

MURRIETA UNITED METHODIST  
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# THE VINE

FEBRUARY 2019



## **Sermon on the Mount: The Beatitudes Part I** By Rev. Scott Andrews

*When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." – Matthew 5:1-11*

"The Sermon on the Mount is perhaps the greatest sermons preached by perhaps one of the best preachers around!" A seminary professor once said this – tongue in cheek of course – to a class I was a part of. Of course, it is the great sermon of Jesus. Of course, Jesus is the great preacher of the New Testament. And

yet, we all need to spend more time in this section of Matthew's gospel (Matthew 5:1-7:27). Over the next few months, I'm going to use selections of this sermon for my monthly Vine article.

Jesus sat down. If I were to preach from a sitting position, on Monday morning I would get emails and phone calls informing me that people couldn't see me. However, in the time of Christ, rabbis preached or taught from a sitting position. So, Jesus sat down and began to teach.

"Blessed are . . ." are the first words of this great sermon. The Greek word for "blessed" is "μακάριος" (Makarios) which can be translated as either "blessed" or "happy". It's fun to go back and re-read this passage and exchange bless with happy. It takes on a different air. Who is blessed/happy according to Jesus? The poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those persecuted for righteousness' sake and those persecuted for following Jesus all will be blessed/happy.

A question we must now ask is: "why would Jesus say this?" Why would Jesus say that this grouping of peoples is blessed/happy? One of the main things that we need to remember about the Sermon on the Mount is that it comes at the beginning of Jesus' ministry right after John the Baptist has been arrested and immediately after Jesus begins to call his disciples. He has been preaching around the area and a crowd has begun to follow him. Now he is making his proclamation of what he believes it means to be a child of God. He has healed people and taught to smaller groups. Now he has shared with those following him what it means to walk with him and to believe in the blessings that come from God. Jesus is challenging those around him to refocus their thoughts and realign their beliefs. He calls to them to find themselves with in this grouping of peoples.

Jesus calls us to do the same. Where are you in this grouping of peoples?

In Christ,

Pastor Scott

## The Big Value of Thinking Small



A current marketing trend which I find intriguing and worth paying attention to is the increasing role of so-called “nano-influencers” in determining what products consumers are most likely to turn to. The prefix “nano” is used to describe something very tiny. In terms of units of measure it means, specifically, one billionth. So in our world of over 7.7 billion people, an individual person is a “nano.” A “nano influencer” is one who is likely to have an impact, particularly through social media, on a range of from 10 to 1000 people.

By contrast, “micro-influencers” are those with followers in the 1000 to 10,000 range, “macro-influencers” reach 10,000 to 100,000, and “mega-influencers” reach anywhere from 100,000 people to somewhere in the millions. Anam Falak, for example, is a 29-year-old makeup artist from Monaco with an estimated 654,000 avid social media followers. (Personally, I’ve never heard of her; but then I’m not all that much into makeup.) Micro, macro, and mega influencers include prolific bloggers and vloggers, politicians and celebrities, professional athletes and televangelists, and anyone else whose opinion or endorsement is thought to carry some weight. In the marketing world, they are often assumed to have much more influence on the thoughts, values, and buying habits of others than most any of us do.

But the interesting idea emerging now is that that may not be true after all. New studies are suggesting that, while our nano spheres of influence are likely to be numerically much smaller, our ultimate impact can be significantly greater than that of the micro to mega influencers simply because we can be known and trusted in a way that they cannot be. As one report put it, “nano influencers are considered the most powerful influencers because of their engagement rates. They might have a handful of followers, but they reach deep into their niche markets and do so with greater impact.”

While much of this research and speculation has to do with social media usage, I see a broader application. Whether it is on social media (where I see evidence that many of you are spending a lot of time) or just in casual conversation with those who are in our spheres of influence, when we make it clear what we value and endorse, we make an impact on others who know and trust us. That may mean endorsing a product or a plumber, a movie or a place to eat. If you like it and I like and trust you, your telling me about it is going to make a difference.

