

*The Methodist Church*

*December 9, 2018*

*Growing Disciples  
Loving Our Community  
for Christ*

# **Weekly CONNECTION**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

*Classes meeting at 10:30 a.m.*

***The Life You've Always Wanted*** • F17

*Modern perspectives on the ancient path of the spiritual disciplines.*

***Walking the Road To Bethlehem*** • F21/22

*Retrace the actual path of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.*

***Knit 1, Crochet too!*** • F24

*Create blankets and shawls for hospitals.*

***Becoming A Woman of Purpose*** • F12

*Women's Bible study group.*

*Classes are open enrollment.*

*You are invited and welcome to visit or join any class at anytime.*

## **Coming Events**

### **Service of Remembrance**

**TODAY at 3:00 p.m.**

The Holidays can hurt too. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, we can help. Join us for a Service of Remembrance and prepare to enjoy the Holidays this year.

*Cookie donations are welcome for the reception following the service.*



## **Welcome**

*We're one week closer! As we prepare our worship space and our homes for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, let us also prepare our hearts. Welcome.*

## **Drop in the Bucket**

TODAY is **Drop in the Bucket** Sunday! When you empty your pockets of loose change and small bills, it's amazing how a few coins multiply to meet many needs in our community. Thank you for your generous support.

## **Pound of Love**

The **Pound of Love** food distribution is **Wednesday, December 12** 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Courtyard. Your helping hands are always welcome: sorting, packing, distributing food or helping with clerical work. If you'd like to volunteer and give a **Pound of Love**, please arrive at 9:30 a.m. in the Courtyard.

## **Gifts of Love**

Men's Ministry *Gifts of Love* for Christmas takes place today! Help a local family with *Gifts of Love* for Christmas by selecting a child or entire family to serve with Christmas gifts. Stop by the table in the lobby for more information.

## **Christmas Concert**

Worship Arts would like to invite you to our annual Christmas Concert and dessert buffet **Sunday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.** Please bring a dessert or sweet treat for the dessert table. We hope you can join us!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Christmas Eve Worship Times***

Join us on Christmas Eve at either 4:00 or 7:00 p.m. for our Candlelight Services. This is a great time of year to invite a friend to join you!

### ***Caregivers Connection***

Our Caregivers Connection support group meets **Tuesday, December 18** from 1:15-2:45 p.m. in the FLC. We come together each month to share our experiences in caring for loved ones with dementia. This 24/7 job can often be exhausting. We are thankful for our caregivers and support them in all that they do week in and week out. Please invite any of these folks you may know to join us each month. For more information, please contact Pastor Don in the office.

### ***Giving by Credit or Debit Card***

The Methodist Church provides onsite and online giving. A *Giving Kiosk* is located in the Sanctuary next to the Narthex entrance for anyone who would like to give to the church using their credit or debit card. Visit our website, [www.visaliamethodist.org](http://www.visaliamethodist.org), and click our Online Giving tab. If you'd like to give from your mobile device, you can download the Easy Tithe app from the App Store. Call the financial secretary for more information.

### ***Office Mailing Address***

Please send correspondence to the church office at our post office box - **P.O. Box 7360 Visalia, CA 93290**. Thank you.

### ***Year End Giving***

Please submit your year end giving to the church office by December 31 to be included in contributions for 2018. *Contributions received after December 31 will be included in 2019 giving records.* Thank you.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Food Pantry Supplies Needed***

Bags of groceries are given to those in need in our community between the monthly food distribution dates. Please pick up a few extra nonperishable groceries and help us restock our *Pound of Love* Pantry. Items needed include: rice, beans, pasta, sauce, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, and inexpensive can openers.

### ***SAM Senior Adult Ministries***

Roger Rocka's Sunday Theater and Brunch Trip will be sponsored by SAM (Senior Adult Ministries). The date is January 13, 2019. Give yourself or yourself and a friend or a friend a fantastic Christmas gift. The cost is \$55.00 and includes transportation, brunch, show, and gratuities. See Dennis Goodenough or Daryl Behrens for reservations.

