

**Shepherd of the Hills
United Methodist
Church**

*A Multi-Site Community
of Faith serving the
Saddleback Valley*



HAPPENINGS

March 2020

Pastors:

Rev. Karl Stuckenberg

Rev. Jon Waterson

March Worship

March 1

MV- An Even Greater

Showman: Jesus Dreamt

RSM- No Exceptions:

Tempted to Make Exceptions

March 8

MV-An Even Greater

Showman: Jesus Gathered

RSM-No Exceptions: We

Are Good Enough

March 15

MV-An Even Greater

Showman: Jesus Challenged

RSM-No Exceptions: The

Cornerstone

March 22

MV-An Even Greater

Showman: Jesus Built

RSM-No Exceptions: The

Mother of All

Commandments

March 29

MV-An Even Greater

Showman: Jesus Celebrated

Sunday Worship Schedule:

Mission Viejo Campus

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

11:00 a.m. Modern Worship

26001 Muirlands Blvd.

Mission Viejo, CA 92691

(949) 837-2941

Rancho Santa Margarita Campus

9:30 a.m. Relaxed Traditional
Worship

11:00 a.m. Modern Worship

30605 Avenida de Las Flores

Rancho Santa Margarita, 92688

(949) 589-1502

PASTOR KARL'S MESSAGE

Dear Church Family,

A photograph popped up on my Facebook memories last week. It was a picture of our 2019 Israel Pilgrimage group getting ready to board the bus from our church parking lot. In that image, we were beginning the journey, and while we had a small inkling of what to expect, as always, we could never have imagined what the trip would bring.

Journeys are like that. You begin with an idea of what it might be like. Regardless of that image, the experience often transforms us far beyond what we could ever have imagined.

As I write this, the journey of Lent 2020 is about to begin. Today is Ash Wednesday, and at this moment, we take the first step of what will be a 40-day pilgrimage of Lent. My prayer is that over these 40 days, you will deepen your connection with Jesus as you seek to follow him towards Easter.

For our Lenten study at Mission Viejo, we are using the book *Renegade Gospel* by Mike Slaughter. In the opening of the book, he reminds us that discipleship doesn't begin with a profession of faith. It starts by committing to follow Jesus. That's it—no need to state your belief in a creed or doctrine. All you have to do is take the first step and follow.



Slaughter quotes from the book *Resident Aliens* written by Stanley Hauerwas and Bishop Will Willimon to make the same point. They write,

Early Christians, interestingly, began not with creedal speculation about the metaphysics of the Incarnation—that is, Christology abstracted from the Gospel accounts. They began with the stories about Jesus, about those whose lives got caught up in his life... We cannot know Jesus without following Jesus... [and] In a sense, we follow Jesus before we know Jesus.

Part of my Lenten journey this year is going to be to read through all four gospels over the next 40 days. I want to engage in the stories of Jesus and read about the people whose lives were caught up by the Word made flesh. Perhaps you might do the same. Regardless, my prayer is that these 40 days will bring you closer to Jesus. That by the time we reach Easter, you will have a deeper relationship with the man who gave his life for us. Whether it's by attending Community Table on Wednesdays to serve others, engaging with the *Renegade Gospel* in our Lenten Connect series, or meeting Jesus through our *Even Greater Showman* sermon series, take time to follow the life of Jesus.

With God's Peace
Pastor Karl

Shepherd Happenings

Lenten Suppers on Wednesdays During March

Lenten Suppers on Wednesdays continue during the month of March. Lenten Suppers begin at 6:00 p.m. at the MV campus. A meal is provided beginning at 6:00 p.m. Following the dinner, 6:30 p.m., there is a program for the adults which will be featuring the book *Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus* by Mark Slaughter, a program for the children, and a program



for the youth. Various groups and people have graciously volunteered to provide the meal for the following evenings: March 4, Gary Davis and Garry Mason; March 11, UMW; March 18, Jenny Serfas Life Group; and March 25. If you cannot come for the supper, please come for the study at 6:30 p.m.

Holy Week in April

Palm Sunday - April 5

MV: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. worship

RSM: 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. worship

Holy Thursday - April 9

MV: 6:00 p.m. dinner & 7:00 p.m. worship

Good Friday - April 10

RSM: 7:00 p.m. - Artwork & worship

Easter Sunday, April 12

MV: 6:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. worship

RSM: 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. worship

SCO Easter Basket Event: Sunday, March 22.

