

## From the Pastor

Greetings!

Here's the October line-up for worship. You will have the opportunity to enjoy two pulpit guests during October, and we will look forward to setting a future date in the pulpit with our North District Superintendent, Melissa Roux MacKinnon. Variety is the spice of life. Welcome to October!



PS

October 2, 2022 World Communion Sunday "THE LORD'S SONG" Psalm 137:1-4, Psalm 96:1-6,10-13

October 9, 2022 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost "BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED" Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7, Psalm 66:1-12

October 16, 2022 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost "SOUR GRAPES" Jeremiah 31:27-34, Psalm 119:97-104

October 23, 2022 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost "OUR WORLD OF WORDS" Pulpit Guest – Joe Brown Psalm 49:1-4, 1 Corinthians 2:10-16

October 30, 2022 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Reformation Sunday Pulpit Guest – David Beard





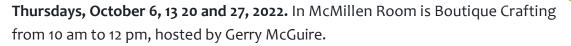
OCTOBER 2022

# Program Ministry

## Program Ministry invites you to participate in these scheduled events.



Saturday, October 1, 2022. 11-1:00 pm Birthday Gala celebrating those 90 and over with special tribute to two of our parishioners. Everyone invited! Please RSVP to Nancy Gerrish or sign up at our table. Lunch, games cake, prizes.



Saturday, October 8, 2022. Oceano Melodrama for the "Scary Poppins" Matinee. Professor Peabody is a nutty inventor with little time for his children. When he hires a nanny, the whole family gets more than they bargained for. Instead of Mary Poppins, they get her twin sister, Scary Poppins! This Poppins is a frightening creature who arrives with creepy music, mind control powers, and a host of wacky friends.

Saturday, October 15, 2022. 2:00 pm at Cal Poly. We have a limited number of tickets at \$35 each to see "Carousel". Limited tickets.

Monday, October 17, 2022. Marjorie Ott will be hosting a Cooking Demonstration for the holidays from 11 am to 1 pm in Criswell Hall. Sign up and pay for \$15 fee for lots of yummy instruction and food to take home. Spaces for 8 folks.

Sunday, October 23, 2022. Movie Night is at 4 pm in Criswell Hall. The film is "Hocus Pocus 2" starring Bette Midler and Sarah Jessica Parker.

## Some November events are already posted on the Program Ministry table; come visit us! If you have movie suggestions or any other suggestions, let us know.

In an effort to help the Program Ministry Team serve you in the best way possible, please enter only one name on each line and please pay for your ticket at the time you sign up for an event in the narthex. If you pay by check, please write in the NOTES section what event you are paying for; if paying by cash, please use the envelope at the Program Ministry desk and place all payments in the wooden box.





OCTOBER 2022





## WORSHIP LITURGISTS



## OCTOBER 2

8:30 a.m.----Joseph Brown

10:30 a.m.---- Robin Isakson

## OCTOBER 9

8:30 a.m.—-Susan Throndson

10:30 a.m.—--Priscilla Alquist

## **OCTOBER 16**

8:30 a.m.-----Mary Throndson

10:30 a.m.—--Judy Atwood

## OCTOBER 23

8:30 a.m.----Sharon Roemer

10:30 a.m.—--Cristy Van Hook

## OCTOBER 30

8:30 a.m.----Joseph Brown

10:30 a.m.---Judy Leonard

submitted by Jan Treat

## Ushers are needed for Worship Services



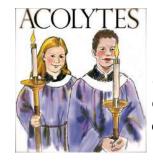
at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.! Training is offered for new or returning ushers. This is another way to extend your discipleship and support our church.

Call or talk with Kerren Brown at church

for more information. See church directory for contact information.

submitted by Kerren Brown

## Hey, all you kids ages 8 to 18!



If you would like to serve your Church as an Acolyte, call Lorie Ford or see Lorie at Church.