So here’s my question: How much of that big influence in a small world are you and I using to tell others about Jesus?

Pastor Tom



## Youth News

Happy Valentine’s Day everyone! This month in Youth Group, the youth are embarking on their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Amazing Race...to find God’s love. We’ll get into groups and search across the Murrieta and Temecula area to follow clues, build relationships, and discover what love really is. Sometimes Valentine’s

Day can be sad for people focusing on romantic love. We want our youth to focus their Valentine’s thoughts on the love our God has for us and has shared with us through his son Jesus Christ - the love that always lasts and actually means more than anything else in the world. John 3:16 says it all:

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life”.*

We hope that no matter what your relationship status is right now, you’ll be generous with your love this month in honor of the One who gave us SO much!

### Here’s what’s coming up:

**Sundays February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Youth Group 12:00 PM-3:00 PM.

**Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>** - The Amazing Race 5:00 PM -9:00 PM -!! We meet in the youth room at 5:00 PM. Dinner is included.

**Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>-Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>** - Wrightwood Winter Camp. [www.calpaccamps.org](http://www.calpaccamps.org)

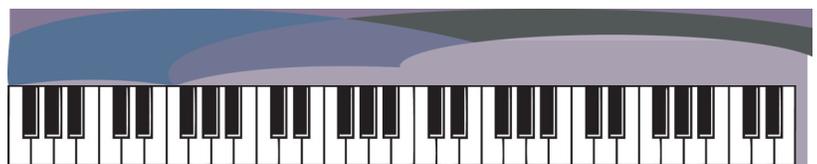
**Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>** - No youth group

**Senior youth (12<sup>th</sup> graders): Keep your eyes and ears out for the date for your senior retreat happening in May!!!**

In the love and peace of Christ,  
Your Co-Youth Directors

Mandy Allen,  
mandyallen1216@aol.com  
951-536-5817  
Youth Co-Director

In the love of Christ,  
Jennifer Jones  
951-239-9220  
kravmamabb@gmail.com



## Notes of THANKS

I wanted to express my thanks to the church for having the opportunity to be in music leadership for the past 44 years. The outpouring of love and support for the music program as a whole and for me has been overwhelming. I believe that we praise God through music and God reaches each of us, in our inner most being, through music. For those able to be at the celebration lunch on January 12, Thank You. It was a great get-together. The cards, notes, and comments are greatly appreciated. And, thanks to your generosity, over \$1000 was raised in support of the Scott missionaries. It has been my privilege and it has been an honor to be your servant of Christ in the ministry of music at this church.

Wes Scott



**2018 Monthly Giving for December**

Week of December 2	\$16,752
Week of December 9	\$10,309
Week of December 16	\$ 7,975
Week of December 23	\$13,677
Week of December 30	\$11,623
Total	\$60,336

Needed Monthly \$50,190

Bruce Hartwig, Finance Chair  
[annandbruce347@gmail.com](mailto:annandbruce347@gmail.com)



**SONRISERS**

Sonrisers would like to invite you to meet with a loving group of women on the third Saturday of each month to spread God's love

by serving our church and our community. Our next meeting is on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Each meeting begins with devotions and a light breakfast prepared by members of the group. Please come and join us. A circle of United Methodist Women, the Sonrisers is a fellowship and service group which supports the youth in our church along with others here in Murrieta.

All women are invited to join us. For more information please contact Toni Spencer at 951- 504-8950.



**YOUNG AT HEART**

If you have graduated from the 345 (30s, 40s, and 50s) group and are looking for some friends to socialize with, here is a group for you! We meet for food and fellowship on the second Saturday of each month. The next meeting of the Young at Heart group is on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. It will be an old fashioned potluck so please bring a dish to share AND YOUR OWN PLATES AND SILVERWARE.

If you have any questions please call Wes or Carol Scott at 951-676-5377 or Judy Adams at 951-764-6608.