On Sunday morning March 22, children and adults will assemble Easter Baskets to benefit children from South County Outreach. Please bring the donations to church on Sundays before March 22. Items needed include: Easter baskets, plastic Easter eggs, Easter grass, candy (wrapped), crayons, coloring books, bubbles, small toys, stuffed animals, books, and anything you might think that the children would enjoy. Thank you for your generosity and help.

Membership Classes at MV Campus - March 8 & 15

Come and learn about Shepherd of the Hills on Sunday, March 8 and Sunday, March 15 in the Laguna Hills Room at the MV campus. If you have thought about joining the church or would like to learn more about the church come for an informative class on Sunday, March 8 from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Another session will be held on Sunday, March 15 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. with dinner included. If you decide to become part of the Shepherd of the Hills community, you will be received into membership on Sunday, March 22. Please contact the church office at (949) 837-2941, if you are interested in the class.



Women's Fellowship Retreat in May

The Shepherd Women's Fellowship Retreat will be May 15-17 at the Aldersgate Retreat Center in Pacific Palisades. Relax, renew,

recharge, relate. Cost of \$190 includes lodging for 2 nights, four meals, and more memories than can be counted. Information and sign-up is on the website at www.shepherdofthehills.net/retreat. For questions, please contact Kristen Stuckenberg at ksbyfour@icloud.com or Jenny Serfas at jenny.serfas@yahoo.com.



ALL CHURCH WORKDAYS

Save the dates:

M.V. Campus: Saturday, March 28

RSM Campus: Saturday, April 25

8:00 a.m. to noon

There are opportunities for everyone to serve
- Many hands make light work

Give Ministries

"Hunger" Sunday, March 1 for South County Outreach

We collected 174 pounds of food/jelly in February.

We will collect pasta sauces for March. All flavors of pasta sauce and glass jars are okay.

Collection barrels will be out in front of the entrance to the church at MV and in the lobby at RSM.



The Community Table Is Every Wednesday at RSM

The Community Table provides a free meal to anyone whose budget is stretched or who wants to share a meal with others. Meals are served every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. See www.sothumc.org and follow the link on the home page for information on all the ways you may get involved.



Around the Church

Lenten Hikes Are Every Saturday

Lenten Hikes have begun! What better way to enjoy our So Cal weather and to live out our mission to connect with Christ and each other than to join us each Saturday. We have hikes from mostly-flat walks along sidewalks and paved pathways to hikes that take us out into our native coastal sage scrub. Details for each hike can be found on Facebook and the weekly e-mail blast. Pick up our brochure on all 6 hikes, with details on distance, elevation, terrain, and more.



UMW for March

We welcome you to our March events:

Wednesday, March 11 - Lenten Dinner, soup or salad donations, contact Marcia Easton

Saturday, March 14 - District Meeting, Foothills UMC, La Mesa. Mission U Study on the *Book of Mark*, presented by Cedric Bridgeworth

Sunday, March 15 - Spring Bake Sale Fundraiser, MV patio, donations welcome

Tuesday, March 17 - Sarah Circle, 1:00 p.m. Hostess: Jinny Pape

Thursday, March 26 - UMW General Meeting, 10:00 a.m. MV. Rise & Shine, a Call to Prayer & Self-Denial. Please bring a cup or more of chopped vegetables to add to our stone soup. Also bring your special self-denial offering.

Sunday, March 29 - Collection for *Operation Gratitude*. Donations for our deployed military include: hand wipes, powdered drink mix, deodorant, gum, small sunscreen, lip balm, thank-you notes.

April: Collecting for Working Wardrobes, Irvine whose facility burned recently. They assist the needy with business-type clothing.

World Thank Offering suggestion: Be thankful for warm water to shower in and give a special gift this month.



Shepherd's Seniors Spring Event with The Festival Singers

Sunday, June 7, 2020, 3:00 p.m., Presbyterian Church of the Master, 26051 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo. Cost: \$17 for concert for 10 or more people. Payment due by April 5.

After May 1, 2020, tickets must be purchased at the door at the performance, for \$20.

Tickets will be delivered in early May. Reception with confections after the concert.

Let us know if you need to carpool. Reach out....bring a friend to our meetings! Several SOTHUMC parishioners have been attending these concerts. Come join us, you will have a great time! RSVP to:

Sunny Hartman, sunesue3@yahoo.com ; Avis French, eavisf@cox.net, or Pat Brewer, dicknpatbrewer@aol.com.



