



The Vine

April 2020

United Methodist Church
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 Website: **umclb.net**
 Phone (209) 826-4181
Address Service Requested

Worship Service: On YouTube

Church Office Hours: Office closed but secretary can be reached by leaving a Message on church phone. It will be checked daily.

Pastor: Rev. Jim Garrison

Church Secretary: Cassie Wolf-Miyamoto

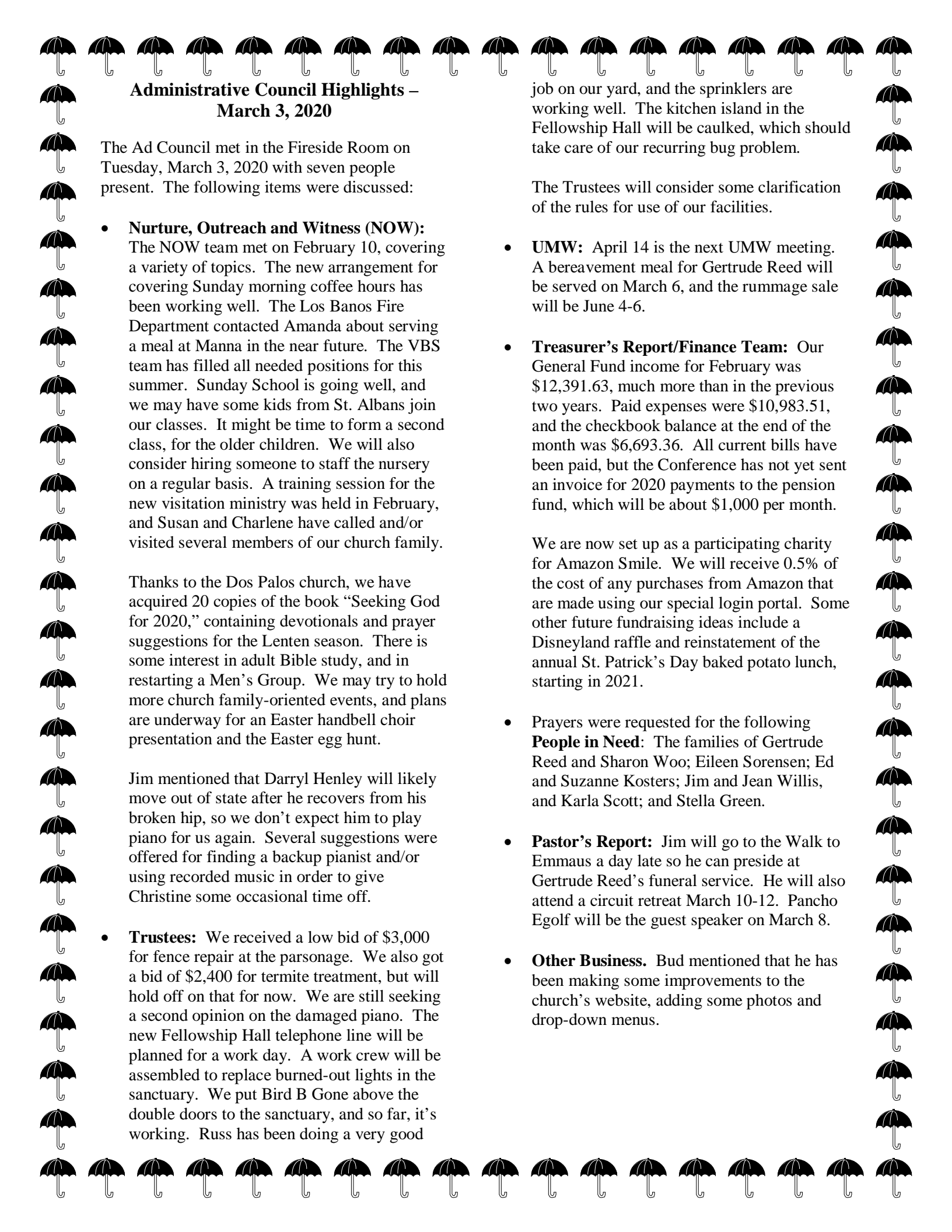
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

8 th	Jolanda Phillips	12 th	George Foxworthy
18 th	Helen Brubaker	22 nd	Kimery Knight
22 nd	Jean Willis	24 th	Dan Martin
27 th	June Sloan	27 th	Lorrie Dybas
27 th	Harley Zack	28 th	Diego Patrick

HAPPY ANNI VERSARY TO YOU!

