



May 2017

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## Leading Out with Pastor Steve

### Leading Out...

*"Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team of people."*

-Steve Jobs (found this at [www.brainyquotes.com](http://www.brainyquotes.com))

We have made it to the other side of Jesus' resurrection after a deep and beautiful Holy Week. I still hear people sharing about how incredible Easter morning worship was and how much it lifted them. I have received note cards and hugs and words of thanks for how amazing Lent, Holy Week, and Easter were. Each brings a smile to face and I deeply appreciate the expressed gratitude and congratulations...but I need to be honest with you: I am never quite sure what to say.



Let me explain: I cannot take credit for all we experienced. What we experienced was a concentrated effort of a small army of staff and unpaid servants who joined their passions and thoughts and crazy ideas to make that season so special and deep. Nothing great is ever the work of a single person...it takes a team.

Maybe this is what Jesus meant when he looks at his disciples and says, *"Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these."*

John 14:12, NRSV

Really?!?! When I read the Bible and I see what Jesus is doing, I see him healing the sick, feeding the multitudes, making people whole, creating community, raising the dead, turning water into wine, walking on the water, giving sight to the blind, making the crippled walk, and so on. I compare my life to his and it just falls short. I haven't done any of these things to any great extent. For all my knowledge of Him, for all of my attempt to follow Him, and even with my ordination, I am still ordinary. I have my own dysfunctions, frailties, patterns of sin, and insecurities.

But the story changes a bit when I compare myself to those who have gathered around Him. These imperfect disciples that struggled to understand Him, who struggled to be faithful, and who were seized by fear...these guys look more like me. Yet these are the very same people He prayed for and said that they would do greater things than He did...did they?

Individually, they probably didn't. Don't get me wrong: they did amazing things...the same kinds of things Jesus did. But they also did something Jesus didn't: they created a church...a community of faith that has endured through two millennia. Throughout history people have gathered together, walking and working in the way of Christ to do great things for the kingdom of God.

So, we will move from *Stranger Things* into *Greater Things* and talk about the mission, essence, and vocation of the church...in other words, we are going to talk about what we do together, why we do it, and how it gets done. We will talk about the Holy Spirit and its role in our lives and ministry.

*Greater things...are you in?*

Blessings,

Pastor Steve

## Graduate Recognition Sunday



Please join us on May 7th at 9 and 10:30 a.m.  
as we celebrate our 2017 graduates!!!

If you have a graduating senior in your immediate family,  
please [click here](#) to tell us where they are graduating from  
and what college/major/future plans they have,  
for our bulletin insert.

*Deadline for submission is Monday, May 1st.*

## Mother's Day

### Mother's Day

We invite you to join us on Mother's Day, May 14th, for a special morning worshipping God and celebrating the mothers in our lives. Our children's choirs will sing, and we will have fun classes for kids and teens, as well as a photo booth for family photos.

All women present will receive a special gift after worship. We look forward to seeing you!



## Music Appreciation Sunday



This is a wonderful musical celebration we have every year to praise the Lord with our many musical talents and fill our worship with joyful noise!

This awesome event will be at 9 and 10:30 a.m. on May 21st!  
Invite your friends and neighbors to share in this jubilant occasion!

## Vacation Bible School - Registration Opens May 7th!!

A colorful poster for "Vacation Bible School - Maker Fun Factory". The background is a blue grid. At the top, "VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL" is written in large, bold, orange and yellow letters. To the right, a red gear contains the dates "June 26 - June 30" and the time "9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.". Below this, the text "Cost: \$40.00 first child/\$35 each sibling ~ Ages 3 years (potty trained) through 6th grade ~ Special 'tween' program for 5th and 6th graders!" is written. The main title "MAKER FUN FACTORY" is in large, colorful, 3D letters with gears and a crane. Below it, a white banner says "Created by GOD Built for a Purpose". At the bottom left, a wooden sign provides the church address: "Valencia United Methodist Church, 25718 McBean Pkwy, Valencia, CA ~ umcv.org, 661.255.1301 ~ #hereforgood". At the bottom right, a red gear contains the text "Space is limited. Registration opens May 7." and a grey gear contains "Registration forms available at umcv.org or in the church office."/>

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

June 26 - June 30  
9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

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**MAKER FUN FACTORY**

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Built for a Purpose

Space is limited. Registration opens May 7.

