



# *The Vine*

## *September 2020*

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

**Worship Service: In-Person on the Lawn 9AM Sunday Mornings,  
and 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!

1 <sup>st</sup> Hans Younce	4 <sup>th</sup> Jason Walsh
9 <sup>th</sup> Riley Knight	12 <sup>th</sup> Stella Green
13 <sup>th</sup> Alejandro Patrick	14 <sup>th</sup> Claire Jensen
16 <sup>th</sup> Armando Abarca	18 <sup>th</sup> Tony Michel
20 <sup>th</sup> Juan Carlos Patrick	27 <sup>th</sup> Austin Toscano

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

6 <sup>th</sup>	Jim & Melissa Jones
20 <sup>th</sup>	David & Ann Simmons
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Steve & Amanda Bascue-Rebelo
30 <sup>th</sup>	Dan & Karen Bonillas

**August** contributions total: \$ 13,219.00 (as of August 29<sup>th</sup>)

**Attendance online for August:** 2<sup>nd</sup> (40) 9<sup>th</sup> (66) 16<sup>th</sup> (80) 23<sup>rd</sup> (40)  
23<sup>rd</sup> In-person (19)

From the Pastor

We are excited to be able to hold in-person worship again. For the past two weeks we have had worship on the lawn, chairs well-spaced, and everyone wearing masks.

We will continue posting the services online, but they may not be ready until Sunday afternoon or Monday, since we record them on Sunday morning.

Dos Palos UMC is going to have an outdoor worship service Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am. We will serve communion at Dos Palos on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

We will serve communion at the Los Banos United Methodist Church on September 6<sup>th</sup> service on the lawn.

I confess that my mind has lately been occupied with all the logistics of worship – How will we do the sound system? How will the people enter? How can we distribute communion? How will we post it online? How can we make sure we are not spreading the coronavirus? But while all these issues are important, they are not the core of what is important about worship. What is most important is what God thinks about our worship. I believe these three questions are how God evaluates our worship: Did you seek me? Did you respond to my love and my call? Did your worship change you in a way that still shows on Monday? Whether we worship online or in-person, indoors or out, alone or with thousands; may your worship be a life-giving and life-changing encounter with God.



Pastor Jim Garrison

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A weekly Bible study by phone is occurring (30 persons already participating!). It is a great way to stay in touch. If you wish to be included, please contact the church office: 209-826-4181. Also, our service is available on YouTube. Link is posted weekly on our website: **umclb.net** and will be sent to your email. We are also meeting in-person on the front lawn @ 9AM. Please wear your mask and remember to use social distancing. Thank you!

## Administrative Council Highlights – August 4, 2020

The Ad Council met by Zoom conference on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 with seven people present. The following items were discussed:

- **Staff-Parish Relations Committee.** Susan Ramsey was elected to serve as Chairperson of the SPRC.
- **Church Re-Opening.** Our approved plan re-launch in-person services on July 19 was canceled when the State subsequently prohibited indoor worship services in Merced County, due to large increases in COVID-19 cases. Outdoor services are okay, subject to some conditions, so the Re-Launch Committee was to meet on August 12 to make plans. We will continue to videotape and post the services online, and hopefully can livestream services whenever they commence.

An outdoor memorial service for Suzanne Kusters was to be held on August 22. Due to the shutdown, we will be refunding a \$100.00 deposit that we received in early March for a memorial service.

- **Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW).** The NOW team did not meet in July, but planned to meet by Zoom on August 17. Someone served by Manna lit some paper on fire and flushed it down a toilet in the Fellowship Hall, but it was put out without causing any damage. After Jim interviewed Jennifer Barcellos about the Jardin de Amor school in Guatemala, we received \$200.00 in donations, which would be sent in soon.
- **Trustees.** The Trustees have not met, but the compressor in the Fellowship Hall refrigerator broke in late July. Members of the Trustees and Finance Committee agreed to buy a new refrigerator from Home Depot, rather than spend an estimated \$1,500 to fix or replace the old compressor. The new unit cost \$2,652.09, and it was to be delivered in early August. Manna contributed \$1,000.00 of the cost, and the rest came from the Trustees' account. Members of the church family were being asked to donate toward the cost. Since we used gift cards, the scrip program netted about \$181.00.

Russell has had some problems with the riding lawn mower, but he has apparently succeeded in getting it to work again.