**Reaching Out In Love**



**HELPING LOCAL UNITED METHODIST WITH RESPONSE EFFORT**

At March's United Methodist Women's meeting, Mark Sorensen will tell you about his volunteer efforts as a responder to disasters in the United States. He volunteers with the Children's Disaster Services which partners with the Red Cross. Children's Disaster Services provides a safe environment for children while their parents take care of business after a disaster, allowing the children to play creatively in a way in which they can express their feelings of fear, loss, etc. He has been sent to Northern California during fires, to Florida after a hurricane, and to Las Vegas after a major shooting. Some volunteers bring a Kit of Comfort with them which is filled with everything needed to entertain the children. Mark is also trying to put together a Kit of Comfort and needs our help. The United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men are hoping we all can assist.

A few of the items he needs to fit into a suitcase are:

- Clothes line
- Clothes pins
- Flashlight & batteries
- 6 sponges
- 3 hand towels large garbage bags
- 3 plastic table covers
- Wet-Ones
- Drawing paper
- Liquid tempera paint
- Paint cups w/lid
- Paint brushes
- Paint sponges

For a complete list of items, go to the Welcome Center between services on Sundays and volunteer to bring an item. AND mark your calendar for March 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. to listen to Mark share his experiences and to bring items for the Kit of Comfort. All are welcome to this UMW meeting. Childcare will be provided.

Donna Chamberlain  
 Communication Coordinator



**PAGES CIRCLE**

PAGES Circle will meet on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM at the home of Donna Chamberlain to discuss the book *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?* by Martin Luther King, Jr.. The book for March will be *The Hidden Life Awakened* by Kitty Crenshaw and Dr. Cathy Snapp. This book is about a Christian woman with clinical depression and her journey to wholeness. Call Donna at 951-696-1190 for more information. All women of the church are welcome.

# Missions



The Pet Ministry is looking forward to new opportunities to support dogs and cats waiting for their forever families. We are also making plans for new events and new ways of sharing pet-related information. Watch for updates.

Thank you for all your donations - you make a difference in their lives! In the last quarter of 2018 we donated 455 lbs. of pet food, plus cat litter, toys, treats, towels, blankets and a cat tree. We'll continue to give our pet food contributions to the Animal Friends of the Valleys animal shelter, and add share our insights, observations and ideas that will benefit you and your pets. Our shelter always needs (unopened) dry dog and cat food, kitten and puppy food, canned dog

food for senior dogs who cannot chew dry food. They emphasize the need for kitty litter (the least donated and most needed), which needs to be the clumping kind (only), with a preference to the Tidy Cats brand. Towels, treats and toys are also very much appreciated.

MARK your calendars for the first Sunday of every month as Pet Food Donation Day! The next donation day is Sunday, February 3rd. I will be near the Welcome Center to receive your donations.

## Insight, observation or idea:

During cold days, **BEFORE** you start your car, bang on the hood as cats seek a warm place under the hood of your car and on your tire under the fender. This is also the mating season for coyotes so they are out even more frequently and, therefore, even a higher danger for dogs and cats left alone in your yard.

Linda Yankie  
714-832-5463

## JOSHUA TREE BREAKFAST

## EARLY RESPONSE TEAMS TRAINING

You've probably heard that MUMC hosts a free breakfast for homeless people in Joshua Tree every 2 months. We do this in association with 8 other churches who rotate their service.

We take a team of 10 down each time and we all come back really feeling like we have been served by God for performing this service. If you would like to join us, whether you have joined us in the past or not, we would like to hear from you. Please contact Tom Pilkington at 909-645-1212 or [tompilkingtom@gmail.com](mailto:tompilkingtom@gmail.com) for more information.

God loves a cheerful giver...and we encourage you to consider giving of your time and service. Our next trip is Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>...and Jeanie and I look forward to hearing from you.

