**October 2020 Newsletter**

**Sonora United Methodist Church**

 90 Yaney Avenue, Sonora, CA 95370

For the victory of life

      Today I brought God's word for the victorious life revealed to the young prophet Ebed Adonai. I pray that the word of God may give you an understanding of a victorious Christian life.

“Holy Spirit said thus;

Children of the Word,

      The secret of victory on the last day is to focus on Jesus with your heart and mind. It is to focus on the word of God. It is to focus and meditate on the word of the Lord day and night regardless of your situation. And it is to lift prayer with the word given to you from the Lord. Even though people hate you, attack you, despise you, mock you, betray you, and persecute you, even though they put a pit or trap, be quiet, and do not speak about it. Rely only on God. Talk and plea only to God. Ask and wait for his help and mercy. It is about to deny self. Lift all the rights of action, decisions to the Lord. To those who follow God's words, God helps them overcome all the situations. And he sends them the Spirit of peace and joy and the Spirit of rest and wisdom. God will scatter away all the sadness, sigh, and hatred. Instead, joy and gratitude will spring forth from their inner heart like a river continuously. So you will be able to follow me, the Holy Spirit, with one heart, mind, and soul.

Children of light,

       Do not try to fight alone in the spiritual battle. Let the Almighty God fight for you. If you request God that God may fight the battle for you, then the Spirit that fears the Lord will fight the battle for you. The Spirit of the union will let you be one heart and mind. On your left side, there will be the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge; to your left side, the Spirit of scheme and talent with the sword of the Holy Spirit. In front of you, the Spirit of victory will walk forward with a spear; he will defeat your enemy. So, in all your spiritual battle, let your King of Kings fight for you.

Children of wisdom,

      All the cause of losing the battle is to put your eyes in a different direction. When you see other things, other people, self, or situation, the result is the same. It is because the smallest enemy is more potent than you; they are persistent, desperate. While not giving you a moment of breathing, they will attack you. Think deeply. Even though you prepare thoroughly and are sure of the victory, how can you succeed against the invisible enemy looking at your thoughts? When you turn your eyes away, evil spirits attack immediately. Your heart will melt. Sins, temptations, sadness, despair, complaints, unfaithfulness, Jealousy, etc. will fill your heart. When you lose your control, the evil spirit will come like a roaring lion and devour you. Sin will sweep away you like a hurricane.

Children of the Spirit,

     Do you know that devils obey Satan, who is the ruler of the darkness? They are faithful to Satan 24 hours without pause. To achieve their goals, they never give up. They bother you to the end. How much more you, the children of light, should obey God, the father of Love?

Children of light, fighting and struggling in this difficult time. Remember that the father will reward you surely for all your effort. If there is night, surely the day will come. The Lord will come indeed, and take you who are living as it is. Even though you do not see the coming of the Lord, and die, the Lord will close your eyes in the last moment; the Lord will cover you with peace and rest. He will hold you with his two arms and bring you to heaven. When you awake, you will be joyful by seeing the Lord.

      Truly I say to you. If you overcome yourself, the devil, sin, the world, and desires, then you will be able to stand up before the Lord, giving all the glory to the Lord. Be mindful of this. This spiritual battle starts only with the word and prayer and finishes with gratitude and joy of praise. All those who look up only the Lord, who remember only Lord, and who hide only under his wings, are blessed."

Pastor Hae-Jeong

**Save these Dates**

Subject to change - These will be confirmed by email to regular members and posted on the Website

Sunday October 4th - 1pm - Nominating Committee

 2 pm - Relaunch Team meeting

Saturday, October 10th – 8 am – All Church workday

9am – short Church Council meeting - and break from Work day activities.

ctober 11th – 12:30 pm \_ Women’s fellowship meeting-

 Parsonage lawn -Bring mask, social distance, etc. - see Women’s Fellowship article

Sunday October 18th – 11:15 tentative relaunch of Worship Service. Online service available

