



# *The Vine*

## *October 2024*

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

**Worship Service In-person 10:00AM Sundays**  
Service is also online Website: [www.umclb.net](http://www.umclb.net)  
**Sunday School following Children's Moment in Worship Service**  
**Pastor Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10:00am-2:00pm**  
**or call (510) 552-7240**  
**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. Ivoni Maama**  
**Church Secretary: Lori Winters**  
<https://www.facebook.com/LosBanosUnitedMethodistChurch>



5	Alec Barcellos	15	Eli Hepworth
5	Gerald Wall	16	Shannan Doubek
6	Ed Kosters	16	Rhonda Cardenas
6	Jacob Hepworth	21	Jennifer Barcellos
8	Reese Betschart	22	Jean Arburua
8	Rachel Betschart	28	Curtis Brubaker
10	Tawny Walsh		



15	Ted & Bonnie Kraynick
30	Dan & Karen Bonillas

September contributions total: \$ 10,222.84  
In-Person Services for September 1<sup>st</sup> (36) 8<sup>th</sup> (48) 15<sup>th</sup> (32) 22<sup>nd</sup> (39) 29<sup>th</sup> (43)

# Vine Monthly Events for October

## **Important dates:**

**Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** -Finance Committee 6 p.m. Zoom

**Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** - Administrative Council 7 p.m. Zoom



**Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>** -  10:00 AM (every Wednesday) there will be a Prayer/upper room conference call, everyone is welcome to join and share any concerns. the number is **(720) 843-2603 Access Code: 8941334**

**Wednesday October 2<sup>nd</sup>** -Centering Prayer 7 PM Zoom, contact Pastor Iponi for details.

**Thursday October 3<sup>rd</sup>**-Bible reading in the church office starting at 6 PM every week.

**Sunday, October 6th** Our new District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Mary Maaga, has scheduled us for our annual Church Conference on October 6th, after Sunday worship service. All members of the church family are invited to attend.

**Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** – Trustee Meeting 6 PM

**Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**- SPRC Meeting 7 PM Zoom

**Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>** – United Women of Faith Meeting 1 PM in the Fireside room. Please bring a dish made with apples and a list of things made with apples (no looking on the internet, that would be cheating)

**Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup> Craft Night**- we will be making cards this month.

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** – workday/clean-up Day. please come and help 8am to 12pm If you can only help a couple of hr everything helps.

**Monday October 21<sup>st</sup>** – N.O.W. meeting 7:00PM Zoom

**Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup>**- Finance Committee 6: 00 PM Zoom

**Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** Fall Festival - Craft fair and Spaghetti Dinner

**Bell Choir** is every Thursday at 4:30 PM

**If you need visitation** for yourself or someone else please contact Karen Bonillas, Melissa Jones, Susan Younce or Iponi Maama

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Please consider volunteering for future fundraising lunches, they make a difference. You can partner with other families to share in the work. **We need help to make this work.** Please feel free to contact the office or Pastor Iponi with any questions.

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Our annual Church Conference is this Sunday, October 6th, after Sunday worship service. All members of the church family are invited to attend

The- United Women of Faith monthly meeting is October 10<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM in the Fireside room please bring an apple dish and make a list of dishes with apples, don't look it up on the internet, it will be a game at the meeting.. All women are welcome.

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#### SAVE THE DATE

**November 16<sup>th</sup>** will be our annual Fall Festival and Craft Fair, If you or somone you know would like to be a vendor please let me know so I can get you the application. We realy need Vendors so please share this information with any crafty friend you may have. Thanks

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Bible Reading Group every Thursday. We are Reading the New Testament -We will be meeting in the church office at 6PM, if you cannot come in you can join us through Zoom. Contact Pastor Ivoli for details.

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- Centering Prayer is back at 7 PM, Zoom - contact Pastor Ivoli for details.

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#### ONLINE GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Do you want to support our church financially, but are among the millions of Americans who no longer like to write checks? We have an easy way for you to donate to our church and its missions online, through a company called Vanco. Payments can be made by direct transfer from a checking or savings account, or by charging a credit card or debit card.

There are two ways to get set up:

- Download their free app onto your smartphone (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement) or
- Click the Donate On-Line link on the church website ([www.umclb.net](http://www.umclb.net))

Questions? Please contact Gregg Rice at (209) 761-2737 or [jgrice717@att.net](mailto:jgrice717@att.net) .



## United Methodist Church of Los Banos

**1031 Iowa Ave. ♦ Los Banos, CA 93635-3451 ♦ 209-826-4181**

**♦ [e-mail:umclosbanos@gmail.com](mailto:umclosbanos@gmail.com)**

**Website: umclb.org**

**Fed. Tax I.D. #770384534**

**Pastor - Rev. Ivoni Maama, (510-552-7240) ivoni.maama@cumc.org**

**“To love God and to share His love; to know Christ and to make Christ known”**

Dear Los Banos, United Methodist Family:

We rejoice in all the ways our beautiful community of faith brings joy and hope to our church and to each of us.

As we heading toward the end of the year. We have three months to the end of the year. I would like to remind you that your generous giving makes all this possible, and more! Your faithful support makes possible community involvement, fosters positive life change, and keeps the lights on. Your gifts become beautiful church where everyone is beloved and welcome.