	District Covenant Prayer List from DS Rev. Melissa Mackinn				
Prayer Week	Church/Ministry	Clergy Leader(s)			
October 2	Bardsdale UMC	Pastor Lupita Alonso-Redondo			
October 2	Santa Clarita Korean Mission	Pastor Sang Hun Park			
October 9	Santa Barbara First UMC	Pastor Mark Richardson & Pastor Liz Aguilar			
October 9	San Luis Obispo UMC	Pastor Mark Sturgess			
October 16	ReNew UM Mission	Pastor Sam Park			
October 16	Palmdale First UMC	Pastor Jim White & Pastor Jon Gentry			
October 23	Pacoima First UMC	Pastor Lydia Waters			
October 23	Ojai UMC	Pastor Jaime Nieves			
October 30	Northridge UMC	Pastor Doug Dickson & Pastor Ralph Kwon			
October 30	Moorpark UMC	Pastor Xavier Torres			

## CHARGE CONFERENCE

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Once again, we will participate in the North District Mission Area Charge Conference via ZOOM, as we welcome into leadership among us seasoned District Superintendent Rev. Melissa Roux MacKinnon. Melissa began serving through the Superintendency in 2018 in the East District of our California-Pacific Annual Conference after serving appointments as an Associate Pastor at Elon First UMC in North Carolina, as an Associate Pastor at Church of the Good Shepherd in Arcadia, California and as Lead Pastor at the Santa Clarita United Methodist Church also in Cal-Pac. This represents 20 plus years of dedicated service as an Ordained Elder in Full Connection.

Each congregation has been invited to present a 2-3 minute video answering the question:

## What are the TWO things that your church did to contribute to ending spiritual & physical hunger that you and your congregation feel most inspired by?

In addition to sharing these videos, Isaiah 58:6-11 will be highlighted by Mary Dennis, a meditation will be offered by Rev. Melissa Roux MacKinnon, and we will conduct business as usual including those items required by our Book of Discipline regarding pastoral compensation, 2023 Budget, Candidates for Licensed/Ordained Ministry declarations and Certified Lay Ministry Candidates that must be voted on.

You are invited to sit in via ZOOM. If you would like to do so, please let Frances Robertson and/or Rev. Mary Birgelaitis know so that we can see that the link is sent to you. Again, the time is 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

#### Isaiah 58:6-11

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator<sup>\*</sup> shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

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# United Women in Faith

## UWF OCTOBER 2022

United Women in Faith seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Hope all of you received your virtual retreat and found a quiet place and time to participate. Yes! We are united in Faith. **"We Believe Love in action can change the world."** 

Joy Circle, in an effort to spread the love, has put together bags to distribute to the hungry. The bags have granola bars, jerky, water, etc. Anyone can pick up the white bags in the kitchen to hand out when you are out and about (at those freeway ramps).

Mary, Martha, Esther Circle is currently meeting every Fourth Wednesday in the McMillen Room 10 am. All women are invited to attend for fellowship and study.

#### With the Boutique coming, we are calling

**all crafters**! Everyone's' help is needed. We meet in the McMillen Room Thursdays from 10 am to 12 noon. We social distance. We will teach any skills needed. Sept. 29- sock snowmen,

Oct. 6 -Teddy Bears.

If you prefer, you can pick up kits to work on at home in the McMillen Room on Sundays at the UWF table in Criswell Hall.

We also encourage you to stop by and see what's happening on Tuesdays at **Sew and Sews**.



We are asking for some donations of vintage and collectible items in good condition. Drop off in Church office or on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 12pm, in the McMillen Room.

submitted by Gerry McGuire

Dates to Remember

Sept 29 Sock snowman (stuffing and gluing) October 1 Birthday Gala October 6 Teddy Bears (stuffing & limited sewing) **November 4 & 5 BOUTIQUE** Criswell Hall



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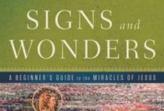
## FALL BIBLE STUDIES

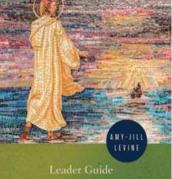
## Our First Study

October 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1 , 8, 15 (6 sessions) 1:00 PM in Criswell Hall.

It is time again to calendar our Tuesday afternoon Bible Studies. <u>SO</u> get out your calendar and write down the dates.

We will begin with exploring the miracles of Jesus in Signs and Wonders with Amy-Jill Levine, Professor of New





Testament studies and Bible study author. In Signs and Wonders A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context.

For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus' words and actions. Chapter topics include: 1. Giving sight to the blind Metaphors of understanding (Mark 8, John 9) 2. "Take up your pallet and walk" (the paralyzed man) On the role of caregivers. 3. A bleeding woman and a dead girl. The importance of women's bodies. 4. Walking on water and stilling the storm. Ecological readings of the Gospels. 5. The feeding of the 5,000 (or more) The centrality of bread. 6. The raising of Lazarus. Taking death seriously.