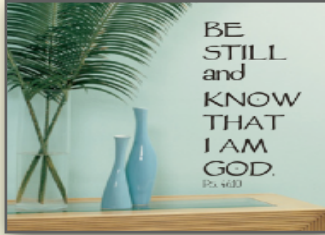
Prayer Ministry

Centering Prayer Introductory Workshop

Saturday, May 16, 2020 • 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

❧ EVERYONE WELCOME ❧
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Centering Prayer is a Christian method of silent communion with God beyond concepts, words and images. The method is easy to learn and understand. When we come to the end of ourselves and find there are no words, this prayer is deeper than words.



The workshop will be on the MV campus. No charge. Freewill offering is appreciated. Included are six optional follow-up sessions, to be discussed at the workshop. Presenters are trained and certified by Contemplative Outreach, LTD.

Please Register by May 10 at:

<https://sothumc.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/45/responses/new>,

or call the church office 949 837-2941

For questions, contact Jill Yamada - jyamada@sothumc.org



"...when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Matthew 6:6)

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Knit Wits are a group of women who knit and crochet prayer shawls which are given to someone who needs God's love and our prayers while going through a difficult time in life. These shawls are prayed over before we start making them and when they are completed they are placed on the altar where the pastor leads the congregation in prayer blessing the shawl and its recipient. The shawl is then placed in a bag which has been decorated by a Sunday school child. A prayer is included along with a prayer square which can be carried in a purse or pocket. Our shawls have provided comfort to over 2,000 people and the thank you notes we receive are heartwarming. It is our way of sharing God's love with others.



If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, please join us on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room on the MV campus. You will experience an evening of friendship and fellowship while you are bringing joy to someone who needs a hug. **HAPPY MARCH!!**

Marilyn Widen, MV- 714-821-9634

Debbie Chawner RSM- 949-292-5709

Prayer Chain

Prayer is the key to the heart of God. Prayer is the only way to a real and personal relationship with God. Anyone interested in being on the Prayer Chain is welcome to join this powerful group praying for others. Please contact Carolyn Bohmholdt at cbohmholdt@sothumc.org and let her know you want to be added to the Prayer Chain. Each week a list is sent by e-mail noting the special needs for prayer for individuals within our church, friends and family members.

Prayer Chain:

E-mail sent to members of the Prayer Chain

Prayer Teams:

Available weekly during both MV worship services and Communion Sundays at RSM

Centering Prayer:

Christian Meditation, Sundays at 8:30 a.m. in the MV Prayer Room,

First and Third Friday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the MV Sanctuary and every Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. in the MV Sanctuary

Prayer Room & Prayer Garden:

Available 24/7 at MV Campus

Walk the Prayer Labyrinth:

RSM & MV Campus

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests can be made by calling the church at (949) 837-2941 or emailing jyamada@sothumc.org

or cbohmholdt@sothumc.org.

If you have a confidential prayer request or concern, please email it to pastoralcare@sothumc.org.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of Prayer Ministry, please contact Diana Annett at annett1@cox.net or (949) 533-3028.

If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, please contact Carolyn Bohmholdt at cbohmholdt@sothumc.org.

"...God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them."

--1 John 4:16

Around the Preschool

Preschool Happenings

*For God so loved the world. He sent His only son —
John 3:16*

March is another fun-filled month at preschool. The children will be learning all about Life on the Farm and getting ready for Easter! We will also be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday with Crazy 'Cat in the Hat' Days, and looking for leprechaun gold in the sandbox on St. Patrick's Day.

Each year in March the preschool raises \$ for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at our on-site 'Trike-A-

Shepherd of the Hills
United Methodist Preschool



Thon' where the children learn how to ride their trikes/bikes safely. At the end of the month we will get together with our preschool families and sing in celebration of Easter.

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is now open to the public with our extended hours. If you know anyone with a preschooler, have them give us a call for a tour.

In HIS Service,
Becci Lukes, Preschool Executive Director
Sarah Galliver, RSM Site Director

Children and Youth

MV Parent Group

Parents of young children need support, wisdom, and friendships with other parents. Based on the feedback we received from the parent survey, MV Family Ministries is launching a new parent group this Lent! It's our prayer that this group will provide a place for parents to get to know each other, share parenting wisdom and experiences, and have fun.

The first meeting will be from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 1 in the Aldersgate Room. Families will eat dinner together first, then kids are dismissed to learn and play in Room 5. Questions? Contact Laura Arciniega at (949) 837-2941 or larciniega@sothumc.org.