Your friend in Christ,

Tom Pilkington  
Cell: 909-645-1212, Home: 951-698-3515  
[tompilkingtom@gmail.com](mailto:tompilkingtom@gmail.com)



Floods! Fires! The news is full of disasters! Have you been feeling drawn to help the survivors of these events? Some of us remember how rewarding it was to help rebuild after hurricanes Katrina or Sandy. The United Methodist Church will train you to become a member of an Early Response Team. ERTs fill a specific need in the early days after a disaster to clean out flood-damaged homes, remove debris, place tarps on homes, and otherwise help to prevent further damage, while providing a caring facilitating presence. ERTs are not a first-response group of emergency workers, nor are they recovery, rebuild, or repair teams. ERTs assist survivors. Training is offered to those 18 and above. While there is no upper age limit, all participants need to be in good physical

health. This training needs to be renewed every 3 years. The usual time commitment is from 3 to 5 days.

Are you interested in being trained to help others? We hope to offer a training/retraining event here at Murrieta United Methodist Church on a Saturday IN THE SPRING. Contact Wes or Carol Scott at 951-676-5377 to let us know which dates might work for you or for more information.

Carol Scott



Hello MUMC Family!

My name is Zachary Krug and I am honored to serve as your new Director of Music and Worship Arts.

Raised in Murrieta, I started in music (singing and playing on trombone) with my grandmother, a minister of music of more than forty years, at the United Church of Christ when I was seven years old. Since then I have explored everything the musical world has to offer from musical theater and opera productions to the Mozart Requiem at Carnegie Hall and from marching bands and acapella beat boxing to Disney productions. If you can name it, I have probably dabbled in it a bit in my young but busy musical life and I have enjoyed every minute of it!

All these adventures led me to a life of wanting to share my gifts with musicians of all ages and I was humbled to accept a teaching position straight out of college. After a brief time of growth and success teaching students in the Los Angeles area, I returned to Murrieta and am teaching here in Murrieta at Dorothy McElhinney Middle School where I have become the choir director and guitar teacher.

Just a couple months ago my fiancé and I settled in Murrieta and started looking for a church to call home. MUMC opened its doors for us and we could not be more excited. I am truly blessed to be able serve you as your new Director of Music and Worship Arts and I hope to bring you week after week of inspiring, uplifting, and meaningful worship that fills your hearts with the true message of God's word and the spirit of our congregation.

Thank you so much for being so welcoming to Adrianna and myself and we hope to meet every one of you!

Best wishes,

Zachary Krug  
Director of Music and Worship Arts

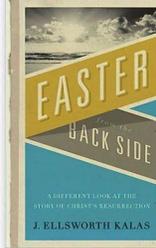
## Notes from the Food Pantry



The Food Pantry Ministry completed 2018 with a busy schedule including Thanksgiving and Christmas bag handouts, a coat distribution handled by the Missions Team led by Kristin Barr, and Thanksgiving and Christmas Breakfasts served by the Missions Team led by Mark Sorensen. When everything was over and we were able to add up all the numbers we found that we had served a total of 5,706 families in 2018. We collected and distributed all the food donated by Albertsons, Winco and Great Harvest Bakery and were able to purchase \$37,600 worth of food staples to add to the basic bags handed out each week. This was possible because of the congregation's support of the annual golf tournament and dinner which raised over half the amount and the incredibly generous donations so many made to the pantry's dedicate fund. Over forty volunteers work each week to collect, sort and serve so that the pantry can run smoothly each Friday. All of us are grateful to our church family for continuing to support this ministry.

God bless you,  
The Pantry Team

## 2019 Lenten Study By Rev. Scott Andrews



Our 2019 Lenten Study will begin on Monday, March 4. We will again have two groups. The groups will meet at 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM. Both will meet in the Youth Room. We will be using the book *Easter from the Back Side* by Rev. Dr. J Ellsworth Kalas as our source material.

Sign up at the Welcome Center beginning Sunday, February 10. Copies of the book will be available to pick up at the Welcome Center between services beginning Sunday, February 24 or in the Church Office.



## Blood Drive By Rev. Scott Andrews

Lent is a time of the year where we think of sacrifice and serving others. One way that we can serve others is by donating blood. Right now the stock piles of blood related resources are at an all time low not only here in California but around the country. Therefore, we are going to host a blood drive on Sunday, April 14 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. More information will be coming soon and opportunities to sign up will also be announced as well.