- **UMW:** The women still hope to have a rummage sale in the fall. UMW members assisted with Joyce O'Dell's memorial service in July, and they plan to help with the service for Suzanne Kusters on August 22.
- **Financial Report.** The total income received in July was just \$9,441.62, while the month's paid expenses were \$11,088.36. The July 31 checkbook balance was down to \$8,946.81, which means that we would have been about \$3,500 in the hole without the stimulus money that we received in April from the SBA. With the buildings shut down, our costs for utilities are lower, but not necessarily as much as we might expect. We paid PG&E \$812.56 in July, well below prior years, but our July payments to the City of Los Banos for water, sewer and trash pickup were \$926.80.
- **People in Need; Parish Care.** Prayers were requested for Kathy Garrison and the families of several members of the congregation who have passed away in recent months. We may schedule a joint memorial service for those who have been unable to have their own due to the shutdown, and also some way to recognize other big events that have occurred this year, such as weddings and graduations.
- **Pastor's Report:** Jim has been dealing with insurance issues from Kathy's shoulder surgery, and they greatly appreciate those who have provided meals and support to them. The connecting Bible studies have been a good resource for him to keep up with members of the congregation.

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### SCRIP TIP OF THE MONTH

Please contact us to check out the wide variety of gift cards we have for immediate sale, good for food, gas or merchandise at most local stores and eateries. We can print paper certificates almost immediately, for items that are not on hand. You can see the full list of all 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).

## Vine Monthly Events for September

All meetings and events are suspended or are being done on Zoom conferencing until we are ready to re-open inside safely. Thank you for your patience and communication during this time.

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### **A New Workshop for Parents online is beginning!**

**Please see the flyer included in this newsletter.**

The workshop will begin on September 27<sup>th</sup>. There are a few items you will need to begin the course. Please see the links provided below for the items needed:

[hp-How To Talk So Kids Will Listen Participant's Workbook](#)

[hbav-How To Talk So Kids Will Listen & Listen So Kids Will T](#)

[lb-Liberated Parents Liberated Children: Your Guide to A Hap](#)

If you have questions or need help with the links please contact Rhonda and Robert Cardenas. Their email is:

[randrcardenas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:randrcardenas@sbcglobal.net)

This is a course that will make being at home with each other day in and day out so much easier. Listening is such a skill and helping your child master it now will truly be a gift for them for a lifetime.

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## Big Thanks!

The refrigerator in the Fellowship Hall arrived August 6<sup>th</sup>. There was little warning that it was coming that day so help to move it in and move the old frig out was needed fast. We are so thankful for all the strong help that dropped what they were doing and came right away to help. Getting it in the back-kitchen door was a chore but with all the lovely help it went quickly. Thank you all for your time and talents!

Our sincere appreciation goes out to the amazing generosity of several members of our congregation who contributed enough to offset most of the cost of the refrigerator. We will be able to return some money to Manna Ministries which fronted some of the initial cost. We are truly blessed with a group of people who share with God when needed. Know you are appreciated and deeply thanked.

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**Note: Boy Scouts** - Still working together online. Badges and events taking place but with social distancing. Looking forward to meeting together in-person sometime in the fall or New Year.

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Important dates:

**September 1<sup>st</sup>** - Admin. Council Meeting on Zoom 7PM

**September 17-20<sup>th</sup>** - Annual Conference Sessions (online).

**September 27<sup>th</sup> (Each Sunday for 7 Weeks) How To Talk So**

**Kids Will Listen Classes online 6PM-7:30PM**

**September 29<sup>th</sup>** - Finance Committee Meeting

**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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**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 at 209-826-4181, phone line is checked daily, or call the secretary or Pastor using the numbers provided in your church directory. Thank you.

## *New Workshop for Parents!*

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Join the celebrated workshop series based on  
*How to Talk So Kids Will Listen*  
& *Listen So Kids Will Talk*  
BY AWARD-WINNING AUTHORS  
ADELE FABER AND ELAINE MAZLISH

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# How To Talk So Kids Will Listen™

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YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO:

- Help your child develop a realistic and positive self-image
- Set limits while maintaining goodwill
- Cope with your child's negative feelings
- Express anger without hurting
- Engage your child's willing cooperation
- Resolve conflicts peacefully
- Create a family atmosphere of love and respect

TIME: 6:00pm-7:30pm

DATE: Sundays starting September 27th for 7 weeks

LOCATION: **Online meeting**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Rhonda And Robert Cardenas  
[randrcardenas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:randrcardenas@sbcglobal.net)