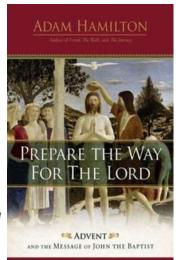
After this first study, we will skip Thanksgiving Week and start the second book in late November.

## Our Second Study

## Nov. 29, Dec 6, 13, 20 (4 sessions) 1:00 PM in Criswell Hall

Prepare to receive Christ this Advent with the message of John the Baptist and best-selling

author and pastor Adam Hamilton in Prepare the Way for the Lord. For two thousand years, Christians have turned to the story and message of John the Baptist in the weeks leading up to Christmas. In Prepare the Way for the Lord Advent and the Message of John the Baptist, best-selling author



and pastor Adam Hamilton explores the Advent themes of John's life and ministry, and how John calls followers of Jesus to prepare their hearts for his coming.

In each of the Gospels, the story of Jesus is intertwined with that of his cousin John, the one whom the prophets foretold would come to "prepare the way of the Lord." When we hear the message of John the Baptist, it encourages us to be ready to receive Christ at Christmas.

Chapter topics include:

- 1. A People Prepared for the Lord
- 2. God Is Gracious
- 3. The Fruit of Repentance
- 4. Witnesses Testifying to the Light

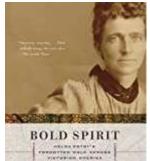
If you haven't participated before, please know you are welcome to join us with either of these studies. If you want a book to read on your own, let Judy Atwood know.

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## UWF BOOK CLUB TO DISCUSS BOLD SPIRIT IN OCTOBER



In October the UWF Book Club will discuss the experiences of two brave women who walked across the country in the true story, <u>Bold Spirit – Helen Estby's</u> <u>Forgotten Walk Across Victorian America</u> by Linda Hunt. Not only was it dangerous and exhausting in 1896 to attempt a journey by foot from Washington to New York, but it was unheard of for two unescorted women to do so. Norwegian

immigrant Helen Estby, with one of her daughters, was determined to win the \$10,000 offered to a woman who accomplished the challenge. Although they needed that money to save the family farm, Helen suffered lifelong consequences for leaving the rest of her children and husband.

You can pick up a copy of <u>Bold Spirit</u> in the church office. The book club will meet on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 A.M. in the church library to discuss it.

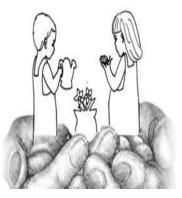
Join us to discuss this intriguing book! Questions? See Patti Melsheimer.

submitted by Judy Leonard

## AGUMCC is kicking off our "Friends of the Children's Center Year End Giving Campaign for 2023".

**Please help us make a difference in a child's life each day in 2023** by becoming or continuing to be a supporter of the "Friends of the Children's Center. You or someone you know can give a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor by visiting <u>www.agumcc.org</u> and clicking on the GIVE NOW button.

Thank you to the First United Methodist Church Congregation and Friends of AGUMCC, who contributed during this campaign last year and through 2022. Your contributions have allowed AGUMCC to stay open during the COVID Pandemic and continue our wonderful ministry.



Sincerely,

*Ms. Maddy* Madrigal Quaglino, Director AGUMCC

## Have you met Dennis Eiler?

"Found at just the right time!" "Led by God!" That is what Julia Burns, our Church Director of Music, says about seeking a pianist for our church. Julia tells me that about 12 years ago, she was in Owens Music Store in San Luis Obispo picking up sheet music when she mentioned to the owner that she was looking for a new pianist for her church choir because the long-time pianist, Trudie Beck, had retired. He commented that one of their salesmen was a pianist. Maybe he would be interested, and then he introduced her to Dennis Eiler.

Dennis tells me that he had not played much church music and was hesitant to play for a church choir, but Julie convinced him to come for an interview. He did! As the saying goes..." the rest is history"! Julia immediately put him to work on upcoming Easter music!



Dennis is "a local". Although he was born in Detroit, his father was transferred to Vandenberg Air Force base when Dennis was 9 years old, and the family moved to Orcutt. He has lived in the area ever since. Music has always been a part of Dennis's life. He started piano lessons in Detroit when he was 5 and continued when his family moved to Orcutt. He went to Righetti High School and then to Hancock Community College, studying music and business management. He has worked for many years in retail sales at Owens Music store in San Luis Obispo as well as at OSH in Arroyo Grande, and now at True Value, Arroyo Grande Home Center. He always found time for music, playing in many bands around the Central Coast.