### ***Stephen Ministry***

We have many opportunities to respond to Jesus' great love by showing that love to others. Stephen Ministry is one way our congregation can reach out to those among us who are hurting. Learn how that can happen by calling Dianne Sharples at 798-1542

### ***Grace Groups***

Grace Groups are where we grow, deepening our faith together. Grace Groups are offered multiple times throughout the week, in homes and on campus. Please contact Kelly Deditius for more information 627-1660.

### ***Website***

Visit our church website - [www.visaliamethodist.org](http://www.visaliamethodist.org). Watch sermons, read newsletters and bulletins and stay up to date on activities around our church.

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

### ***Nursery Care***

**9:15 a.m. to Noon Nursery Available in the Education Building**  
(under 5 years old)

***Sign-in at the Children's Ministry desk in the Education Building***

### ***Dig In***

**9:15 - 10:15 a.m.. Children's Worship - E3**  
**10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School Classrooms in the Education Building**  
Ages 4-11

- Weekly Sunday School Lesson
- Weekly Activity Sheets
- Prayer and Fellowship

## **STUDENT MINISTRY**

### ***Youth Winter Camp***

Parents and Youth,  
Hartland Winter Camp Application Deadline is December 16, 2018 along with the \$35.00 deposit. Applications can be found on the Youth Bulletin Board outside the Upper Room.

The cost to attend camp is \$223.00 per camper (Includes 3 nights and 9 meals) The balance is due January 20, 2019. Please contact Kristi Boydston in the office with any questions or Concerns.

### ***Service Opportunity Immediate Need!***

A volunteer administration position in our Visitation Ministry is in need of clerical work. Duties include: gathering registration forms to identify visitors, database search on computer, and assemble packets for visitation team. Time involved is about 2 hours each week and can be done anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Mondays or between 9:00 a.m. and Noon on Tuesdays. Please contact Kelly for more information 627-1660.

## SERMON NOTES

---

Verne Miniaci: My Lay Witness

*Proverbs 3:5-7*

## WORSHIP ORDER

---

*Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc.*

Welcome

Announcements

Praise

Offering

Message

Benediction

*Feel free to stand or sit, as you are comfortable during Worship.*

### Registration

Help us keep track of church attendance. **Please fill out our registration forms completely, then pass it to the next person in your row.** Remember to include your current e-mail address. When it reaches the end of the row, return the folder and note the names of the others. After the service, greet your neighbors and welcome our visitors. Ushers will collect them at the end of the service.

### Joys, Cares and Concerns

---

#### Please Lift Up In Prayer

Spencer Stinson    Christine Morse    Dwayne Gunnerud  
Jackie Bough      Barbara Denton    Ronnie Radish  
Don Sharples      Isabelle Hernandez

#### Please Pray For

Grace Groups, Community Groups  
Extend the Table, Men's Ministry  
Children's Ministry, Student Ministry  
Worship Arts Ministry, Stephen Ministry  
Church Families with loved ones in the Military  
DivorceCare, GriefShare

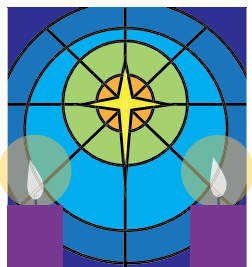
#### Pray With Us

Get involved in an important ministry in our church and never attend a meeting. Send Willo Harris an e-mail requesting to be added to our prayer chain (or call 289-9145). It is all through e-mails, and all you need to do is pray for others, wjharris1@sbcglobal.net.

#### Sunday Worship Flowers

The altar flowers are in thanks for all God sends and blessings for family and friends.

*Faye Zeeb*



SECOND SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

**WELCOME**  
**at The Methodist Church we:**

- Worship**  
**3 Service Times**  
**2 Languages**  
**1 Church**

**OUR MISSION**  
**Growing Disciples**  
**Loving Our Community for Christ**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN**

Our Sunday school hour meets at **10:30 a.m.** and includes classes for all ages. Classes are listed on the front page.

We are privileged to have wonderful, trustworthy, and secure childcare available for infants through age 5. To find the nursery, please ask a greeter or an usher for directions.

