



# This Week at Galt UMC

*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.*

February 8, 2021

## *Let's Talk*

A Word from Pastor Mary [mjzmaaga@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzmaaga@yahoo.com) 530-417-6584



Most years I give something up for Lent. Many years ago it was meat – and I felt so good after forty days of not eating meat, that it became a permanent commitment. A few years ago it was caffeine. Yikes, that was rough; especially when daylight savings time ended. Last year it was social media. Not being on Facebook as the pandemic took hold was a challenge, but I did it. Whatever I have vowed to give up for Lent, God gives me the strength to see it through. It's a way that I unite myself in a small, symbolic way, with the sacrifice my Lord has made for me. But this year I am feeling like something fresh is required from me for Lent. I have been praying and praying for guidance, and finally the Holy Spirit tickled the back of my brain and I heard **pray for our world**. So, I just ordered a small globe to put on my desk and I am going to pray for the world every day during Lent. I am going to do my best to pray for specific groups of people in specific places and keep a register of who I pray for between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday. I am feeling excited about how I will grow in Christ because of this commitment. Once you have chosen the nature of YOUR Holy Lent, would you let me know so I can share it in the newsletter? I will keep your name confidential.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Mary

p.s. Some of you may be thinking, but isn't Lent for Catholics? Yes, of course, but it's also a practice of Episcopalians and Methodists too!



**Outdoor Worship starts**  
**on Ash Wednesday,**  
**February 17<sup>th</sup> at noon AND**  
**Sundays at 11am starting**  
**February 21<sup>st</sup> (weather**  
**permitting)**

## **Worship this Week**

February 14 (online only) Sermon –  
“Renewal Through Grace: Paul”

Scripture: Romans 12:1-21



# NEWS & Notes



## Lenten Journey 2021

From Ash Wednesday, February 17  
to Palm Sunday, March 28

***O God, maker of every thing and judge of all that You have made, from the dust of the earth You have formed us and from the dust of death You would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of Your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

The early Christians practiced a forty-day season of spiritual preparation for the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection. You are invited to observe a Holy Lent. Some people do so by giving something up in order to be reminded of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Some people observe a Holy Lent by making a fresh prayer commitment or spending more time in servant ministry. Yet others commit to learning more about Christian faith. Pray between now and Ash Wednesday that the Holy Spirit will guide you to observe a Holy Lent that will help you to grow in Christ.

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A little girl asked her mother, "Mom, how were people created?"

Her Mom replied, "First God made man and woman. Then they had kids. Then their kids grew up and had their own kids. Then their kids grew up and had their own kids. In this way, the numbers of people increased."

Later that day, the little girl went up to her father, and asked, "Dad, how were people created?" The father replied, "First, God made monkeys. Then the monkeys evolved into people."

At the dinner table that night, with both Mom and Dad present, the little girl turned to her Mom and said, "Mom, you lied. Dad said people come from monkeys."

"No, dear," Mom replied, "Dad told you about the monkeys in his family. I told you about the people in my family."

Total Deposits for: February 7 :  
General Fund   \*\$ 3247.20  
Lift               10.

\*Includes OnLine giving this past week

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

## Giving Possibilities



571 C Street  
Galt, CA 95632

Give  
Online

[Click Here](#)



## Printed Sermons

Every few weeks Pastor Mary puts copies of her sermons in the mail to those who have requested them. If you would like to receive printed copies of her sermons, please let her know. Or if you are receiving printed versions and no longer require them, you can let her know that too.

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"As I get older, I find I do not trust anyone who lacks a sense of humor. Laughter is both human and humane, an essential tool to help us cross the distance to God."

- - Peter W. Marty  
Publisher, Christian Century



## Your Church at work this week

**Exploratory Committee** - 5:00pm - Tuesday,  
February 9.

**Matthew's Gospel Bible Study** - Wednesday,  
February 10., 6:30-7:15pm FaceBook Live

This week we will be with Jesus and His Disciples on the Mount of Olives as the Lord has His last private conversation with those who are nearest and dearest to Him. Even if you can't join us live, you CAN watch the video on Pastor Mary's FB Page anytime during the week. .