We are heading toward our Season of Joy! Your generous giving grows us as a disciple of Jesus Christ. If you've not yet begun the spiritual practice of regular giving. Please try and know that you are the hands and feet of God. You are planting a seed for the next generations. We are blessed today from the seeds that were planted by our ancestors.

If you have any questions about ways to give, when to give, how to give, or how much to give, we're here to assist and accompany you in this important journey of faith and joy. The size of our gift should reflect the joy in our heart. It is an expression of our profound gratitude to God for the many blessings bestowed upon us.

***Ephesians 5:18 “Be filled with the Spirit...giving thanks to God at all times and for everything!”***

***Malachi 3:10 “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”***

Let's give it a try if we have not done so, and please continue your generous giving. You will notice God promise on the book of Malachi. Thank you for prayerfully and joyfully considering your 2024 financial gift to support, sustain, and grow the vital, life-giving ministry and mission of Los Banos United Methodist Church.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor 'Ivoni Maama

***(John Wesley quote - "EARN ALL YOU CAN, SAVE ALL YOU CAN AND GIVE ALL YOU CAN")***

## Administrative Council Highlights – September 3, 2024

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 with six people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** Bud stated that very few people had attended the NOW Committee in August, so there was no official committee report. He noted that Sunday School had resumed the previous Sunday.
- **Trustees.** Tom Kaljian reported that the manufacturer had failed to send us a new replacement for their defective ice maker, and was no longer returning phone calls and emails. The lawn situation is getting better; Russ returned to completely fix the sprinkler system, and we believe Gideon can maintain it once it is thoroughly operable. Gideon has been cleaning up behind the Sunday School room.
- Susan Ramsey asked about progress of requested repairs at the parsonage. Tom said he thought it was taken care of, but Ivoni verified that she had not been contacted, and no work had been done yet.
- **United Women in Faith.** The women were scheduled to conclude their summer break and resume meeting on September 12, with a salad potluck lunch.
- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** Some of our paid staff members still need to be fingerprinted, along with Tawny, as our Sunday School leader. The annual Charge Conference will be held after the worship service on October 6, so Susan, Ivoni and Lori will need to complete a number of reports. As a member of the Nominations Committee, Susan was also helping enlist volunteers for our various committees and leadership positions.

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- **Financial Report.** Our General Fund collections in August were only \$8,851.03, but paid expenses were \$14,703.25, leaving a balance of \$15,940.46 in the General Fund checking account. Hopefully the Rummage Sale will give us a much-needed boost, and a fall stewardship emphasis will encourage increased giving next year. Also in the works is a return of the Fall Festival, with a craft fair in the morning on Saturday, November 16, and a spaghetti dinner and prize raffle in the evening. Due to time conflicts, the luau has been postponed to sometime next year.
- **Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Guadalupe, Donna Morris; Charlene Martin; Ted Kraynick; Susan Ramsey; and Fay Davis.
- **Upcoming Events.** Brief mention was made of the following upcoming events:
  - a. Rummage Sale – September 6-7
  - b. Charge Conference – October 6
  - c. Operation Christmas Child deadline – October 27
  - d. Fall Festival Craft Fair and Dinner – Saturday, November 16
- **Pastor's Report.** Ivoni reported that she had recently visited Donna Morris and had talked with June Sloan and Charlene Martin. On September 29 she will baptize her nephew's son, and a large number of family members will be here for this special occasion. She is preparing for the Charge Conference. Foa plans to help rummage sales by selling items online. We may make some changes in the Youth Group scheduling. A Bible reading class has started on Thursday evenings, and she hopes for an appearance at a Centering Prayer session by a professor who is a director for the Upper Room Foundation. Ivoni asked all to keep praying for our church and for its finances.



## Operation Christmas Child

It's time again to start thinking about Operation Christmas Child. You can help by praying for the children. You can also donate financially or take a shoe box (which will be in the Fireside room soon), fill it and return it by Sunday Oct 27<sup>th</sup>. You can also include a note for the child. It does cost \$10 a box to ship which you can include, but it's not necessary. The shipping will be paid. Select either girl or boy and an age group (2-4yrs) (5-9 yrs) (10-14 yrs) Fill with toys, school supplies, hygiene items and whatever seems right to you. Do not include food, liquid, breakable, used or scary items. Here are some Ideas.

Doll/stuffed animal	pads of paper	Crayons/colored pencils
Soccer balls	wash cloth	socks
Puzzles	Coloring books	brush/comb
Hot wheels/small balls	bar soap	Bead set
toothbrush (no toothpaste)		

Thank You!



## THE LOS BANOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### FALL FESTIVAL AND CRAFT FAIR

*Saturday, November 16, 2024*

*Craft Fair 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

*Dinner 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. [Takeouts available]*

*Raffle Prize Drawing 7:00 p.m. [Details to be announced]*

*Menu: Spaghetti and Meat Balls, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert and Drink  
[Vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available]*

*Dinner Ticket Prices: \$15.00 for Adults, \$8.00 for Children Under 12*

*Location: Memorial Fellowship Hall at LB United Methodist Church  
1031 Iowa Street, Los Banos (209) 826-4181*

For dinner tickets, please call the church office (209-826-4181) or Gregg Rice (209-761-2737).

For Craft Fair Vendor information call the church office or email at [umclosbanos@gmail.com](mailto:umclosbanos@gmail.com)

**We need Vendors for the Craft Fair. Please share with any Crafty Friends  
You may have. Space fee is only \$25 + 1 item from your booth.**