If you would like to speak to a staff member or have questions about our church, issues in your life, or comments about the sermon, please feel free to approach us after the service, or call us at 559-627-1660. You may also visit us on the web at [www.visaliamethodist.org](http://www.visaliamethodist.org)

Enjoy the service and embrace the work that God is doing in you!

**Parents** - We encourage families to worship together. Children of all ages are always welcome to worship with us. Activity packets can be picked up on your way into the Worship Center. Childcare is provided for all services.

**STAFF LIST**

- Pastor Steve Creel, Senior Pastor* - [pastorstevevumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstevevumc@gmail.com)  
*Pastor Corazon Moran, Associate Pastor* - [pastorcorazonvumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcorazonvumc@gmail.com)  
*Pastor Don Roulsten, Senior Adults Pastor* - [pastordonvumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastordonvumc@gmail.com)  
*Kelly Deditius, Care Ministries* - [kellyvumc@gmail.com](mailto:kellyvumc@gmail.com)  
*Linda Galka, Adult Ministries* - [lindavumc@gmail.com](mailto:lindavumc@gmail.com)  
*Joanna Sanchez, Church Secretary* - [joannavumc@gmail.com](mailto:joannavumc@gmail.com)  
*Jack Patino, Technical* - [jackvumc@gmail.com](mailto:jackvumc@gmail.com)  
*Adam Long, Music Director* - [adamvumc@gmail.com](mailto:adamvumc@gmail.com)  
*Debbie Petty, Children's Sunday School* - [debbievumc@gmail.com](mailto:debbievumc@gmail.com)  
*Kristi Boydston, Youth Director* - [kristivumc@gmail.com](mailto:kristivumc@gmail.com)  
*Ashlie Cooper, Wednesday Children's Coordinator* - [ashlievumc@gmail.com](mailto:ashlievumc@gmail.com)  
*Houston Hoellwarth, Oasis Worship Leader* - [houstonvumc@gmail.com](mailto:houstonvumc@gmail.com)  
*Kristi Hampton, Financial Secretary* - [kristihvumc@gmail.com](mailto:kristihvumc@gmail.com)  
*Judy Buratovich, Publications* - [judyvumc@gmail.com](mailto:judyvumc@gmail.com)

Staff Parish Chairpersons: Lisa Hott  
Trustees Chairpersons: Greg Kalchik and Brian Young  
Finance Chairpersons: Glenn Powell and Bonnie Fishback

**Visalia United Methodist Church**  
5200 W. Caldwell Ave., Visalia, CA 93277  
**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7360, Visalia, CA 93290**  
559-627-1660 • fax 559-740-0801  
[www.visaliamethodist.org](http://www.visaliamethodist.org) • [visaliaumc@gmail.com](mailto:visaliaumc@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

**This Week At The Methodist Church**

FLC = Family Life Center

**Sunday, December 9**

- 9:15 a.m.** Traditions Worship Service - Worship Center  
**10:30 a.m.** Sunday "Connect" Classes  
**10:30 a.m.** Oasis Contemporary Service - FLC  
**10:30 a.m.** Semilla Servicio de Adoracion - Worship Center  
**12:30 p.m.** SPRC - Conf Room  
**3:00 p.m.** Service of Remembrance - Worship Center

**Monday, December 10**

- 6:15 p.m. GriefShare - FLC  
6:30 p.m. DivorceCare - F10/11

**Tuesday, December 11**

- 8:00 a.m. SAM Breakfast - F10/11  
11:00 a.m. Art Class - F10/11

**Wednesday, December 12**

- 10:30 p.m. Pound of Love Food Distribution - Courtyard  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

**Thursday, December 13**

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Ryan's - Off Campus  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study - F10/11  
1:00 p.m. GriefShare - F21/22

**Friday, December 14**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - FLC



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**December 16**

**Christmas Program at 7:00 p.m.**

**December 24**

**Christmas Eve - 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Services**

**December 25**

**Merry Christmas - Church Office Closed**

**January 1**

**Happy New Year - Church Office Closed**