



# Galt UMC This Week

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.



April 12, 2021

## Let's Talk

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



Spring vacation! How different it will be than I had anticipated a month ago. A month ago, I thought that John and Zola and I would be spending it packing and organizing for a move. Now, through the Grace of God and the discernment of the Bishop and her Cabinet, I get to play and rest and nest! How grateful I am that Pastor Joe Carmichael will be covering for me while I am away. You will be delighted by his preaching, and you know he will be there for you in a heartbeat if you need him. His number is 817-909-1555.

Blessings in His Resurrection Spirit, Pastor Mary

p.s. I will not be checking email or FB messages while on vacation. I will be on vacation from Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, returning to the Church Office on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Worship Next Week

Pastor Joe in the Pulpit (and online) –

April 18th

9am and 11am in person



9:00 & 11:00am



Pastor Mary encourages us to smile more! Laugh more! This week's celebration will be all about laughter. It's called Holy Humor Sunday.

[Click Here](#)

31:24

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

# NEWS & Notes

## Congregation Town Hall Meetings



This past Sunday our Exploratory Team presented the first Congregational Town Hall meeting to present findings for our vision of the use of our 3 church owned lots adjacent to church property. Taking part was the panel of Earl Arrants (Co-chair), Pastor Mary (Contact with Conference), Mark King (Contact with real estate), Faye Gaines (Sunshine Pantry), Leesa Klotz (city, state).

They presented Exploratory questions and answers gained through 6 months of exploration. Highlights of the day included:

1. Why Build? A vision for making disciples and transforming our community.
2. What to build: Senior and veteran low income housing, housing for Sunshine Food Pantry.
3. Who Builds? We have been in contact with Christian Church Homes (CCH) recommended by District Superintendent Debra Brady and Bishop Minerva Carcaño.
4. Who pays? CCH obtains federal grants for housing apartments. Sunshine complex will need to seek other funding for this project.

There was time for questions and comments from the congregation. We thank those present for the excellent questions and comments.

If you missed this presentation, you still have an opportunity to catch the **ZOOM meeting on Wednesday, April 21, at 4:00pm**. This meeting will contain much the same information by our Exploratory Team. Here is the link to join the meeting -

[Click Here](#)



*In Loving Memory*

The memorial service for longtime member Margaret Duecker has been scheduled for Friday, May 14, at our church. Time TBA



**Tuesday Picnics:** come join us for a socially distanced picnic at Galt Community Park every Tuesday in May at noon

in the grassy area across from the tennis courts – begins May 4

**Dreamers and Visionaries from the Bible:** Sundays at 4pm we will have a conversation over ZOOM to explore the power of these stories then and now – this class will run for seven weeks from May 2 – June 13

**Paul's Journeys and Letters:** Wednesdays at 6:30pm on Facebook Live – begins May 5.



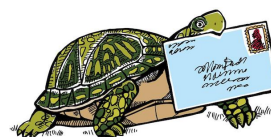
Total Deposits for: **April 4 :**  
General Fund \*\$ 6408.  
Lift 160.

Total Deposits for: **April 11 :**  
General Fund \*\$ 511.11  
Lift 20.00

\*Includes OnLine and Easter offering this past week

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

## Giving Possibilities



We love getting checks

Give Online

[Click Here](#)

571 C Street  
Galt, CA 95632



## From the Editor's Desk

*This 'N That  
From Here and There*

-- By Earl Arrants

*Last Sunday Pastor Mary shared some humorous anecdotes from her years past as part of Holy Humor Sunday - the Sunday after Easter. That reminded me of an article I*

*read previously.*

*The following are excerpts from an article titled "Holy Humor Sunday Lights Up Congregations" by Reporter Bart Jones that appeared in Newsday magazine.*

### **Holy Humor Sunday Services Spread Across U.S.**

As the Rev. Thomas Goodhue began his homily, the choir members at his Bay Shore Long Island church pulled out newspapers and held them in front of their faces as they read - seemingly bored to death.

Another time, when Rev. Goodhue went to drink water from a glass at the pulpit, nothing came out. Someone had replaced the water with clear Jell-o.

It wasn't heresy or mean-spiritedness. It was all part of Holy Humor Sunday, an increasingly popular practice on Long Island and nationwide that seeks to mark the Sunday after Easter with a day of joke-telling, skits, pranks and general good humor.

The practice, promoted by a Michigan-based publication called *The Joyful Noiseletter* since 1988, draws large crowds to church on a day that in the past had been among the least attended of the year, Goodhue said.

"It's really astonishing to see the place just packed at a time when it normally would have been practically empty," said Goodhue, former pastor of the United Methodist Church of Bay Shore.

Holy Humor is not just a stunt to boost church attendance. It is based on ancient Christian church tradition and theological teachings. It's saying, there's something more than solemnity and vinegar-faced Christianity. Faith and humor are both powerful healing tools.

The practice began in the first centuries after Christianity was founded and the faithful spent the day after Easter dancing, picnicking, singing and playing practical jokes to try to keep alive the joy of Easter.

In those days, it was known as Bright Monday. Today it's shifted to the Sunday after Easter.



Got pipes at your church? How 'bout an electric organ? No? What about a praise band? No matter, the organ has a rich tradition in the Christian Church? And Chuck will give you some valuable information about the organ and a few chuckles along the way.

[Click Here](#)



## Your Church at work this week

**Book Club:** taking a break April 12 & April 19  
- next meeting at 11am on April 26th

**Grace Groups:** taking a break April 13 - next meetings on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 3pm and 6:30pm

**Trustee Meeting:** Thursday, April 15, 4:30pm

**United Methodist Women Meeting:** Saturday, April 17, 10:00am.

OOPS! An usher went up to a man who had his hat on in a church pew, and asked him to remove it.

"Thank goodness," said the man. "I've attended tis church for weeks, and you are the first person to speak to me."

### **Holy Humor Sunday**

The humor is also aimed at underscoring some of the central messages of Easter. The resurrection of Jesus was sort of God's way of laughing at the devil and getting the last laugh. The Rev. Goodhue adds, "It's a lighthearted way of celebrating the real themes of Easter, which is, love wins over execution. Life is stronger than death. God is stronger than evil."

The practice came and went over the centuries, but the effort by *Joyful Noiseletter* has promoted hundreds of churches around the country to revive it.