



July 2016

Issue No. 60

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Michelle's Musings



Dear Friends,

Have you ever been in the dark? The "can't see your hand in front of your face" kind of dark? It can be unsettling, uncomfortable, and even scary to not be able to see where you are or what's around you. It is easy to feel alone and unsure of which way to turn or where to go. In those situations, we have to rely on our other senses to help us to navigate our surroundings and to calm our fears.

Sometimes, we need darkness to be able to really see how powerfully surrounded we are by our great God. A friend was recently in Hawaii and told me about a visit she made to Waimea Bay on the North Shore of Oahu with her husband and son. It was a place they had been before, but never at night. As they made their way down a sandy path, she asked her son why it was so important that they come at night. When they got to beach, he told her to turn around and look up. The sky was overwhelmingly full of more stars than they had ever seen before, or could have imagined. Her son just smiled. He knew that they needed the darkness to be able to see what was always there, but unable to be seen when the sun was shining.

This week at VBS, close to 200 kids experienced *Cave Quest - Following Jesus, the Light of the World*. They learned that Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love, and His power. Those are great lessons and reminders for all of us. When we feel like we are alone and in the dark, we can remember that Jesus is always with us, shining God's light for all people and into all places.

We welcome our new pastor, Rev. Steve Peralta, on July 1st and his preaching on Sunday, July 3rd. We look forward to Steve's leadership and ministry, and to continuing to be a community of faith that is #hereforgood.

May you feel God's presence surround and lead you,

Michelle

mandrews@umcv.org

Welcome to Pastor Steve Peralta

We welcome Pastor Steve Peralta to the VUMC pulpit
for the first time this Sunday, July 3rd!

And be sure to join us for two special Coffee Fellowships to
welcome him on Sunday, July 10th, following the 9:00 a.m.
worship and the 10:30 a.m. worship!



New Sermon Series



A three sermon series exploring how Jesus sent the disciples out, what he expected them to do, and the importance of having times of renewal and rejuvenation. As disciples of Christ, we have the same mission, the same expectations, and the same need to sit at the feet of Jesus.

Y'All Come Choir - Come Sing This Summer!

**Summer 2016
Y'all Come Choir**



Two More Dates to Join in and Sing: July 3rd and July 10th

It's easy! Just come and rehearse with the choir
at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday before worship, on July 3rd and July 10th!
It's the best seat in the house!

Habitat Volunteer Day, July 9th



We're doing it again! Members of VUMC will be volunteering Saturday, July 9th, at the Habitat for Humanity Veteran Enriched Neighborhood in Santa Clarita. If you're interested in participating, please contact Jeff Meyer at 644-5515 or at jeffameyer@icloud.com

More than 25 members of the church worked at the site in March. Habitat is building more than 80 homes at the 21500 Centre Point Parkway location for former military personnel and their families. This project is a great way to show your appreciation for the service and sacrifices of these families.

Habitat is also hosting its first-ever Circle of Faith build day on Saturday, Aug 20th and is looking to have many SCV congregations, of all faiths, sign up and gather together in support of our military veterans. Again, please contact Jeff Meyer if you'd like to be part of a VUMC contingent at the Circle of Faith event.

F.I.S.H. Happenings



F.I.S.H. Happenings!

Feed it Forward is in full swing at Bridge to Home! You can find us there every Tuesday evening serving a hot meal to the homeless. Santa Clarita and Friendly Valley UMCs have joined us in providing meals and sack lunches every other week. A huge thanks to the small groups and individuals who have provided meals and helped us serve. There are still plenty of opportunities for small groups, families, and individuals to serve. Meal items are needed for 7/26, 8/23, 8/30 and into the fall. Please sign up by [clicking here](#) or contact Mindy Cope, mindersue@aol.com for more information on how to participate.

Block Party

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY!



e' MON OVER!

**BLOCK
PARTY**

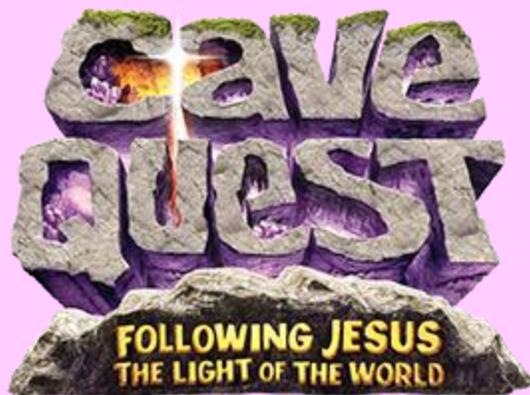
**Sunday
September 18
4:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

FREE

here for
good

umcv.org

VBS Thank You!



Thank you for sharing God's light!

It was another fabulous Vacation Bible School!!
To the 70 volunteers it takes to run our VBS and to the countless people
who donated supplies, and gave of their time and talents in the months
leading up to VBS,
we say "THANK YOU!"

Some of our VBS Groupies have been doing this for twenty plus years!
We couldn't do it without each person's dedication, that's for sure, and we
are extremely grateful to each of you!

A special shout out to *Ric and Jackie Wheeler* who, no matter what,
deliver an unbelievable set year after year.
They give tirelessly to the cause of helping us make little disciples and
we are beyond appreciative!!

With many thanks! Karyn Malchus



Youth Kick-Off



STEWARDSHIP
365

Proverbs 3:13-14 (NIV)

*Blessed are those who find wisdom,
those who gain understanding,
for she is more profitable than silver
and yields better returns than gold.*



*Please note: The church office will be closed on Monday, July 4th, in honor of Independence Day.

Who We Are



Vision Statement

We are a community of faith where lives are continuously transformed through Jesus Christ.



Mission Statement

Our Church exists to:

Invite people

Nurture them with Christ's love and the Word of God

Send them out to serve others.



Our Core Values:

Worship - Public and private

Small Groups - Building relationships

Service - Using God-given gifts