 12:30 pm Trustee and Finance Meeting Zoom available

Saturday, October 31st – 5pm –Tentative – Halloween Party in Parking lot-

Sunday November 1st – 4:30-7pm - Charge Conference on Zoom

Saturday November 7th – Tentative Rummage Sale –Parking lot- see Women’s Fellowship article

Modified Indoor Worship,

tentative date: October 18, 2020 at 11:15am

​​​​​​​ **Greetings Everyone,**

 I hope this finds you all well. We are looking at a return to a modified in person worship on Sunday October 18th at 11:15am. The re-launching plan has been submitted to our District Superintendent and she has approved it pending the addition of a few more details to a couple of spots. Please take the time to read the condensed version of the plan, so you will know what to expect when returning to worship, if you feel safe doing so. The virtual online worship service will continue for those who would rather not worship in person at this time. There is also a survey attached. We would love to hear your feedback, suggestions and concerns. Someday we will be back to normal, but in the meantime we need to ensure the safety of all who choose to attend as well as meet the needs of those who choose to wait to return. Please make sure to keep in touch with each other as you are able through phone calls, texts, emails, cards, etc. Keep praying for each other and for our church.

Karla Wasson, on behalf of the Re-launching Team

Relaunch Plan, condensed

Our prime value in the relaunching process is to do no harm to those who are most vulnerable and to do good while providing spiritual nurturing.

One entrance will be used - the back entrance which is accessable from the parking lot and has ramps. This entrance will have usher(s) monitor and sign in guests. Two registration/sanitation stations in the Fireside Room will be established where hygiene supplies including masks will be available.

Attendees will be asked to sign an agreement at registration to follow all safety protocols while in the building or for outside worship. An attendance sheet would be completed by a designated lay person, and kept with church records in case contact tracing was needed at a later date.

"Traffic flow" areas will be clearly marked with yellow tape arrows. Six foot social distancing markers will be placed. Pews for individuals or family groups will be marked with attached disposable plastic table cloths.

We will have a fixed location or locations for offerings to be placed at the beginning of the service during an extended Introit. Envelopes for cash offerings will be available at the sign in stations.

The bulletins used for the service are currently being emailed and mailed to all church members, and can be brought by attendees from home.

Visual gestures of peace and love while remaining in our pews are encouraged such as "air hugs", folding hands and bowing heads to each other to show we are together in spirit.

Alternatives to singing will be provided with any of the following: instrumental only with words projected on the wall or a screen with humming encouraged; video performances projected; videos with motions for more meaningful interaction.

We will use pre-packaged communion elements available at the registration station. Congregants will remain in their pews for communion. Paper bags will be placed in the pews for disposal of used items following communion.

Hymnals, Bibles, offering envelopes, etc. have been removed from all the pews.

Children's activity bags will be available at registration for use during worship. When possible, parent(s) will be notified of guidelines ahead of time.

Two exits will be designated as the Fireside Room entrance and the main front church doors. Congregants will be encouraged to leave through either exit while practicing social distancing during the postlude music.

If the worship group is small, the parsonage lawn (weather permitting) may be used. Established safety protocol as listed in the full plan would be followed in the event of outdoor worship.

We will continue to offer virtual worship as long as needed in conjunction with a modified live worship.  The full plan once approved by the district superintendent will be available upon request to any member or visitor.

**​Women’s Fellowship**

Hi All!

       With the approval of the re-launch plan and modified worship expected to be October 18th; Lorraine and I have been thinking of hosting an outdoor rummage sale in the parking lot Saturday, November 7th, weather permitting. Our renter Diane has some items donated and told us she would be able to supply masks for those who need one. She also has canopies that can be used. Please donate gently used items in good usable condition and let Lorraine or me know if you are able to help in any way. Donations can be brought to church, please call ahead of time.

    We have set a social distanced women's fellowship meeting for Sunday, October 11th at 12:30 to be held on the parsonage lawn. BYOE - Bring your own Everything. Please wear a mask, bring a sack lunch, your own chair and items for taking notes. If you are not comfortable meeting please let Karla or Lorraine know.

        Another opportunity to do one of our regular activities is the shoebox gift boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Boxes with informational brochures are available at church outside the office. More information can be found on the website www.samaritanspurse.org/occ. You can also fill a box completely online by visiting the website.