Dennis seems to be able to adjust to any situation. He and Don McGuire, our long-time organist, played well together and did some wonderful duets. When Don became ill, Dennis took more and more of the responsibility for the choir rehearsals and performances as well as providing music for various church events such as weddings, memorial services, and special concerts. Now that we have an organist again, he and Brad Bettencourt have formed a good relationship and have given us some very special performances! We look forward to upcoming musical events.

We are all so thankful that Dennis is a part of our church family!

submitted by Patti Melsheimer

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# **A News from the Mission Team**

MISSION TEAM: October 2022 Judy Atwood

### MISSION HIGHLIGHTS:

#### GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE ... IN ACTION

<u>Reflection this month comes from Darlene</u> <u>DiDomineck.</u> She works at The Center-Philadelphia, Arch Street UMC.

"Joy is an act of resistance to the systems of injustice and oppression that seek to harm our communities."

#### FUTURE ACTION:

#### Penny Time for Turkeys:

Our Children's Center is reaching out again to ask for our help in helping them help our community's food challenged. They are getting ready to collect pennies for TURKEYS for the 5Cities Christian Women for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. They have a goal of \$500. Start collecting and watch for their display. They will be collecting until Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.

Every dollar is worth \$10 to the pantry.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

In conjunction with the Children's Center, we like to do a food drive for the pantry before the holidays. This is a way we can also help those who are food challenged. Our kick off will be Oct. 30 at Trunk or Treat. We will have collection containers in the narthex.

TRUNK OR TREAT: We invite you join in the fun on Oct. 30 in the church parking lot from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. We will provide a signup sheet so you can let us know that you desire to participate. We will send a special invitation to the Children's Center inviting the children to join us. Think about decorating your Trunk, wear a costume if you want and join in the fun. We will provide some games for the kids, as well as having a place for people to donate to the food drive.



#### HOSPITALITY:

Because of our gift to the LaGonave, Haiti congregation they have been able to restore he roof that was damaged last year due to a storm. (See the photo above.) This makes it easier to be able to continue the cooking and sewing classes that are giving young adults some skills that they can use in life to support themselves. It is a blessing as they are unable to afford furthering their education otherwise. They send their thanks.

So, my challenge to myself and others who wish to join me, continue to be who you are and be willing to take time to help make a change in the life of others.

> A THOUGHT FOR MEDITTION. DON'T ASK GOD TO GUIDE YOUR FOOTSTEPS, IF YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO MOVE YOUR FEET.

## OCTOBER 2022

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviation Legend   CH—Criswell Hall S—Sanctuary   K—Kitchen L—Library Room #123   MMR—McMillen #113 L   PS— Pastor's Study   HR—Handbell Rm #115					1 11 AM to 1 PM Birthday Gala Luncheon-CH Sign up with Program Ministry	
2 17th Sunday after Pentecost World Communion 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service	3 6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH	4 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR 11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH	5 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH 10:00 AM Program MinistryL	6 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10:00 AM Boutique Crafting —MMR 6:30 PM-Choir Practice-S	7 4:00 PM AGUMCC Staff Meeting—MMR	8 Melodrama/ Oceano "Scary Poppins" matinee Tickets with Pro- gram Ministry
9 18th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service	10 6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH	11 9:00 Senior Exercise –CH 10:00 AM Sew n Sews–MMR 11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga–CH 1 PM Bible StudyCH 7 PM TrusteesCH	12 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH 5	13 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10 AM Boutique Crafting—MMR 10:30 AM SPRC Meeting—CH 6:30 PM-Choir Practice-S	14	15
16 19th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service	17 6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH 11:00 AM Holiday Cooking Demonstration by Marjory Ott- Details Page 2	18 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR 11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH 1 PM Bible StudyCH 6:30 PM JOY Circle— CH	19 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH 10:00 AM UWF Steering Comm-L	20 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10 AM Boutique Crafting —MMR 4:30 PM AGUMCC Board Mtg—MMR 6:30 PM-Choir Practice-S	21 10:30 AM UWF Book ClubL	22
23 20th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 AM Contemporary Service 10:30 AM Traditional Service HARVEST MEAL AFTER SECOND SERVICECH	24 6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH	25 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10:00 AM Sew n Sews—MMR 11:00 AM UMW Chair Yoga—CH 1 PM Bible StudyCH	26 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 9:00 AM Trustees Workday—CH 10:00 AM Mary Martha Esther— MMR	27 9:00 AM Senior Exercise—CH 10:00 AM Boutique Crafting —MMR 6:30 PM-Choir Practice-S	28	29
30 21th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 AM Contemporary Service	31 6:00 PM Quilt Class, Gerry—CH 10:00 AM Pro- gram Ministry- L ???			*	<b>6</b>	