Save These Dates for Summer!

Music Camp

Rehearsals: Monday - Friday, June 15-26, RSM campus

Performances: June 26 and 28

Registration opens in April. Details to come!

Tell your friends and let Kim Nason know if you would like to be added to the email list.

VBS

Monday-Friday,

July 27-31,

MV campus

Details to come!

3rd-5th Grade Bible Study

The 3rd-5th Grade Bible Study will take place during first service from March 1 through March 22 in the Laguna Hills Room of Shepherd Hall. Pastor Karl will present participants with their own Bibles during first service on Sunday, March 29. This is a special class for students interested in learning more about the Bible. To enroll your child or grandchild, or if you have questions, please contact Laura Arciniega (949) 837-2941 or larciniega@sothumc.org.

Lazy W Camps: Natural Wonders Camp

Now is the time to be thinking of summer camp. Early bird deadline is March 31. If you plan on attending summer camp,



and are interested in help supplementing the cost, please complete the camp form available from

the church office or online at MyShepherd. The cost of the camps is \$450.00. Registration: www.lazywrench.org.

Classic Camps 2020

Elementary Camp | July 5-10 | 3rd-6th grade

Junior High Camp | July 12-17 | 6th-9th grade

Senior High Camp | July 19-25 | 9th-Graduated Sr.

**Daylight Saving Time begins on
Sunday, March 8, at 2:00 am**

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour before going to bed Saturday night, March 7...or you might be late for church!



Resource Team & More

Resource Team Financial Statements

Taxes:

Taxes: Need a copy of your giving January-December 2019? Just give the church office a call at (949) 837-2941.

Quarterly Statements:

Financial Statements are mailed quarterly. The next statements will be mailed the first part of April. We mail the statements to ensure the financial secretaries have properly recorded the amount given. If you find an error in your giving record, please do not hesitate to let Hazel or Carolyn know.

To ensure proper credit, please continue to use your offering envelopes. If you give a loose check, please place your envelope number on it and you are assured of receiving proper credit.

If you did not receive offering envelopes and would like a set mailed to you, please contact the church office at 837-2941.

On Line Giving

When giving toward your pledge for 2019-2020 online, please remember to select MV Pledge 2019-2020 for the Mission Viejo campus and RSM Pledge 2019 -2020 for the RSM campus. This will ensure that you will receive the correct amount toward your pledge.

Flowers for Easter: Help

Decorate the Sanctuary for Easter

Want to honor or memorialize a family member or friend for Easter? You can purchase a flower, Easter Lily or hydrangea to decorate one of our sanctuaries or donate toward the purchase of butterflies for the butterfly release at RSM. You can also purchase a potted palm for Palm Sunday at the MV site. Please use the envelopes available in the lobby at RSM or at the MV Office Table. Flowers and palms can be purchased beginning Sunday, March 15, 2020.

'Happenings' Deadline...

The *Happenings* deadline is generally the 10th of every month (April *Happenings* deadline is Tuesday, March 10).

Deadline for the weekly *Happenings* is noon Mondays for the following Sunday.

Please e-mail articles to jyamada@sothumc.org and bwestcott@sothumc.org.

Activities Calendar Online

For up-to-date information on church events, see the online calendar at sothumc.org.



Shepherd Seniors Brunch – March 8

Shepherd Seniors will meet for BRUNCH on Sunday, March 8 at 11:00 a.m. at the ASIA BUFFET, 23552 El Toto Road, Lake Forest. Please make reservations with host Gary Brooks, gbrooks102@yahoo.com or (714) 742-4862 by Saturday, March 7. Newcomers always welcome.

"Between the Lines" Book Group March 8



All are invited to join us for dinner and discussion of *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens on March 8 at 6:00 p.m. Contact Mary Beth McGowan at (949) 702-7286 for more information.

Pastoral Care at Shepherd of the Hills

James 5:13-15 reminds us that as the church we are to care for one another, especially in times of struggle and illness. Pastoral care is important in the spiritual life of a church, and Shepherd of the Hills wants to walk with you when life gets hard. Our Pastoral team wants to pray with you before surgery, visit you in the hospital, and walk with you through tough times. In addition to our Pastoral Team, we have trained Stephen Ministers, who are here to care for you as well.

If you are in need of pastoral care, please call the office and let us know. We also have set up an e-mail address at pastoralcare@sothumc.org that is confidential and will go directly to our Pastoral Team, who can respond to your needs.