26th Kris & Rozanne Hew

March contributions total: \$ 4,111.00 (last two Sundays not in count)
 Attendance for March 1st (64) 8th (42) 15th (31) 22nd (00) 29th (00)



Administrative Council Highlights – March 3, 2020

The Ad Council met in the Fireside Room on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 with seven people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW):** The NOW team met on February 10, covering a variety of topics. The new arrangement for covering Sunday morning coffee hours has been working well. The Los Banos Fire Department contacted Amanda about serving a meal at Manna in the near future. The VBS team has filled all needed positions for this summer. Sunday School is going well, and we may have some kids from St. Albans join our classes. It might be time to form a second class, for the older children. We will also consider hiring someone to staff the nursery on a regular basis. A training session for the new visitation ministry was held in February, and Susan and Charlene have called and/or visited several members of our church family.

Thanks to the Dos Palos church, we have acquired 20 copies of the book “Seeking God for 2020,” containing devotionals and prayer suggestions for the Lenten season. There is some interest in adult Bible study, and in restarting a Men’s Group. We may try to hold more church family-oriented events, and plans are underway for an Easter handbell choir presentation and the Easter egg hunt.

Jim mentioned that Darryl Henley will likely move out of state after he recovers from his broken hip, so we don’t expect him to play piano for us again. Several suggestions were offered for finding a backup pianist and/or using recorded music in order to give Christine some occasional time off.

- **Trustees:** We received a low bid of \$3,000 for fence repair at the parsonage. We also got a bid of \$2,400 for termite treatment, but will hold off on that for now. We are still seeking a second opinion on the damaged piano. The new Fellowship Hall telephone line will be planned for a work day. A work crew will be assembled to replace burned-out lights in the sanctuary. We put Bird B Gone above the double doors to the sanctuary, and so far, it’s working. Russ has been doing a very good

job on our yard, and the sprinklers are working well. The kitchen island in the Fellowship Hall will be caulked, which should take care of our recurring bug problem.

The Trustees will consider some clarification of the rules for use of our facilities.

- **UMW:** April 14 is the next UMW meeting. A bereavement meal for Gertrude Reed will be served on March 6, and the rummage sale will be June 4-6.
- **Treasurer’s Report/Finance Team:** Our General Fund income for February was \$12,391.63, much more than in the previous two years. Paid expenses were \$10,983.51, and the checkbook balance at the end of the month was \$6,693.36. All current bills have been paid, but the Conference has not yet sent an invoice for 2020 payments to the pension fund, which will be about \$1,000 per month.

We are now set up as a participating charity for Amazon Smile. We will receive 0.5% of the cost of any purchases from Amazon that are made using our special login portal. Some other future fundraising ideas include a Disneyland raffle and reinstatement of the annual St. Patrick’s Day baked potato lunch, starting in 2021.

- Prayers were requested for the following **People in Need:** The families of Gertrude Reed and Sharon Woo; Eileen Sorensen; Ed and Suzanne Kusters; Jim and Jean Willis, and Karla Scott; and Stella Green.
- **Pastor’s Report:** Jim will go to the Walk to Emmaus a day late so he can preside at Gertrude Reed’s funeral service. He will also attend a circuit retreat March 10-12. Pancho Egolf will be the guest speaker on March 8.
- **Other Business.** Bud mentioned that he has been making some improvements to the church’s website, adding some photos and drop-down menus.

Please keep praying for our leaders, pastors, first responders, hospital staff and all families affected by this pandemic. We are wanting to be warriors for Christ and show his love during these trying times. Keep in mind God is with us through it all.



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If you need help or wish to have prayers, please contact the church office (phone line is checked daily) or call the secretary or Pastor using the numbers provided in your church directory. Thank you.