### **Sunshine Food Pantry Open this Week:**

Wednesday, February 10, 8:00-10:00am —  
Putting boxes, gathering items, together for  
tomorrow's drive-thru give-away.

Thursday, February 11 - Drive-Thru food  
distribution - 8:00-10:00am.

Extra help always welcome.

**Trustees** - 3:00pm - Thursday, February 11.

**Campfire Time** - Sundays at 11:00am on ZOOM -  
next meeting February 14.

We laugh, we tell stories, we love one another! All are invited. No long-term commitment needed. Just let Pastor Mary know you want to receive the ZOOM link. Last time we had nine people around the Campfire. Once we start back to Outdoor Worship on the 21<sup>st</sup> we will meet at 9am on ZOOM



### *Typos that gnash the teeth*

#### **Serving Opportunities**

The pastor would appreciate if if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday..



The format is the same every week: Pastor Mary reads a short Scripture and gives an opening prayer, then we check in with "how is it with your soul?" followed by sharing on

a topic. Grace Groups are refreshment for the soul! Maybe you'd like to gather several friends and start a third one. Just let Pastor Mary know.

**"Companions in Faith"** Grace Group, Tuesdays 3pm: Bill and Deb Watters, Margaret Luginbill, Madeline Powell, Ann Mitchell, Marina Bruns.

**Second Grace Group** (yet to be named), Tuesdays 6:30pm starting on February 9<sup>th</sup>: Colleen Hurley, George and Betty Bryant, Mona Stratton, Michele and Alan Weinell, Dennis and Betty Yoder



Thank you Sandie Benadum and Ed Delgado for fixing the lock on the Church Office front door. And thank you for

mowing the lawn and doing other outside clean up. You are the best!

Thank you Leesa Klotz and Beverly Sigafos for the wonderful work on the altar for Online Worship. It makes the theme of Worship POP!

Sign seen in a Maryland store:

"This too shall pass.

It might pass like a kidney stone,  
but it will pass





## New Bible Study Series

### How the Bible Was Made — on ZOOM starting February 21

If your Holy Lent includes learning more about Christian faith, then this class will be a perfect fit for you! The class will take place on each of the Sundays of Lent, plus Palm Sunday. Each class will include a 30 minute presentation, followed by 30 minutes of questions and discussion. Please send Pastor Mary an email ([mjzmaaga@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzmaaga@yahoo.com)) if you would like to be included in this class. As of this week we have 24 people signed up, 16 from Galt UMC!



Just ask Dennis, or Mariah, or Dan, or Pastor Joe how much they get out of creating the Worship videos you see week after week. It really is an outstanding spiritual practice. Would you like to be trained to film, record sound, and/or edit the finished product? Is this the Lenten vow God is calling you to make? Please talk with Pastor Mary, Pastor Joe, or Dennis Yoder to learn more.

## PHILLIP'S FLOCK

By Doc Goodwin



from [JoyfulNoiseletter.com](http://JoyfulNoiseletter.com)  
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On-Line Worship - Available on **Saturdays** each week at [GaltUMC.org](http://GaltUMC.org).

Have you had someone in your life who took you under their wings and provided a safe place for you to grow in your walk of faith? In this week's message, Pastor Mary focuses on the Biblical character of Paul and two unlikely people who extended trust and mercy, allowing him to become one of the early movers and shakers of the church.

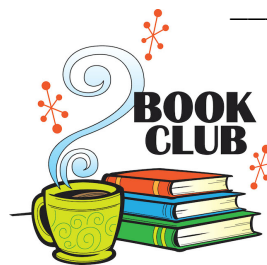


[Click Here](#)  
30:18



SHROVE TUESDAY. Ever wonder why there's almost always a pancake breakfast at church some time before Easter? Well, stick with Chuck because no matter if you call it - Shrove or Fat Tuesday - you'll be learning about it with a smile.