**Confidential
Pastoral Care**

pastoralcare@sothumc.org
or (949) 837-2941

March Birthdays and Anniversaries



March Birthdays

March 1	Kai Bush
March 2	Beth Holder Tyler Serfas Fern Trausch
March 4	Don Ann Dobkins Keagan McKasson Nella McKasson
March 5	Josh Nason
March 6	Dick Bushnell Charlie Keller Ruth Marcy Charles Snedeker II
March 7	Kayla Stuckenberg Patrick Snedeker
March 8	Audrey Herbka
March 9	Matthew Arroyo Carol Moss Kathy Narasaki
March 10	Michelle Domond Jan Newton
March 11	Ron Anzair Lee Leatherman Glenda McNeil Cal Shores Jonathan Stone

March 12	Julie Major
March 13	Aileen Morgan
March 14	Janet Oliver Jolyon Olmstead Linda Puckett Hunter Walsh
March 15	Joan Provance
March 17	Liz Boulter Gail Cady Dominic Grandolfo Daniel Martin Ann Shimizu Gretchen Shoemaker
March 18	Jana Betty David Dluzak Sandy Dluzak
March 19	DeAnna Grandolfo Julie Morris Mary Mulchey
March 20	Doug Nason Jack Stillwagon
March 21	Angelo Dobles
March 22	Linda Bender Cal Burt Skye Jurasek Fred Saremi
March 23	Bill Smith
March 24	Eric Roehl
March 25	Scott Cummings Landon Howard

March 26	Tristen Wasley
March 27	Mike Brooks Blair Brown Piper Olmstead
March 28	Payton Buessing Brigit Colwell Paul Russert
March 30	Michelle Gibson Jana Lu Barbara Steyn Bill Stone Kit Tisdale
March 31	Noah Patch Sydney Patch

March Anniversaries

March 24	David and Kelly Herbka
March 27	Cal and Ann Shores
March 31	Jody and Kenneth Johnson

If we missed or incorrectly listed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know at the church office. Thank you!

Shepherd of the Hills UMC Staff

Karl Stuckenberg.....	Lead Pastor
	pastorkarl@sothumc.org
Jon Waterson	Site Pastor
	pastorjon@sothumc.org
Sam Nason.....	MV Director of Youth Ministry
	snason@sothumc.org
Kim Nason	RSM Music Director
	knason@sothumc.org
Cara Gallegos	MV Director of Traditional Music
	cgallegos@sothumc.org
Philip Bardowell.....	MV Modern Worship
	pbardowell@sothumc.org
Will Ferguson.....	RSM Modern Worship
	wferguson@sothumc.org
Doug Nason.....	Director of Visual Arts
	dnason@sothumc.org

Confidential Pastoral Care

pastoralcare@sothumc.org or 837-2941

Laura Arciniega	Director of Family Ministries & Discipleship
	larciniega@sothumc.org
Amy Strawn	Childcare and MV Sunday School Coordinator
	astrawn@sothumc.org
Becci Lukes	Preschool Executive Director
	blukes@sothumc.org
Sarah Galliver.....	Preschool Site Director
	sgalliver@sothumc.org
Jill Yamada	Church Administrator
	jyamada@sothumc.org
Bob Westcott.....	Communications
	bwestcott@sothumc.org



Connecting people with Jesus and each other so they become deeply committed followers of Jesus Christ

26001 Muirlands Blvd.
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Phone: (949) 837-2941
Fax: (949) 837-4175
www.sothumc.org

Return Service Requested

Happenings

Issue 3 Volume 53



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Time Change

March 8



Preschool, Children & Youth

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Prayer Ministry

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Give Ministries

*Hunger Sunday,
Community Table*

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Shepherd of the Hills

Seven Grace Disciplines:

*Celebrate • Devotion • Development
Tithing • Service • Sharing • Sabbath*



MV:

Mission Viejo Campus
26001 Muirlands Blvd.
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
949-837-2941

RSM:

Rancho Santa Margarita Campus
30605 Avenida de Las Flores
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
949-589-1502

Follow us online:

www.sothumc.org

Facebook Groups:

Shepherd of the Hills UMC
Shepherd of the Hills UMC
Rancho Santa Margarita Campus

Sunday Morning Worship:

Mission Viejo Campus

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
11:00 a.m. Modern Worship

Rancho Santa Margarita Campus

9:30 a.m. Relaxed Traditional
Worship
11:00 a.m. Modern Worship