# ECHURCH STAFF

Church Office: (805) 481-2692 E-mail: fumcag@yahoo.com (temp) Find us on Facebook at: United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande www.facebook.com/fumcag

Senior Pastor: Rev. Mary B. Birgelaitis E-mail: mbirgelaitis@gmail.com Missionary (retired): Judy Atwood Lay Leader: Patti Melsheimer

Content of the second s

Carolyn Russell Music Director: Julia Burns Praise Team Director: Mike Clark Choral Pianist: Dennis Eiler Handbell Choir Director.:

Leonard Lutz Bishop: Grant J. Hagiya District Superintendent

Rev. Melissa Roux McKinnon Director: Madrigal Quaglino E-mail: fumcag@yahoo.com (temp) Office: (805) 481-2223



Layout Editor: Frances Robertson Proofing Team: Rev. Mary Birgelaitis, Priscilla Alquist, Judy Atwood, David Beaman, Judy Leonard, Patti Melsheimer. Other contributors: Varied Teams /Committees/Office Angels

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Layout Editor reserves the right to cut and edit articles to meet space limitations.

## OCTOBER 2022

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP?

There are dates available for Sunday morning flower dedications in upcoming months. Contact the church office.

Your floral tribute will be placed on the altar for both services on Sunday and recorded in the video for that week. After the services you can pick up the arrangement or we will get it to you.

## Please note that due to the higher cost of fresh flowers, the new cost for altar flowers is \$30.

Orders can be made from the Grand Bouquet which we will do upon your request. Orders can also be placed to have Brad Bettencourt create an arrangement using Trader Joe flowers.



Please contact Frances in the Church Office. She is the liaison with both Grand Bouquet and Brad.

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Names of Missing Members

As Membership Secretary, I am searching for the contact information for members who we haven't seen for quite a long time. I live listed those member names below. If you can share any information to help us in this endeavor, please contact either myself, **Priscilla Alquist**, or **Kerren Brown**. See church directory for contact information. We will both respond to phone calls or texts. Thank you so very much!

submitted by Priscilla Alquist

Elizabeth Diane Arnold Ryan Baily Chelsey Bailey Thomas & Ann Bower Carol Browne Jay Campbell Doug & Ella Craig Terry Curtis Joan Doyle Doris Leddy Sean Lehman Imalda & Arthur Lowe Jeanne Rice Jennifer Richison Sherry Richison (Edwards?) Leslie, Greg & Caitlin Riley Jean Schafer (Hubbard?) Chad & Kelli Smithback Megan Stephenson Michael Thurman Amanda Trecantin Jerrelyn Trujillo Ariel Waterman Prest Tom and Penny Werson Jenny Wineberg Cassie & Jessica Williams

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Jenna Moore.....10/01 Kerren Brown.....10/02 Val McClure.....10/04 Daisy Paredes.....10/05 Roger Sperling.....10/05 Lorie Ford.....10/13 Ian Beard.....10/16 Diane Laughlin.....10/17 Rose Ann Steiner.....10/22 Lila Anderson.....10/29 Rebeca Avila.....10/29 Mary Hawkins.....10/31



Have we missed **your** birthday? If so, it is not listed in our data base. Please contact the church office and we will be glad to add your birthday to our monthly birthday list!



# First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon Road Arroyo Grande, CA 93420



## Visit us on the web at worshipweekly.com

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# 2022





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Children's Center Chronicle

## HARVEST MEAL

## **OCTOBER 23, 2022**



The Mission Team would like to invite you to join us in Criswell Hall following the second service on October 23 for a catered meal to celebrate the harvest of ministries we have shared as a congregation through the pandemic forward.

We will provide a signup sheet so that we can plan for your meal. You don't need to bring food for the meal. Your meal will be provided and you may make a donation to help cover the cost.

What is needed is for you to search through pictures you might have taken at any of our activities to help remind us of what all we have done, or search through previous newsletters to help you remember. Let's see what a timeline we can create of our ministries shared during this time.

submitted by Judy Atwood