

Let's Talk

A Word from Pastor Mary mjzmaaga@yahoo.com 530-417-6584

Galt UMC is a warm welcoming family who worship, pray, learn, and love one another by serving our community so that everyone can encounter the Risen Lord and experience transformation through God's Grace.

This is who we are! What a blessing to be the pastor of a Church who are so genuinely warm and welcoming, and who make such a difference to our community. During a time of pandemic, you are continuing to grow the Church – that is surely a testament to the spiritual depth of each one of you. During last Sunday's Worship I asked that you commit to reading Romans Chapter 12 daily for the

next six weeks. As our nation reels from the events of January 6, I have been steadying myself by reciting over and over "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer." (Romans 12:12) America needs people of faith to persevere in prayer now more than ever. Transformation through God's Grace is not just for individuals – families can be transformed through God's Grace, communities can, and yes, nations can as well.

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain; For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! Got shed His Grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.





Grace and Peace, Pastor Mary

### Be Transformed by Renewal in Christ

Each week will have its own Scripture, but the overarching Scripture for the whole series is Romans Chapter 12

January 17: Sermon – "Renewal Through Facing Hard Truths: The Samaritan Woman" Scripture – John 4:1-42 (excerpts)



#### **Church Office Closed**

Until further notice the Church Office is available only by appointment. Call Pastor Mary if you need something.







The Making of the Bible: Pastor Mary will be sending out a Doodle Poll within the

next several weeks to select a day and time for a class on the writing, collecting, consolidation, and translation of the Holy Bible. It will be a ZOOM class that will include students from other Churches and communities. The class will be an hour long and have a half an hour of teaching, followed by half an hour of questions and answers and discussion.



Pastoral care is one of the most important parts of being a Pastor. Pastors are wonderful confidential listeners. If you would like a Pastoral Care appointment,

please contact Pastor Mary 530-417-6584. She is happy to speak with you over the phone, on ZOOM, or at a safe distance in her Church Office.



### Typos that gnash the teeth

Thursday night potluck dinner. Prayer and medication to follow.

"If I were given the opportunity to present a gift to the next generation, it would be the ability for each individual to learn to laugh at himself."

- - Charles Schulz (Cartoonist, *Peanuts*)

"Laughter is the corrective force that prevents use from becoming cranks." - - Henri Bergson Total Deposits for: January 10 : General Fund \*\$ 5833. Lift 110.

> \*Includes Christmas, Boutique, and OnLine giving

Finance Update

To fund all our staff and programs without dipping into savings we need \$13,500 in giving per month.

## **Giving Possibilities**





Click Here

We love getting checks 571 C Street Galt, CA 95632

"A keen sense of humor helps us to overlook the unbecoming, understanding the unconventional, tolerate the unpleasant,

overcome the unexpected, and outlast the

- - Billy Graham



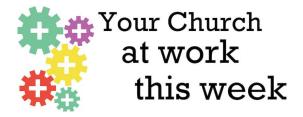
unbearable."

On-Line Worship - Available on **Saturdays** each week at <u>GaltUMC.org</u>.



Pastor Mary's "intention" for 2021 is ZEAL Hear more about it in this week's online worship





# **Grace Group** - <u>this Tuesday – 3:00-4:00pm on ZOOM</u>

Our Tuesday afternoon Grace Group has been meeting for five months and will continue meeting in 2021. What a gift it has been to all of us who have participated!

Pastor Mary has heard from three people about starting a second Grace Group. If you are interested in an hour a week of conversation, connection, and prayer, please let our Pastor know. As soon as 4 or more people are committed, then a suitable time and day will be selected.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee - 4:00pm -

Tuesday, January 12 on ZOOM.

**Exploratory Committee** - 5:00pm - Tuesday, January 12 on ZOOM. During January the Committee will work on an interim report to share with Church Council.

**Bible Study** - Wednesday, January 13, 6:30-7:15pm FaceBook Live

25% of Matthew's Gospel covers the events of Holy Week, starting with Palm Sunday in Matthew Chapter 21. Thank you for your patience as Pastor Mary struggled with the new Facebook Live event format. Many of you were unable to log on to see the class this past Wednesday. Pastor Mary thinks she has got it figured out and will give a summary of the materials covered last week so no-one misses anything.

**Campfire Time** - Sundays at 11:00am on ZOOM - next meeting January 17.

It's like a "virtual" post Worship fellowship time! Someone will start by telling a story, then the rest of us pile on and share something from our own life. It's fun and there is lots of laughter. All are invited. No longterm commitment needed. Just let Pastor Mary know you want to receive the ZOOM link.

**Book Club** - We will resume meeting in February. Pastor Mary is reading through several "candidate" books and will let us know what she selects.

Seen on a highway billboard sign: "Life is short. Smile while you still have teeth." Website Renovation Group -How grateful we are for the Central Valley District Union grant money that is allowing us to work with consultants at ShareFaith to revitalize our website. Last month we developed our "story statement" – Galt UMC is a warm welcoming family who worship, pray, learn, and love one another by serving our community so that everyone can encounter the Risen Lord and experience transformation through God's Grace. This month we explored ways that we are inviting people into our story. Within the next two months you will begin to see this work reflected in our Website.



this Thursday, January 14, 8:00 to 10:00am. This will be a drive-thru event again. Boxes of food will be loaded into the cars. Extra help always welcome.

Getting ready day will be Wednesday from 8:30am +. As always extra help can be used.

Sign outside a United Methodist Church: "Our Lifeguard walks on water."

<u>A Word from our Sponsor, Methodist</u> <u>Founder John Wesley</u>



"Earn all you can, give all you can, save all you can." Economics according to John Wesley! Not sure I can balance my checkbook using his advice, but it sure is good for the soul.



John Wesley: the founder, along with his brother Charles, of the Methodist movement. He challenged the Anglican church, cared for the poor, and connected faith with personal accountability. We bet you'll learn and chuckle as Chuck talks about John Wesley.

Click Here



Annual Contribution Statements are in preparation and will be mailed in the next two weeks or so.

### Pastor Mary at Work Beyond our Local Church

Along with Leesa Klotz, Pastor Mary serves as an Adult Mentor with the Galt Youth Commission. This week she is attending a meeting with seven of our Galt Youth Commissioners with the Sacramento Youth Leaders to discuss initiatives to address youth mental health.



from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com* ©Ed Sullivan Reprinted with permission

### Lessons from Noah's Ark

\*Don't miss the boat.

\*Remember we are all in the same boat.

\*Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

\*Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you do do something really big.

\*Don't listen to critics, just get on with the job that needs to be done.

\*Build your future on high ground.

\*For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

\*When You're stressed, float awhile.

\*Remember the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

\*No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

### **Jokes Pastors can Tell**

A pastor, a professional golfer, and a building contractor went deer hunting together one Saturday. They finally saw a 5-point buck. Each took aim and fired three shots at the same time.

The buck dropped dead, and the three men started to discuss who had hit it. As they were arguing, a game warden happened along and asked them what the problem was. They told him, and the warden asked them to stand back, and he would examine the buck and try to figure out which one of the men had killed the buck, based on the bullet hole and the rifles that were used.

After only a couple minutes, the game warden told them that the preacher was the one who killed the deer. How had he figured it out so quickly? they asked.

"The bullet went in one ear and out the other," the warden said.