We would like to thank everyone who helped make our Christmas Play a success! With all of the help and support from everyone, we were able to spread the story of Christmas and what it is truly about.

Children's and Youth Choirs are schedule is Sundays from 10:15-11:00am for children and 11:00-12:00pm for youth. We have an awesome selection of music in store for the choirs and we're excited for you all to hear them in upcoming church services. Thank you all for your continuous support and we hope to continue to spread God's love through our music!

Christian Dauz



- 2/1 Craig Hansen
- 2/2 Susan Jeffries
- 2/2 Patrick Navarro
- 2/4 Karl Earle
- 2/5 Jim Glidewell
- 2/5 Betsy Healey
- 2/5 Bryse Knowles
- 2/5 Lynne Mathews
- 2/6 Sarahle Harris
- 2/6 Jean Mirek
- 2/6 Finley Rhodes
- 2/6 Dorothy Skidmore
- 2/8 Cliff Law
- 2/11 Helen Young
- 2/12 Faith Hemenway
- 2/12 John Winger
- 2/15 Tom Andert
- 2/15 Donna Johnston
- 2/15 Carole Nichols
- 2/16 Ed Carmichael
- 2/16 John Que
- 2/17 Pamela Signer
- 2/18 David Jeffries
- 2/19 Ed Bylund
- 2/19 Belle Geibel
- 2/20 Julie Otis
- 2/21 Dawn Rhodes
- 2/22 Liam Gingrich
- 2/22 Ina Mae MacAfee
- 2/22 Millie McGlashan
- 2/24 Carol Adams
- 2/24 Sandra Andert
- 2/24 Suzie Hogan
- 2/25 Tyler Watkins
- 2/26 Joanne Coleman
- 2/27 Dorothy Kropf
- 2/27 Brian Jones
- 2/27 David Nakase



2/14	26 years	Ken & Linda Koorndyk
2/24	62 years	Cliff & Marilyn Law



# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pray for our food Pantry Volunteers	2 Pray for the United Methodist Men
6 Pray for our Nursery Staff	7 Pray for our Church Staff	5 Pray for our UMW Circles	6 Pray for our Women's Bible studies	7 Pray to fulfill our churches vision— <i>Loving God</i>	8 Pray for the food pantry patrons	9 Pray for our United Methodist Women
10 Pray for our Youth & Children's Ministry	11 Pray for Pastor Scott and family	12 Pray for our Board of Trustees	13 Pray for our Finance Ministry	14 Pray to fulfill our churches vision— <i>Loving Others</i>	15 Listen to God	16 Pray for Sonrisers Circle
17 Pray for our Men's book study	18 Pray for Pastor Tom and family	19 Pray for our Worship Ministry	20 Pray for our Missions Ministry	21 Pray to fulfill our churches vision— <i>Serving People</i>	22 Pray for all with cancer	23 Pray for direction in your life
24 Pray for our Ushers and Greeters	25 Pray for Caring Ministry	26 Pray for SPRC	27 Pray for our Church Council	28 Pray for our Music Ministry		

*Loving God, Loving Others, Serving People*

MURRIETA UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
24652 ADAMS AVE.  
P.O. Box 602 , 92564  
MURRIETA, CA 92562

Return Service Requested

## **Murrieta United Methodist Church**

### Sunday Education Schedule

- 9:00 AM — Children's Sunday school for Pre-K -  
5th grade & Jr. High( F/H)
- 9:00 AM — High school Youth—worship in the  
sanctuary
- 10:15 AM — Children's Choir
- 11:00 AM — Youth choir
- 12:00 PM — Youth Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
- 12:30 PM — 3:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Room)

\* Nursery and Child Care are available 8:45 AM  
to 12:15 PM

**A Monthly Publication**  
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**(Due by Noon)**

**E-Mail articles to**  
**[judyg@murrietaumc.org](mailto:judyg@murrietaumc.org)**



### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

### OFFICE HOURS

M-TH 8:30:00 AM-3:30 PM

**NOTICE:** Please send all  
correspondence to the church to P.O.  
Box 602, Murrieta, CA 92564