        Thank you to all who have sent in pledge donations to the church for Women's Fellowship missions. Further gifts can be sent in to Church and made out to Sonora UMW or Sonora Women's Fellowship. Together we can continue to do great things.

May God's grace be with you all and God's Love guide you!g

Karla Wasson

**CHURCH RE-LAUNCHING COMMITTEE SURVEY**

(Ron Leedy, Bobbie Clapham, Dan Townsend, Alice Townsend, Karla Wasson, Lorraine Vogt, Judy Simon, Pastor Hae-Jeong Yoon)

Please Reply to Pastor Hae-Jeong or to other committee members by email, texting, and phone call. Please feel free to communicate with the committee and the pastor. Contact Info: Hae3213@gmail.com, 415 486 3278

1.When the Church reopens for in person worship, do you plan to attend?

If you do not plan to attend, would you like to make a suggestion that might make you more comfortable in this setting?

2. When the church reopens for outdoor worship, do you plan to attend?

If you do not plan to attend, would you like to make a suggestion that might make you more comfortable in this setting?

**EMERGENCY EVACUATION ITEMS TO GATHER**

No. of vehicles\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   Drivers\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Trailers\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Motorcycles\_\_\_\_\_

Where will you meet up\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Phone numbers\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**In your “go bag”**

1. one week supply of medications, prescriptions
2. Extra glasses
3. Water and energy bars for each person
4. copies of your property and auto insurance policies and phone number for claims office.
5. Photos of inside and outside of home, garage and outbuildings, vehicles
6. current medical records and copy of your health insurance cards
7. Passport and driver’s license/ recent utility bill  with recent address if you use a PO Box, so you can get through check points
8. Birth certificates, esp for children. They may have to enroll in a new school
9. Military records if needed for VA
10. Copies of mortgage, credit cards, bank statement, investment accounts, Social Security cards, etc
11. Computer backup.

**15 minute warning:**

Wallet, purse, keys, glasses Cell phones, charges

Emergency cash, credit cards Pets, carriers, leashes, meds

Clothes, shoes, hats for season Hearing aids, medications

Flashlights, extra batteries Safety deposit box keys

Checkbooks, bills to pay

**30- minute warning:**

Pillows, sleeping bags, blankets Address book, phone list

Computer, chargers Jewelry & most-valuable personal possessions

Personal hygiene items Other meds, supplements

First aid kit, medical items Children’s items, toys, books

Pet food, dishes, bedding, litter Battery radio, extra batteries

Toilet paper, hand wipes, soap Clothing for 3 days, shoes

Gal. jugs of drinking water

**1 hour warning**

take or safeguard guns, ammo Ice cooler with ice, food, drinks

Genealogy records, files 3 day food supply

Gloves, dust mask for smoke Licenses, vehicle titles, deeds

Insurance, financial, medical data, Wills, Powers of Atty.

Personal property list, photos &

appraisals, documentation Paper plates, cups, utensils, can opener

School items

**Fire Recovery to do list – from a Real Estate Company**

1. Get a post office box and forward all mail to the Box.  Use this PO Box as the mailing address on all forms you begin to fill out.

2. Hopefully you have your insurance papers in your “Go Bag”.  Call your insurance company to trigger “Loss of Use”.  This typically will allow you to be in a rental for x number of years, depending on your policy. Coordinate with your insurance company so that payments can be made directly from them using your “Loss of Use” money

           This coverage should also give you some immediate access for funds  for essentials such as clothes, tooth brushes, food, etc. Save receipts to show insurance company.

3. Start searching for a long term rental.  Plan on renting for 1-2 years, but do not necessarily sign a lease for a full two years, as circumstances can change.  You might be living here for 2 years, so choose something that you can live with.

4. Contact all of your utilities and either freeze or cancel service.  Electric,  Gas, Waste Management, TUD, TV, Cable, Land Line Phone, newspaper delivery, etc.

