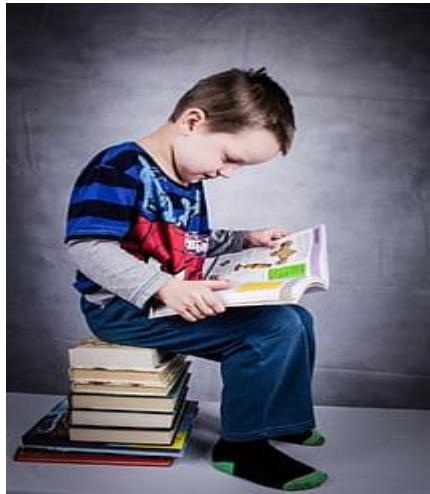
1. Mix the salad dressing ingredients with an immersion blender or small food processor and mix with salad in a large bowl.



The summer vacation sure went by fast, hope you all enjoyed it and are ready for the new school year.



Upper Room Daily Bible Readings- These are available in the narthex as you leave church or call the church office (209-826-4181) if you would like to be on the mailing list.



Visitations

Wilma Ditter is in Pacifica Senior Living: 3420 R St. Rm. #226
Merced, CA 95348 You just must sign in and show Vaccination card if
you have one when you get there and there are no exact hours so stop by
when you are in Merced.

Jean Bright is in New Bethany Memory Care: 1441 Berkeley
Rm# C102

Eileen Sorenson – Just turned 102! She is in New Bethany and loves
to have visitors.

These ladies love to see your bright faces.