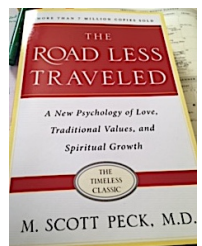
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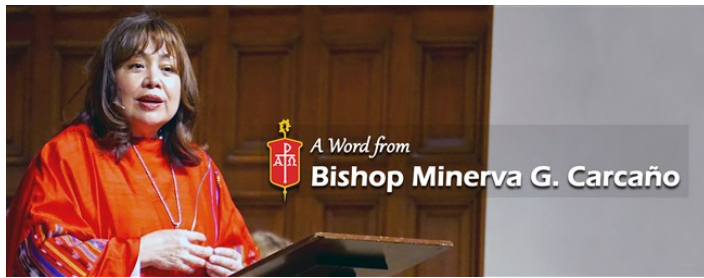


The inspiring book The Road Less Traveled by M. Scott Peck is filled with stories, insights, and encouragement.

Our Book Club will be a

wonderful way to get to know one another more deeply. We will meet on **Monday mornings at 11am over ZOOM starting March 1<sup>st</sup>**. The book can be found on Amazon new for under \$20 and used for less than \$10. Please acquire your own copy and let Pastor Mary know that you would like to join Betty Bryant, her daughter Kim, and Beverly Sigafos on this road less traveled.





February 6, 2021

Yesterday's U.S. Supreme Court ruling on California's ban on indoor religious services has raised questions from some of our churches in the California-Nevada Conference. I want to affirm that as a

conference of The United Methodist Church, even in the light of a Supreme Court ruling, we continue to hold responsibility for the life and well-being of our congregations and care for our neighbors in the communities where we serve.

We need to persevere in doing no harm, focused on doing all the good we can by sheltering-in place, practicing social distancing, wearing masks, getting vaccinated, and observing the recommendations we receive from state and county government, recommendations based on the best learnings of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In the worst pandemic the world has experienced in 100 years, it is sad and regrettable to see the number of times churches have contributed to the worsening of this pandemic and the loss of life. I pray that our United Methodist churches will not be added to this list.

Our California-Nevada Conference COVID-19 Protocols will continue to be enforced. To assist our pastors and the lay members of our churches, [here](#) is a link to our protocols. Let us all review them carefully and help one another in maintaining them. I would also ask that we all read the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in its entirety. Its ruling is complex and instructive. [Here](#) is a link for the ruling.

While we respect the South Bay United Pentecostal Church who brought the matter to the U.S. Supreme Court and others who believe as they do, we United Methodists have a different theological perspective. We believe that science and medicine are gifts from God that are not to be summarily without prayerful consideration rejected or ignored. More importantly, we believe that the Church is not a physical building but the living body of Christ Jesus composed of those who claim Christ as Lord and Savior and who strive to live as those who are committed to loving God and loving neighbor. We believe that worship and prayer and Christian fellowship are not contained or limited by what we do in our church buildings.

This time of pandemic has challenged us to find new ways to be the Church, but what is eternally true is that our lives should be lived as those who face each and every day, and not just Sundays, nor just in our church buildings, in the worship of our God, with prayers for sustaining grace, and in the awareness that our Christian fellowship is for the purpose of being strengthened for the task of being disciples of Jesus Christ. If this way of life has been lost among us, then we have failed and must start anew. May God the source of perfect love, Christ the healer of our brokenness, and the Holy Spirit our strength, guide us forth.

(ss) Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño

Catch us OnLine at:

[galtumc.org](http://galtumc.org)

In person outdoor worship begins  
Ash Wednesday Service, February 17, at noon

In person Sunday outdoor worship begins  
February 21, at 11:00am

**Galt United Methodist Church**

Mary Maaga, Pastor  
Church telephone - 745-4133  
Morning Worship  
Online at [galtumc.org](http://galtumc.org)



Galt United Methodist Church  
571 C Street  
Galt, CA 95632