5. Call other insurance companies, such as car insurance.

6. Register at the shelters, with Red Cross and any other agencies there : California FEMA, etc.

Most of the aid coming in will use these lists as a point of contact and will help ensure that you don’t get left out of anything.

7.  Start itemizing a list of lost belongings.  Hopefully you have taken pictures that are in “the cloud” or in your “Go bag”

If you don’t have the pictures, organize by room and list everything with a replacement cost.  Make sure you list everything, even if it is above and beyond your policy limit.  This is important because everything above the policy limit is considered a loss and can be claimed as such on your taxes.

8,  When you can go back into your property: Wear boots and gloves and have shovels.

9.  Get Permits:

    a. Debris Removal. Might be covered by insurance

    b. Erosion control

    c. Temporary Power/Pole/Trailer on site Permit.  Getting this earlier on can prove helpful in the rebuilding process.

**Workday date:  October 10th, 8 am**

  Our church buildings, like all our living spaces, always need some work done to keep them going. In the Fall, there are always leaves to be raked and organizing to be done, etc., etc.,etc.  Please come and bring your gardening tools and help make the church ready for fall and winter. For more information call or message Lorraine at 559-5335, or email at lorrainev63@comcast.net.  Most of the work will be outside.

**Mother Lode Food Project**

     October is one of the months that the The Mother Lode Food Project would normally collect cans of food to help stock the ATCAA food banks in Tuolumne County. Members of our church have supported this project for at least 5 years, by collecting food in the MLFP green bags.  The need is still there, especially since unemployment is so high during this COVID problem. But because of COVID the MLFP is not collecting actual food and paper goods at this time, and our church is not able to provide the Beans, Rice and Jesus Christ dinners.

     If you would like to continue to support ATCAA, we suggest you send a check (any amount is most welcome) to the following address:

                 ATCAA Food Bank

                 c/o Sonora Service Center

                427 North Highway 49, Suite   305

                 Sonora, CA  95370

Please make the check out to ATCAA Food Bank and put Mother Lode Food Project in the memo line.

Sue Mundy, the Green Bag coordinator, says, “Thank you to each of you for your continued support of the project.  Stay well and safe.

**Interfaith Community Social Services**

18500 Striker Ct.,

Sonora, CA 95370532-0905

 Interfaith is open 10 am to 1 pm Monday - Friday.Interfaith is once again offering clothing, household and toiletry items. It has been providing food during the COVID crisis with careful protocols as to masks and social distancing.

        Interfaith has received funding from the State of California Department of Aging for September 2020 to June, 2021 to provide legal services .  If you would like to volunteer to help out providing these services, please call Legal Services at Interfaith on any Friday. A church in the valley working with “gleaners” continues to provide about 35 boxes of fresh produce every other week.To receive a free COVID 19 test you may call the Health Department at 533-7434 for a direct number and information on how to self-register. Our church is a founding member and current supporter of Interfaith.  If you would like to donate you may make your check out to the church with Interfaith in the memo line.

          Interfaith is again requesting volunteer help.  If you are interested please talk to Ann Whitlach  (536-4793),  our Interfaith representative, or call Interfaith direct.

**Evacuation preparedness**

On the previous pages are some lists and suggestions Lorraine has accumulated that might help us be more prepared in case of disaster.

Sonora United Methodist Church

90 Yaney Ave.

Sonora, CA 95370

October 2020

**Sermons online:    www.sonora-umc.org**

Tentative Relaunch of Worship services: Oct 18th

With Covid precautions

**Sonora United Methodist Church
90 Yaney Avenue**

**Sonora, CA 95370**

**Office Hours:** Tues & Fri 9-11 am

**Office Phone**: (209) 532-4850

**E-mail - Office:** sumc\_office@att.net

 **Pastor**: Hae3213@gmail.com

**Website:**  **www.sonora-umc.org**

### Worship Services: - Online

 **www.sonora-umc.org**

**Pastor:** Hae-Jeong Yoon

**Administrative Assistant:**  Julie Simerley

**Pianist:** Julie Simerley

**Custodians:** Dan & Alice Townsend

**Newsletter Editor**: Gail Pollard