Registration forms available at umcv.org or in the church office.

Valencia United Methodist Church  
25718 McBean Pkwy  
Valencia, CA ~ umcv.org  
661.255.1301 ~ #hereforgood

## Family Promise Sign-ups

### Family Promise Sign-ups!!



VUMC's next Family Promise hosting week is June 11-18.

Sign-ups will be on the patio at Coffee Fellowship on May 28th and June 4th.

Please consider serving for this wonderful program to help families get back on their feet and thrive!

## #beoutthere Sunday

### #beoutthere Sunday



On Sunday, April 23rd, Valencia UMC went to "Be Out There" in the community to serve at a variety of places. We had 60 people in worship, and over 100 people "out there" that planted nearly 200 plants, moved 1,000 square feet of mulch, painted a fence and a dining hall, cleaned and organized, decorated cards, made blankets, and more.

Our service has benefited Bridge to Home, the Domestic Violence Shelter, El Buen Pastor UMC in Santa Paula, Family Promise SCV, LA County probation department, Rio Vista Elementary School, and others.

The work we did offers a bit of hope and encouragement to some members of our community who really need it. Thanks to all who continue to help VUMC be #hereforgood!

## Christian Education Sunday

On Sunday, May 7th, we will recognize and celebrate all who serve in Christian education ministries. We are grateful for those who generously share their gifts as they lead in children's Sunday school, Pioneer Clubs, Vacation Bible School, nursery care; Youth Connection and youth Bible study; small groups and adult Sunday school; and all of our music and drama groups.



## Habitat for Humanity



**Come on out on  
May 20th!!**

Habitat is building more than 80 homes at the 21500 Centre Pointe Parkway location for former military personnel and their families. The hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and breakfast and lunch are provided by Habitat.

This project is a great way to show your appreciation for the service and sacrifices of these American families. If you're interested in participating, please contact Jeff Meyer at 644-5515 or [jeffameyer@icloud.com](mailto:jeffameyer@icloud.com).

## Men's Retreat 2017

# VUMC MEN'S MINISTRY

**Men's Retreat 2017  
September 15 - 17  
The Oaks**

*Who am I, that the lord of all the earth  
Would care to know my name*

The 2017 VUMC Men's Retreat will be held at The Oaks Camp and Conference Center, a beautiful setting that we have gone to before, located just about an hour north of Valencia. Click [here](#) to check it out.

The theme this year will be "Who Am I" as speakers and breakout sessions explore various men of the Bible and how their stories of challenge and redemption still relate to us and serve as powerful inspiration within the 21st century.



Fellowship, live music, relaxation and a large variety of outdoor activities will fill the weekend getaway. Two nights lodging and five meals are all included for the cost of \$190. Sign up on the patio during Coffee Fellowship on May 7th & 14th, or June 4th & 11th. Payment is expected when you sign up. Please feel free to email [Pete Brosnan](#) with any questions.

## New Members Class - April 2017



Left to right:  
Shirley Bailey, Jodi Paras, Kim McDougle, Pastor Steve, Mike Barber  
New member not pictured: Mary Tedrow

## Community Contribution Program



### Earn more for VUMC with your Ralph's Grocery Card!

Register or re-register your Ralph's grocery card and a percentage of your purchases will come back to VUMC.

Go to [ralphs.com](http://ralphs.com) to sign up. Even if you have already done this, your card must be re-registered each year. After you sign in, go to "my account" then find Community Rewards and click "edit." Search for our church name or enter our number, 83711, and select it again as your choice.

Once you register, it's easy... just shop, swipe your card & earn!

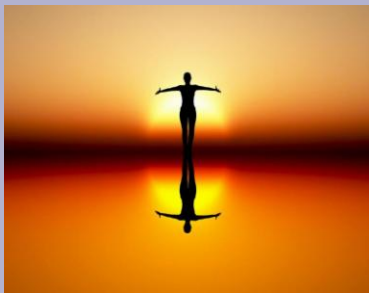
**Thank you for supporting VUMC!**



## The Benefits of Tax-Advantaged Savings Vehicles

Taxes can take a big bite out of your total investment returns, so it's helpful to look for tax-advantaged strategies when building a portfolio. But keep in mind that investment decisions shouldn't be driven solely by tax considerations; other factors to consider include the potential risk, the expected rate of return, and the quality of the investment...[click here to read more...](#)

## 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